



Darlene was born on the Hansen family farm near Dell Rapids on December 6, 1930. The 9th of 16 children born to Leo and Ida (Bricher) Hansen, her middle name was taken from the name of the aunt who helped deliver her. She attended St Mary Schools and graduated in 1948, then worked for the Dell Rapids Creamery and Faris Jewelry. She married Roger Nelson on June 16, 1955 and they farmed northeast of Dell Rapids, raising eight children. She worked at St. Mary Grade School as a secretary from 1976-2006. She and Roger moved in to town in 2013, but her life of service continued, as she cared for Roger until he passed away in 2019.

Darlene never put herself in front of God or her family. She was an exemplary mother, grandmother, manager, worker, planner, cook, gardener. Her first love was her family, the second her faith. She was also an exemplary believer and human being. She made sure everyone was cared for, providing support, guidance or a tender touch,

She was the calm in many storms, with never-wavering support of her children, encouraging them to read and go to school. She was the glue of the family, keeping many things pieced together, sometimes miraculously.

She passed away on Christmas Day, 2022. She is preceded in death by her husband Roger, five brothers, five sisters and one grandchild.

Darlene is survived by her children, Jeff of Crawfordsville, IN, Dean (Mary) of Apple Valley, MN, Scott (Wendy) of Dell Rapids, Brad (Jonie) of Omaha, NE, Bette (Marc) Paulsen of Georgetown, TX, John (Annette) of Littleton, CO, Phyllis (Carl Jackson) of Valparaiso, IN and Matt (Kim Johnson) of Crooks; her 14 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, 2 sisters, 3 brothers and many nieces and nephews.

In Memory of

Darlene C. Nelson

Born - December 6, 1930 ~ Died - December 25, 2022

Christian Wake Service

Kahler-Brende Funeral Home

Dell Rapids, South Dakota

Wednesday, December 28, 2022 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial

St. Mary Catholic Church

Dell Rapids, South Dakota

Thursday, December 29, 2022 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Concelebrants

Fr. Shane Stevens

Fr. Daniel Gustafson SJ

Eucharistic Minister

Emma Nelson

Casketbearers

Roger and Darlene's eight children will
serve as her casketbearers.

Interment

St. Mary Cemetery

Dell Rapids, South Dakota

- Stay the course - Keep
believing. You may be
tired, discouraged and
frustrated, but don't
give up on your future
Our God is faithful!

- Darlene Nelson