



Anna Marie Dufner

May 15, 1935 - August 24, 2023

Ann Dufner passed away on August 24, 2023 at the Glendive Medical Center Hospital. She was 88. Visitation will be held from 6:00 – 8: 00 pm on Friday, September 1 at the Silha Funeral Home in Glendive. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:00 am Saturday, September 2 at Sacred Heart Church in Glendive, with Father Francis Schreiber officiating. Interment will follow in the Dawson Memorial Cemetery in Glendive. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Anna Marie Hanssen was born on May 15, 1935 in Scotch Grove, a one-block farm town in eastern Iowa. Her father Henry Hanssen had immigrated from Germany in the 1920's and her mother Martha (Anna Martha Eggers) had moved to Iowa from her Idaho birthplace after the death of her mother in 1921.

Ann was Henry and Martha's second child after Ann's sister Dorothy; four brothers – Richard, Albert, Ben, and Bob – followed Ann. Ann grew up on the family farm milking cows, tending chickens, and helping with the garden. She walked to country school every day until high school, when she started taking the bus into nearby Monticello. Her football player boyfriend drove to Scotch Grove to drive her to school one morning after Ann milked the cows. He gallantly offered to carry the full milk buckets over to the cream separator, bent over and... couldn't lift them. Ann grabbed the buckets and took care of business.

After graduating with Monticello High School's class of 1953, Ann moved to

Cedar Rapids to attend St. Luke's School of Nursing. She had wanted to be a nurse since she was little, inspired by her aunt Gertrude, a WWII nurse in the south Pacific. In 1956, Ann graduated from St. Luke's as a fully-credentialed registered nurse. Ann wanted to move beyond Iowa and saw an ad recruiting nurses for the Northern Pacific Railroad Hospital in Glendive Montana. She talked her high-school and nursing-school friend Janis Pickett (Pierce) into taking the jobs and moving to the wilds of Montana. After all, she argued, one of the benefits was free train travel – they could always return home.

So Ann started her nursing career in Glendive, along with a crew of other young nurses. Her eventual sister-in-law Marge Reynolds said Ann “was the most beautiful nurse we ever had in Glendive.” During that time, Ann met Leroy Dufner while out dancing at Jack's Club. They became a couple and were married in 1958, traveling to the Black Hills for their honeymoon. Leroy was starting the Dufner's Dairy business with his dad and brothers, and they had just bought their house on Mann Street, so money was tight; Ann's nursing work and Leroy's moonlighting as a bartender at the Elks Club supported them through those early tough years.

Four kids filled out the family: Michael, Michelle, Dan, and Scott. Leroy's business ventures with his brothers expanded to Duff's Racquetball Club and the Jock Stop. Ann continued her nursing career, eventually becoming director of nursing at the Glendive nursing home. Her friend Maxine Vorhees was director of nursing at the hospital, and they would go on marathon walks together, ending at the Jordan for breakfast. She had many other lasting friendships from her nursing career, including with Cindi Srsen, who Ann hired as the nursing home's first activities director.

Ann and Leroy enjoyed spending time with family, golfing, and bowling and were active members of the community. After she retired, Ann continued to be involved in the Catholic Church, and various social clubs including homemakers and nurses clubs. Ann was funny, kind, generous, a great wife, friend, and mother, and was extremely well-respected. Everyone was welcomed equally at her table; no one ever had a bad word to say about Ann.

After 55 years of marriage, Leroy died in 2013. Ann continued to live at home with the loving assistance of Dona Culver, Teresa Hathaway, and Bobbie Becker. They helped make it a gathering place of joy and laughter, getting together regularly for dinner parties.

Ann was preceded in death by her loving husband Leroy; her parents Henry and Martha Hanssen, parents-in-law Matt and Mary Dufner; siblings and in-laws: Dorothy and Ken Weber, Richard, Joyce (Al), Bob and Carol (Ponder); Dufner in-laws: Rose Marie (Toots) and Hartwick (Pete) Peterson, Floyd and Carolyn, Jack and Marge Reynolds, Dave Quale (Marian), Jim, Annette (Paul); daughter-in-law Catherine Bickle (Michael), former son-in-law Tim Kinsey (Michelle), grandson Brad Kinsey; nieces and nephews Susan Dufner, Bob Reynolds, Randy Reynolds, Karen Dufner, Brenda Quale, Bill Reynolds. Ann is survived by children Michael, Michelle Kinsey (Randy Wilkie), Dan (Brenda) and Scott (Kim Ryan); grandchildren Jason Kinsey, Dylan, Blake, Sydney, and Zoe; great-grandchildren Beckham, Breyer and Baize Kinsey, Aurora, Roper and Jayzen Kinsey, and Henry Dufner; brothers Albert and Ben Hanssen, sisters-in-law Arlene (Richard) and Sharon (Ben) Hanssen ; Dufner in-laws Marian Quale, Marvin and Marilyn Dufner, Nicki (Jim) Dufner, Paul Dufner, and Pat and Walt Easley; and numerous loving nieces and nephews, and grand nieces and nephews.

Remembrances and condolences can be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Dawson Memorial Cemetery

2816 West Towne Street
Glendive, MT 59330

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 1. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Silha Funeral Homes - Glendive, Montana
221 N. Meade Avenue
P.O. Box 848
Glendive, MT 59330
(406) 377-2622
silha@midrivers.com
<https://www.silhafuneralhomes.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (MT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
316 West Benham Street
Glendive, MT 59330

Tribute Wall

JH

“ Prayers for the Dufner family.

Jack Hanson - December 30, 2023 at 01:11 PM

MS

“ Ann was the sweetest person, so kind and always smiling.. I enjoy doing her hair and talking about her childhood and her wonderful family. She was so proud of you all!! I'm guessing the dancing hasn't stopped now that she & Leroy are back together!! Remember, the memories!!

Mike and Jacky Boje Saur - September 02, 2023 at 01:15 PM

MB

“ She was the first don I worked under hard to. Believe that was 45 years ago she was 1 of the best

mary. brown - September 01, 2023 at 06:50 PM

LF

“ So sorry to hear of Ann's passing. I will always remember her as a big sister type gal. Met her when I started babysitting and lived next door to her. She was the kindest person I ever met. All are in my prayers.



Linda Frank - September 01, 2023 at 04:45 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Anna Marie Dufner.*



September 01, 2023 at 11:50 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Anna Marie Dufner.

September 01, 2023 at 11:50 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Anna Marie Dufner.*



September 01, 2023 at 11:03 AM



“ *Love, Justin, Emily & Alivia Duffy purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Anna Marie Dufner.*



Love, Justin, Emily & Alivia Duffy - August 31, 2023 at 05:18 PM

LD

“ Love, Justin, Emily & Alivia Duffy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Anna Marie Dufner.

Love, Justin, Emily & Alivia Duffy - August 31, 2023 at 05:18 PM

KZ

“ Kathy Zenz sent a virtual gift in memory of Anna Dufner



Kathy Zenz - August 31, 2023 at 02:43 PM

TP

“ My deepest condolences to Ann's family and friends. Ann and I shared many happy times from being golf partners to traveling to the Hawaiian Islands together. I will always remember Ann with love and admiration. Wishing you peace and comfort in these difficult days.

Teresa Porter - August 31, 2023 at 02:27 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Anna Marie Dufner.



August 31, 2023 at 12:48 PM

GJ

“ Greg Peggy Johnson lit a candle in memory of Anna Dufner



Greg & Peggy Johnson - August 31, 2023 at 11:36 AM

DJ

“ Dixie Justice lit a candle in memory of Anna Dufner



Dixie Justice - August 31, 2023 at 05:27 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Anna Marie Dufner.



August 29, 2023 at 10:27 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Anna Marie Dufner.

August 29, 2023 at 10:27 PM

SB

“ *I worked for Ann at the extended care unit for many years. She was the nicest person and best boss. Prayers to family*



Sharon Bain - August 29, 2023 at 08:14 PM

JB

“ *jim alice bachmeier lit a candle in memory of Anna Dufner*



jim and alice bachmeier - August 29, 2023 at 01:24 PM

KS

“ *Kristie Stanhope lit a candle in memory of Anna Dufner*



Kristie Stanhope - August 29, 2023 at 12:34 PM

KA

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Dufner family.*



Kelli Alexander - August 29, 2023 at 12:11 AM

JJ

“ *jane jarvis lit a candle in memory of Anna Dufner*



jane jarvis - August 28, 2023 at 10:54 PM

KS

“ *Thoughts and prayers to the family...many, many fond memories of times with Ann and Duff...*

Kay Scherting - August 28, 2023 at 03:54 PM

GP

“ *Greg Dixie Post lit a candle in memory of Anna Dufner*



Greg and Dixie Post - August 28, 2023 at 10:33 AM

SK

“ *So sorry for your loss. Ann was probably the kindest person I've known. She was a true gem as a boss.*



Sheila knutson - August 26, 2023 at 11:32 AM

MB

“ *She was my very first. Boss at the Nursing home. Almost 45 years ago she was one of my favorites*

mary. brown - August 25, 2023 at 09:09 PM

CH

“ *carol hanson sent a virtual gift in memory of Anna Dufner*



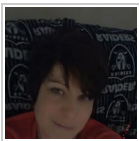
carol J hanson - August 25, 2023 at 08:29 PM

CH

“ *carol hanson lit a candle in memory of Anna Dufner*



carol J hanson - August 25, 2023 at 08:28 PM



“ *Bobbie Becker lit a candle in memory of Anna Dufner*



Bobbie Becker - August 25, 2023 at 02:33 PM