



Betty Jean Gasho

November 21, 1942 - February 3, 2025

Betty Jean Gasho, age 82, of Trotters, North Dakota, passed away on Monday, February 3, 2025, at the Wibaux County Nursing Home after a five-year battle with multiple myeloma. Visitation will be held from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM on Friday, February 7, 2025, at Silha Funeral Home in Beach, North Dakota. Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, February 8, 2025, at the Squaw Gap Community Center in Squaw Gap, North Dakota, with Pastor Tim Tharp officiating. Interment will take place at South Side Cemetery in Trotters. Silha Funeral Home of Beach has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Betty Jean was born on November 21, 1942, in Bowman, North Dakota, to Matthew and Edith (Almond) Smolnikar. She spent her early years attending country school and continued her education at Reeder High School, graduating as the Valedictorian of the Class of 1960.

Having a passion for teaching, Betty Jean pursued her education at Dickinson State College, earning her teaching certificate in 1968. She began her teaching career in Glendive, Montana, where she taught fifth grade for four years, spending her summers back in Dickinson, North Dakota, to complete her degree in Elementary Education. Betty Jean later moved to Sidney, Montana, where she taught sixth grade. During her time in Sidney, she attended a party hosted by a college friend, where she met her future husband, Allen. They were married on September 25, 1976, and built a beautiful life together. Their greatest joy came with the arrival of their two

children, Dale (1978) and Andrea (1980).

Betty Jean was a woman of warmth, wisdom, and unwavering dedication to her family. She always had a book in her hand and was known for her incredible cooking and baking—her branding meals were legendary. Betty Jean nurtured a bountiful garden every year, preserving everything she could, ensuring her family always had the best of what she grew. More than anything, she was a steadfast supporter of her children and grandchildren, cheering them on in every activity, from sports to the county fair.

Her faith was a guiding light in her life. As an active member of Grace Lutheran Church in Skaar, Montana, she served as treasurer and was a devoted member of the Ladies Aide. Alongside Allen, she worked tirelessly on their farm and ranch until they semi-retired in 2019.

Betty Jean is now reunited in peace with her beloved husband, Allen (2024); her parents, Matt and Edith; parents-in-law, Chester and Rose; her brother, Wilfred; brothers-in-law, Jerry and Don, and sisters-in-law, Elaine, Colleen, Sandra, and Cheryl.

Betty Jean leaves behind a legacy of love and strength in her children, Dale (Hope) and Andrea (Brian); her cherished grandchildren, Dylan, Mikayla, Connor, and Preston; her brother, Harold; her sisters-in-law, Muriel and Linda; her brother-in-law, Harlan; and her nephews, their families, and many cousins. Betty Jean's kindness, generosity, and unwavering love will forever be remembered. Her hands may now be at rest, but her spirit will live on in the hearts of those who loved her.

Betty Jean's Funeral Service will be live-streamed on the First Lutheran Savage Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/FirstLutheranChurchSavageMT>. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

South Side Cemetery

Trotters, ND

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 7. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Silha Funeral Homes - Beach, North Dakota
125 4th Avenue Southwest
P.O. Box 488
Beach, ND 58621
(701) 872-3232
silha@midstate.net

Funeral Service

FEB 8. 11:00 AM (MT)

Squaw Gap Community Center
Squaw Gap, ND

Tribute Wall

HB

“ I'll always remember kindly, how Allen and Betty opened their home to the three of us wannabe cowboys from Minnesota so we could experience a week of real horseback work on a western ranch. It was the best horse vacation we could imagine. They took a chance on us and it turned out to be a great friendship - which is one of God's most precious gifts.

Howard Bode - February 18, 2025 at 05:33 PM

WH

“ Wibaux County Nursing Home lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean Gasho



Wibaux County Nursing Home - February 10, 2025 at 05:36 PM

KT

“ We visited with Betty at the nursing home about a week and a half ago. Had a couple friends along and had good visits. Dale and Andrea, we are so sorry for your loss.
Kay and Ted Tescher

Kay Tescher - February 07, 2025 at 04:23 PM

PT

“ Betty's service will be live streamed at: <https://www.facebook.com/FirstLutheranChurchSavageMT>

Pastor Tim Tharp - February 06, 2025 at 07:24 PM

DE

“ Dawn Egan lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean Gasho



Dawn Egan - February 06, 2025 at 03:52 PM

FS

“ First Lutheran Church- savage purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Betty Jean Gasho.



First Lutheran Church- savage - February 06, 2025 at 12:57 PM

TF

“ The Hochhalter Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Betty Jean Gasho.



The Hochhalter Family - February 06, 2025 at 11:48 AM



“ Rainbow Reflections Basket was purchased for the family of Betty Jean Gasho.



February 05, 2025 at 04:03 PM

BS

“ *Brian & Susan Sarsland lit a candle in
memory of Betty Jean Gasho*



Brian & Susan Sarsland - February 04, 2025 at 09:33 PM