

Jean Marie Bunkers was born on August 31, 1944 to Andrew and Agnes (Dresch) Bunkers. She grew up on the family farm in Dell Rapids. She attended St. Mary Academy through the 12th grade, graduating in 1962. After graduation, she attended Presentation College in Aberdeen where she obtained her associate degree in education. She married Ray Pederson on August 14, 1965 at St. Mary Catholic Church in Dell Rapids. She taught one year at St. Mary before the couple made their home in Arlington where Jean taught school while Ray attended his final year of Pharmacy at SDSU. After Ray finished school, they moved to Scottsdale, AZ. They returned to Dell Rapids and purchased Voy's Drug in 1968. Jean joined Ray at the drug store while raising their five children. They worked together at Ray's Family Drug Store until they sold the store and Jean retired in 2001.

Words simply cannot encompass the grandness of Jean's life. She embraced literally every aspect of life and poured her endless energy in to all that she did. Her family and friends were her treasures. Her laughter was contagious and her spirit was unmatched.

Jean is preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Earl and Jerry; sisters-in-law, Ellen Bunkers, Ann Pederson, Glenda Erickson-Bunkers, and Esther Pederson; her brothers-in-law, Jack Donovan, Glen Fields, and Pat Pederson and her niece, Julie Fields Bortnem and nephew, Darwin Pederson.

She is survived by her husband of 56 1/2 years, Ray of Dell Rapids; her children, Amy Pederson (Dell Rapids), Wendy (Jon) Brown (Baltic), Andy (Tanja) Pederson (Sioux Falls), Tricia (Noel) Heinricy (Dell Rapids), Sheri Dearduff (Dell Rapids); her grandchildren, Deitrich (Mary) Thompson, Abby (Brian) Skrovig, Andra (fiance Sean) Thompson, Riley Brown, Wes Heinricy, Meg (fiance Nic) Dearduff, Spencer (Jennifer) Thompson, Adyn Heinricy, Will Dearduff, Trey Pederson, Tessa Pederson, and Jake Dearduff; her siblings, Jen Donovan, Bob (Sis) Bunkers, Ken Bunkers, Mary Sue Bunkers, Diane (Bob) Reiff, George (Gwen) Bunkers; in-laws, Mary Anne Bunkers and Donna Bunkers; and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and in-laws.

In Memory of

Jean Marie Pederson

Born - August 31, 1944 ~ Died - February 12, 2022

Christian Wake Service

St. Mary Catholic Church

Dell Rapids, South Dakota

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial

St. Mary Catholic Church

Dell Rapids, South Dakota

Thursday, February 17, 2022 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Celebrant

Father Brian Eckrich

Casketbearers

Deitrich Thompson

Abby Skrovig

Andra Thompson

Riley Brown

Wes Heinricy

Meg Dearduff

Spencer Thompson

Adyn Heinricy

Will Dearduff

Trey Pederson

Tessa Pederson

Jake Dearduff

The Pederson family invites you for a time of food and fellowship in the church hall immediately following the funeral mass.

I Cried a Tear for You Today

I cried a tear for you today
Knowing of your sorrow.
I prayed a prayer for you today
Reaching for tomorrow.
I tried to think of what to say
To calm your trembling fears.
I tried to think of what to do
To quickly dry your tears.
I sat and thought of how unfair
This awful world has been
I hoped and prayed you understood
I'll always be your friend
I wrote a poem for you today
To find a way to say...
You mean the world to me, and so
I cried a tear for you today.

Sheryl Rae, 1986



In Loving Memory of

Jean Pederson

*Funeral Arrangements by Kahler-Brende Funeral Home
Dell Rapids, South Dakota*