



Anna Mathieu

*Born to Walter & Mabel Riek
September 27, 1921~Rawson, North Dakota*

*Passed Away
November 19, 2019~Sidney, Montana*

*Services
10:00AM Wednesday November 27, 2019
Fulkerson-Stevenson Memorial Chapel
Sidney, Montana*

*Officiating
Pastor Alton Hillesland*

*Music
Arveda Fischer*

*Casketbearers
John Ross, Brent Mathieu, Bruce Mathieu,
Nuri Mathieu, Michael Welty,
Marc Welty & April Smith*

*Honorary Casketbearers
David Sanford, James Sanford,
Richard Sanford & Marilyn Jensen*

*Final Resting Place
2:00PM Wednesday 11/27/2019 Rawson
Cemetery
Rawson, North Dakota*

*Arrangements By
Fulkerson-Stevenson Funeral Home*



*IN LOVING
Memory*



*Elizabeth "Anna"
Mathieu*

*September 27, 1921 ~
November 19, 2019*

Elizabeth Anna Riek Mathieu was born in a farm house near Rawson, North Dakota, on September 27, 1921, the third child of Walter and Mabel Riek. The little town of Rawson is between Alexander and Arnegard.

Anna, as her family called her, grew up on a wheat farm. Her father had come from Wisconsin and homesteaded the land. She had older twin siblings and her parents always said that they had a double and a spare. Anna can remember when she had to go outside in the cold to use the outhouse and also before they had electricity in their home. Her children can remember the coal stove and water pump in the farm kitchen. Just think of all the changes in the world that Anna has experienced in her lifetime. Anna was known for her beautiful red hair that hung in ringlets, accented by her genuine and beautiful smile!

After graduating from high school in Arnegard, she attended Minot State Teachers College. She received her Lifetime Teacher's Certificate. She continued to take college courses to better her education, all through her career.

At one point in that time period, during WW11, she traveled by herself on a train to Seattle, Wash. She wanted some adventure but also sought a job. They were scarce for women during the war, especially on the prairie of N. Dak. Anna worked as a typist and witnessed some secret gov't correspondence.

After returning home she began her teaching career in East Fairview.

Anna was passionate about teaching the primary grades. She taught in a couple of eastern Montana towns before settling in Sidney. She met her husband, Burtis, at a Christmas dinner hosted by the woman who owned the apt. building that Anna lived in. Burt Mathieu was living in a room at the Harold Mercer home and often ate his meals at Anna's building. The planned seating worked out as Anna and Burt began to date and married on June 24, 1951 in Alexander. They celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary shortly before Burt's death in 2001.

Anna continued to teach school until the Christmas break before her first child, Nancy Elizabeth, was born. Nancy was named after her mother. Two little boys by the names of Brent and Bruce followed. Anna stayed home to raise her family.

Her personal interests included sewing, knitting, cooking and teaching Sunday school. Holidays were special and she would diligently decorate the family home. Summers always included a family fishing trip to Saskatchewan. Burt was an avid outdoorsman, so Anna learned to fish and hunt from him. And Brent inherited Burt's passion for the outdoors.

Anna returned to teaching when her youngest son, Bruce, reached the fourth grade.

Anna was an active member of Pella Lutheran Church and later Shepherd of the Valley.

She retired from teaching in 1984. Anna and Burt loved to travel to visit their children and family. One of their favorite trips was driving the Alaska Highway to Homer, Alaska. They took a ferry back to Washington State.

Another favorite trip was when Anna vacationed in Maui, Hawaii with her daughter and her Husband. It was a dream of hers to dance in the ocean, which she did with Nancy, at Waikiki Beach at the grand age of 82.

Burt was also a resident at Extended Care for 3 years. Anna was a very faithful wife and visited him every day. This helped make her admittance to EC a little easier as she knew many of the staff and had developed great friendships.

Anna has been a resident at EC for almost 15 years. Anna continued to have many friends here at EC and in Sidney. The Retired Teachers often came for coffee to visit with her, Pastor David visited and gave her communion and many of her past students still enjoy sharing their memories of when she was their teacher.

Her three children have produced 4 grandchildren, all of which who have college educations, with professional jobs. Anna was very proud of each of them and was able to attend all of their high school graduations in Boise and Denver and some of their weddings. She was blessed with 8 great grandchildren ranging in age from 8 to one year.

In 2016 she was delighted to be named the Resident of the Year at Extended Care.

Anna passed quietly into the arms of the Lord and her loving husband and family on the morning of November 19, 2019 at the age of 98. Her family wants to thank all of her friends at Extended Care for their loving care.

She is survived by: her children, Nancy E. (John) Ross, Denver, CO; Brent B. Mathieu, Boise, ID; Bruce B. Mathieu, Sidney, MT; her grandchildren, April (Dan) Smith, Michael (Summer) Welty, Nuri (Callie) Mathieu, Marc (Holly) Welty; and her eight great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by: her loving husband, Burtis P. Mathieu, her parents Walter and Mabel Riek, and her siblings, Marion Dahlgren and Walter "Bud" Riek.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "LORD, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:1-6

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18