



## Betty Shearer

November 3, 1928 - February 13, 2025

Betty Jean Shearer, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully on February 13, 2025, at the age of 96. A Celebration of Life Service will be held Friday, May 16, 2025, at 2:00 PM at the United Methodist Church in Glendive, MT, with Pastor Avis Anderson officiating.

Born November 3, 1928 in Fruita, Colorado to Morgan Stuart and Rose Pritchard Goss. Betty was raised on the family homestead in the Fruita area of Eastern Colorado. She was a tomboy at heart, preferring outdoor adventures to being indoors. She spent her childhood riding horses, caring for animals, and helping her family with farming duties. She attended Fruita schools before moving to Grand Junction, Colorado in 1945, where she graduated from Grand Junction High School in 1946. She then went on to earn her degree in Home Economics, Education, and Physical Education from Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado, in 1950. She began her teaching career in Savage, Montana, and later taught in Richey, Montana where she formed lifelong friendships.

On August 2, 1953 Betty married the love of her life, Donald "Jack" Shearer of Glendive and together they built a life centered around family, faith, and service. They were blessed with four children: Norma, David, Barbara, and Richard. She was proud of her family and cherished every moment with them as well as with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Betty dedicated much of her life to education and literacy. She worked in the

Glendive school system for 27 years, serving in the Dawson County High School library for 16 years before becoming the librarian at Lincoln Elementary School. There she taught until her retirement in 1994. Her passion for learning carried on in her family, with several of her children and grandchildren working in education and the library sector.

Betty was an active member of numerous organizations, including the Glendive United Methodist Church, Order of Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile, 96th Infantry Division Auxiliary, American Association of University Women, Montana Library Association, Women of the Moose, and the VFW Auxiliary. She was also a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Her community service extended to Camp Fire Girls, Rainbow for Girls, RSVP, and the Hospital Auxiliary.

Betty also had a deep love for history and genealogy, spending years documenting family ancestry with her sister Zeta. She was key in organizing various family reunions, ensuring that generations remained connected.

Throughout life's challenges, Betty never lost her sense of humor. Whether through a clever remark or a lighthearted joke, she had a way of making people smile. She will be remembered for her quick wit, kindness, and ability to make everyone around her feel welcomed and valued.

Betty is preceded in death by her husband, Jack; her parents; her brothers William, Richard, and Douglas; her sister Zeta; Sons-in-law, Jim Oriet and Frank Papenfuss; and granddaughter, Amy Loos.

She is survived by her children: Norma Shearer, David Shearer (Mic Dawson), Barbara Oriet, and Richard Shearer (Mary). She leaves behind her grandchildren: (Norma) Kelly Nissen (Levi); (David) Ava Shearer and Brigid Shearer; (Barbara) Erin Hutchings (Anthony), and Jase Oriet (Lindsey); (Richard) Zach Shearer (Meetha); Kyle Shearer (Róisín); and Jacob Shearer. She was also a proud great-grandmother to Dylan and Alonna Kolobakken, Penelope Nissen (Norma); Mackenna and Sophie Hutchings (Barbara); Arnold Shearer, and Darragh and Callan Gideon Shearer (Richard). Betty is also survived by her sister-in-law, Esther Shearer, Glendive, and many

beloved nieces and nephews, and extended family.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Betty's memory to Friends of the Glendive Public Library or the charity of your choice: 200 South Kendrick Avenue, Glendive, MT 59330.

Her family is comforted knowing she is reunited with her beloved husband and cherished family members. Her bright smile, warm laughter, and enduring love will forever remain in the hearts of those fortunate enough to know her.

Remembrances and condolences can be shared with the family at: [www.silhafuneralhomes.com](http://www.silhafuneralhomes.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Dawson County Cemetery

Corner of North Sargent Ave. and East Allard  
Street  
Glendive, MT 59330

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY 16. 2:00 PM (MT)

United Methodist Church  
206 West Towne Street  
Glendive, MT 59330

# Tribute Wall

DS

“ *Denise Stoddart lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer*



Denise Stoddart - May 16, 2025 at 05:17 PM

MG

“ *Barb, Rich, Dave and Norma - I always enjoyed going to play at your house, being one of many neighborhood kids that did! You mom was always so nice and fun. Thoughts and prayers sent your way. Mary McDonough Garfield*

Mary Garfield - May 16, 2025 at 01:41 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Betty Shearer.*

May 14, 2025 at 03:02 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Betty Shearer.*



May 14, 2025 at 03:02 PM

MG

“ *Melissa Powell Gullikson lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer*



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**Melissa Powell Gullikson** - May 13, 2025 at 05:32 PM

ST

“ *Stacey lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer*



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**Stacey** - May 12, 2025 at 09:57 AM

HS

“ *Helen Bjerkreim Schmitz lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer*



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**Helen Bjerkreim Schmitz** - February 26, 2025 at 07:17 AM

CZ

“ *Dear Barb, Rich, Dave and Norma ... we were so very sorry to read of your Mom's death. She was such a nice lady. We don't remember ever seeing her when she wasn't smiling. May God wrap his arms around you all and bring you comfort and strength at this difficult time, and may your Mom rest in peace. Cindy and Duane Zimmerman*

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**Cindy Zimmerman** - February 23, 2025 at 09:39 PM

HF

“ *Heather Frank lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer*



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**Heather Frank** - February 22, 2025 at 10:05 PM

MW

“ *Mark and Sheryl Walsh lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer*



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**Mark and Sheryl Walsh** - February 21, 2025 at 07:10 PM

AE

*What a special lady Betty was. I cherished her friendship as we worked together in "Star". I have also missed Jack's humor these past years. you have my sympathy and know she was special. Alice Engen*

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**Alice Engen** - May 14, 2025 at 01:19 PM

JH

“ *Dear Dave and siblings and families, now I have figured out where your interest in library work came from, Dave. Your Mom sounds like she was a lovely lady, and I know you'll miss her very much. You have my sympathies. My parents both reached the age of 96 before they passed, and I have since realized what a blessing it was that I got to have them for so long. Blessings on you all. Memories are great comforts.*

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**Jo Anne (Jonutis) Herem** - February 18, 2025 at 03:07 PM

DC

“ *Diane Jack Crockett sent a virtual gift in memory of Betty Shearer*



**Diane Jack Crockett** - February 18, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ *Andeen Raymond lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer*



**Andeen Raymond** - February 18, 2025 at 10:50 AM

DR

“ *My condolences to Norma, David, Barb, and Rich. I'm thinking of you all at this time. May your memories bring smiles and comfort always. Your mom will be missed. 🌹*  
*Deb Roeslein*



**Deb Roeslein** - February 17, 2025 at 12:03 AM

JP

“ Diana and I extend our thoughts and prayers to all of Betty’s family in her passing. I was the Librarian at Dawson County High School & Betty was one of my two assistants. Betty was an absolute delight to work with for she not only performed library tasks well, but also cared deeply about the students. We personally felt a close friendship with Betty and got to know your Dad quite well through that relationship. A special lady who touched many lives in a positive way. Jack & Diana Pollari

Jack & Diana Pollari - February 16, 2025 at 06:01 PM

DS

“ Donna Latka Stanfill sent a virtual gift in memory of Betty Shearer



Donna Latka Stanfill - February 16, 2025 at 12:39 PM

NK

“ Betty was a person who worked as a librarian at the high school then she offered her services at the attic. I will always remember her willingness to step in. She was a treasure!



Nancy Korb - February 16, 2025 at 09:46 AM

GB

“ Norma, Dave, Richard and Barb and families. Sorry to hear of your mom's passing, she was a special lady. Thinking of all of you ,blessings and hugs.💔

Gary and Renee Bennett - February 16, 2025 at 09:09 AM

KW

“ I got to know Betty when she was the librarian at Lincoln School. I enjoyed our visits & her quick wit. Our condolences to her family.

Karen Wallace - February 16, 2025 at 12:16 AM

JL

“ Janette Legato lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer



Janette Legato - February 15, 2025 at 02:10 PM

BT

“ Betty will be missed by all! I grew up with her children and Jack and Betty always had a smile and a chat! Cherish your Memories and Hold them close they will help you get through the difficult days ahead!  
RIP Betty  
Becky (Chouinard) Tipton



Becky Tipton - February 15, 2025 at 01:40 PM

MG

“ I remember Betty working in the library at school and her kind manner. I graduated with her daughter, Barb, and enjoyed visiting both when Barb visited her Mom at EMVH. I will miss Betty as she had just recently begun attending the Sunday evening church services I help with out there each week. May God comfort her family in this time of loss.

Marilyn Green - February 15, 2025 at 12:34 PM

LG

“ I remember Betty and Jack coming to my parents home for coffee several times. My condolences to the family. Laura Grzanic

Laura Grzanic - February 14, 2025 at 09:46 PM

KS

“ Katrina Robinson Schultz lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer



Katrina Robinson Schultz - February 14, 2025 at 08:22 PM

AS

“ Growing up she lived around the corner from my grandparents house. She also use to work at the school. (Maybe volunteered.) I've always enjoyed visiting with her. Betty is going to be missed by all who knew her. May she rest in peace.

Annie Utgaard Schafer - February 14, 2025 at 06:17 PM

DD

“ Donna Dobson lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer



Donna Dobson - February 14, 2025 at 05:19 PM

JB

“ *jim and alice bachmeier lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer*



**jim and alice bachmeier** - February 14, 2025 at 04:44 PM

MM

“ *Marla McCormick lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer*



**Marla McCormick** - February 14, 2025 at 02:56 PM

CH

“ *To Betty's family: I am sorry to see she has passed, she had a good life. She was our neighbor for many years. When seeing her in grocery store always had a smile and was up to having a good visit with you. RIP Betty and fly high with the angels.*  
*Carol Hanson*

**Carol Hanson** - February 14, 2025 at 01:06 PM

BA

“ *Barb Anvik lit a candle in memory of Betty Shearer*



**Barb Anvik** - February 14, 2025 at 01:05 PM

CH

“ *Carol Hanson sent a virtual gift in memory of Betty Shearer*



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**Carol Hanson** - February 14, 2025 at 01:01 PM