



Christine Ann Finneman

January 6, 1925 - January 24, 2021

Christine Ann (Barthel) Finneman, age 96, passed from her earthly life on January 24, 2021 at Sanford Hospital in Bismarck, North Dakota. Visitation will be held from 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM and from 6:00 PM until 7:00 PM with a Vigil Service at 7:00 PM on Friday, January 29, 2021 at Silha Funeral Home in Beach. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00 AM on Saturday, January 30, 2021 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Golva, North Dakota with Father Dan Berg officiating. Rite of Committal will be in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Golva. Silha Funeral Home of Beach has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Christine was born in Sentinel Butte at the home of a midwife on January 6, 1925, to Tony and Catherine (Dietz) Barthel, the second oldest of nine children. Her first eight grades were at the Barthel Country School, southeast of Golva, half a mile from her home. Babysitting was one of her jobs during high school, for twenty-five cents a night, as well as working at the local telephone office switchboard. Christine graduated in 1942, along with her future husband Ralph, who was also her childhood sweetheart. She achieved her teaching certificate from Dickinson State College and Minot, teaching at the Carew School.

Ralph and Christine married on May 25, 1943 at St Mary's Catholic Church. They had forty wonderful years together when Ralph passed away June 8th, 1983. To this union, eleven children were born, seven girls and four boys. Christine was active in St. Mary's Alter Society, sang in the church choir for

many years, taught CCD, lead rosary before mass, helped with fall dinners and funerals, was a teacher's aid at the Golva School and made numerous costumes for the children. For many years, she invited the school children to come and get a pumpkin from her garden, better known as Grandma's Pumpkin Patch. Christine enjoyed family get-togethers, playing cards, gardening, canning, baking breads, singing and dancing. She was everybody's mom and grandma, including a Japanese 4-H exchange student. She supported many missionary children. Christine enjoyed the Ipad, emails and Facebook. Her sewing machine put in many hours making bridesmaid dresses, multiple quilts, potholders and patching jeans. Ralph and Christine were awarded Family of the Year by Knights of Columbus. Christine was also nominated for Beautiful Women of North Dakota.

Christine's home became the breakfast hot spot after mass on Sunday mornings; serving many priests, seminarians and whoever would show up at the door, including Fr. Adam Maus's dog, Sally. Teachers were always welcomed at her home if they needed a place to rest their head. She enjoyed writing letters of encouragement and she had a love of supporting the seminarians. She was the community Welcome Wagon whether it was offering a plate of cookies or a taxi driver for the elderly. Her last home, the Golden Valley Manor, she quoted, was "A slice of Heaven".

Christine was preceded in death by her parents, Tony and Catherine; her husband, Ralph; three brothers, Laurence, Raymond and Donnie; one sister, Helen; a granddaughter, Brandy Alberta; an infant granddaughter, Lindey Dale; an infant grandson, Leon Jay and daughter-in-law, Linda.

Christine is survived by her eleven children, Gene (Susan), Marylee (Paul), Arlene (Marvin), Pauline (Frank), Darrell (ReNee), Brenda (Gary), Lynn (Duane), Gerrienne (Al), Raphael (friend Robin), Mark (Bella) and Michelle (Gary); twenty-six grandchildren; forty-five great grandchildren; ten great-great grandchildren; her sisters, Dorothy Finneman, Lillian Patterson, MaryAnn Marman and Leona Jacobs; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and in-laws.

Live streaming of the service is available with pre-approval on the Tri-Parish Beach-Golva-Medora Facebook page: Tri-Parish Catholic Beach-Golva-Medora (facebook.com) .

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Golden Valley Manor, 260 5th Street SW, Beach, North Dakota 58621 or your local parish in honor of Christine for the seminarian's fund. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery

Golva, ND

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 29. 1:00 PM - 5:00 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

Visitation

JAN 29. 6:00 PM - 7:00 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

Vigil Service

JAN **29**. 7:00 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

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN **30**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
405 Gass Street
Golva, ND

Tribute Wall



“ *Christine Ann Finneman*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM

TT

“ My wife, Cindie, and I were so, very sorry to hear about Christine’s passing.... (and how blessed one must be to live your entire life with Christ as part of your name)! The news of her death was one of those occasions in life where you just immediately feel all the air empty out of your lungs. She was such a sweet lady and an absolute joy to be around. I’m entirely ashamed of myself for sharing my memories of her at such a late date, but she would be the first to forgive me. I got to know Christine while she lived at the Manor. I attended Mass there on Thursday mornings and she was always seated just in front of me. She was ALWAYS impeccably dressed and always seemed to have a smile on her face for everyone to see...probably goes back to that “Christ” namesake thing. AND she was always so complimentary to everyone who helped conduct the Mass. For a long time I only knew her as the sweet, well-dressed lady who sat in front of me during Mass, but slowly got to know a little more about her. Not being from the Beach area (and being a little slow on the uptake) it takes me awhile to figure out who people are and their relationships to others. If not for my time with the St John’s Men’s Choir, I wouldn’t know anything about anybody. Anyways, I slowly figured out who she was and her relationship to Brenda, MaryLee and Michelle. One memory of her stands out in my mind...a few years ago, the choir was singing at a funeral Mass in Golva. 2 or 3 of us were carpooling with Elaine Z. and we stopped to pick up Christine at the Manor. By then, I had gotten to know Christine a little better, but still didn’t know a lot about her. She was sitting in the front seat and got to talking with Bern about the crops growing in the area, then all of the sudden started quoting the current prices of wheat, barley, and other crops I didn’t even recognize! This was something that I didn’t expect coming from the sweet, well-dressed lady who sat in front of me during Mass! I thought the episode quite surprising and it brought a quiet smile to my heart. It wasn’t until later that I learned a little about her wonderful life before the Manor. We will miss her sweet smile and will continue to pray for her and her family and friends. May God Bless all who read this. Tom & Cindie Togni

Thomas Togni - February 11, 2021 at 02:00 PM

JR

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are you all. John and Angie Ross*

John and Angie Ross - February 05, 2021 at 03:36 PM



“ *Marylee and Michelle and all... my deepest sympathy on the loss of your mother. It is a void nothing will fill. Knowing your mom she was ready to be with our Lord Jesus. Prayers and God bless all of you. May she rest in peace.*

Carol TescherObrigewitch - February 05, 2021 at 12:34 AM

KK

“ *Christine was a very special Christian lady. She was concerned for everyone and went to great efforts to include all in prayers and actions of good will. She had a great love for Priests and seminarians. Her faith and generosity will be missed by all. We send our sympathy to all. Layne and Ken Kreitinger*

Ken and Layne Kreitinger - January 30, 2021 at 08:53 PM

KK

“ *Christine was a very special Christian lady. She was concerned for everyone and went to great efforts to include all in prayers and actions of good will. She had a great love for Priests and seminarians. Her faith and generosity will be missed by all. We extend our sympathy to all the family. Layne and Ken Kreitinger*

Ken and Layne Kreitinger - January 30, 2021 at 05:11 PM

“ To the Christine Finneman family sharing my 17 years of knowing her with my deepest sincere thoughts, prayers, and heartfelt condolences on the loss of your mother, and so much more. I was disgusted with myself for being out-of-state and finding out about her passing when I returned today (1-30-21)! I wanted to be there to honor her for all she did for me and how very important to my life she was and that she meant so much to me!

I visited her many many times at her home and the Golden Valley Manor. We kept in touch through our Christmas letters and cards!! I loved the feeling I always had when I spent some time with her, like I was in the presence of Heaven and an angel. One time I brought one of my officiating buddies along and after our visit he could not believe how Christine made him feel like he was one of her own. He said he felt like she was my grandmother!

I first met her when I taught 7-8 grade in 2003 at Golva. She was a teacher aide. My class got to experience her Pumpkin Patch. With this being my first experience, I could see why my students could not wait for her invitation for them to come again with the treats she gave us. She was like a grandmother to all of us. Her presence gave me a sense of warmth, love, and peace. During the stormy winter days she invited me to stay at her home so I would not have to travel back to Dickinson. I was treated like Royalty! Her fresh baked bread was a favorite! I loved listening to her share about her life and her 11 children and their families. She even tried to teach me the card game.Pinochle. I wished I could have experienced her Sunday after church gatherings at her home, they sounded like a holiday! God and her family meant the most to her and she was granted the promise of a long and fruitful life.(Proverbs 3:2). Wow! 71 grandchildren of 3 different generations.

I knew two of her daughters; Michelle and Gary through my basketball/ football officiating and Gerrienne and Al when my daughter BreAnn played high school basketball with their daughter at Trinity. Thanks for the memories.

I will truly miss her letters and cards at Christmas, our visits, her words of encouragement, her positive attitude toward life, and those wonderful hugs!

We lost a wonderful person and if the world and more of her it surely would be heaven on earth! I pray that her last days were peaceful and as beautiful as she was.

May God bless her family with comfort, peace, and healing in this very difficult time of seeing her go to be with the Lord. Someday we will again get to be with her when we meet in heaven.

With tears and a sad heart,

Arwin "Spud" Uttech

Beulah, ND

Arwin "Spud" Uttech - January 30, 2021 at 04:35 PM

JA

“ *Father God is near to the broken hearted. Aunt Christine was a beautiful person inside and out. Such a great inspiration of endurance and love for ALL OF US. Her presence and precious smile will always be missed. You are all in my prayers, may Holy Spirit comfort your hearts and give you all the strength and peace to carry on her incredible legacy. Love you all.*

Geralyn (Jeri) Alarcon

Jeri Alarcon - January 30, 2021 at 01:00 PM

KK

“ *Kiffin Kohanes lit a candle in memory of Christine Ann Finneman*



Kiffin Kohanes - January 30, 2021 at 10:46 AM

ML

“ So many good memories of visiting with Christine she was a remarkable lady the family has my deepest sympathy

Maurice Lardy

Maurice Lardy - January 29, 2021 at 07:53 PM

SL

“ to all of Christine and Ralph's family and extended family, My prayerful sympathy! Christine's gift to all was her generous, loving spirit of generosity and gracious sharing of herself. That is what God's love is, sharing and sharing and sharing some more! Christine's place in the heavenly kingdom is lovely and grace-filled; God welcomes her with love and peace and joy. How she is missed by those who knew her and loved her.
wish I could share the funeral service with you all. thanks for sharing her with so many of us! Love, Sister Susan Lardy

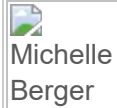
S. Susan Lardy - January 29, 2021 at 04:41 PM

RK

“ Rachel Keohane lit a candle in memory of Christine Ann Finneman



Rachel Keohane - January 29, 2021 at 04:33 PM



Michelle Berger

“ *Great Aunt Christine was always a beacon of light and love. Her smile would light up a room. Her kindness an inspiration. She was a true angel on this earth. Knowing she will be praying for us in heaven is the greatest gift we can receive from her. God bless your soul Christine. You will be missed. I look forward to seeing you again one day.*



Michelle Berger - January 29, 2021 at 11:06 AM

JK

“ *Christine was beyond words to try and describe. She was the most loving human being God ever created. She will be missed by everyone so much! Jan K.*

jan kuchera - January 28, 2021 at 09:09 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Christine Ann Finneman.*



January 28, 2021 at 04:46 PM

BL

“ *To Christine's Family:
We are very sorry to hear of Christine's death. You have our sympathy and condolences. We pray for her soul and for all her family as you mourn her passing.
Dixie & Bill Lardy*

Bill Lardy - January 28, 2021 at 04:10 PM

DK

The first time I met Christine was a unique experience. It was a case of instant rapport; as though we had known each other for years and were comfortable in a mutual relationship. That may be an exaggeration but it is a slight one.

God gave her the gift of acceptance of others and she wielded that gift to widespread advantage. To know her was to see her as one of God's disciples, Her attitude I am sure made many people better for having known her. She is one of those unforgettable individuals we were privileged to know.

Dick Kukowski

Dick Kukowski - January 29, 2021 at 06:23 PM

DK

“ We were so sorry to hear of Aunt Christine's passing. She was quite the lady. Bruce has many fond memories of time spent on the farm when he was young. Due to Covid we won't be able to join you but know we are there with you in spirit. Sending love and prayers, Bruce and Debbie Knudson

Debbie Knudson - January 28, 2021 at 10:37 AM

MW

Our hearts go out in sympathy to the family of Christine. She always had a smile and cheerful disposition. Her deep love of faith in our Lord was an example for all that nothing is impossible if you have faith. She was a wonderful mother which shows through her families bonds of love. Christine will be missed by so many but will live forever in our hearts. Sending love and prayers , Tim and Mary Wang

Mary Wang - January 28, 2021 at 07:23 PM



“ Adoring Heart was purchased for the family of Christine Ann Finneman.



January 27, 2021 at 10:17 PM

TF

“ *The Herman Dietz Family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Christine Ann Finneman.*



The Herman Dietz Family - January 27, 2021 at 08:20 PM

BK

“ *Gene, Mary Lee, Arlene, Pauline, Darrell, Brenda, Lynn, Raphael, Gerrienne, Mark and Michelle*
I send you my love and prayers. You all know that Christine was such a wonderful woman and I cannot even imagine how much you will miss her. She is now smiling down on all of us but especially the eleven of you and your families--smiling because she is so proud of God's work completed through her and Ralph; and, represented by her children. God keep her and bless you.
Bill Knudson

Bill Knudson - January 27, 2021 at 07:47 PM

TS

I know much Christine will be missed, not just by her loving family, but by anyone who had the privilege of knowing her, she touched many hearts and had many talents. Her kids and grandkids were her shining joy, and I know you will all carry on that legacy of faith and dedication in life to others. She was such an inspiration to many in her approach to life. A beautiful gem, now in her heavenly home with the Lord. Prayers in these days and months ahead missing a remarkable lady.
Tami & Paul Striegel

Tami Striegel - January 29, 2021 at 10:54 AM

AC

“ So sorry to hear of Christine's passing. I am glad I got to see her and say Hi while visiting with Judy over New Years. She was a sweet Lady and always had a smile. She will be missed by many.
Annette Curl

Annette Curl - January 27, 2021 at 01:47 PM

PF

“ *Paul & Carol Finneman lit a candle in memory of Christine Ann Finneman*



Paul & Carol Finneman - January 27, 2021 at 12:55 PM

RC

“ *A Mother's love is eternal. Our sincere condolences to all of Christine's family.*



Roger and Paula Clemens - January 27, 2021 at 11:46 AM

GM

“ *Our thoughts, prayers, and love go out to Christine's family. She was truly an angel, we will miss her! Gary and Connie Marman*

Gary Marman - January 26, 2021 at 09:53 PM

KC

“ *Kathy Carbno lit a candle in memory of Christine Ann Finneman*



Kathy Carbno - January 26, 2021 at 08:34 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Christine Ann Finneman.*



January 26, 2021 at 07:58 PM

KB

“ *My thoughts and prayers for Christine's family..Gerrienne if your mother was anything like you, she had to be a wonderful person...May she Rest In Peace...Brent and Karen Brockel*

Karen Brockel - January 26, 2021 at 02:36 PM

GH

Oh Karen I will never be the kind sweet lady my mom was. Mom is rejoicing in Heaven for sure

Gerrienne Hartse - January 28, 2021 at 02:11 AM

DN

“ *My thoughts & prayers go out to Christine's family. She was an awesome lady. Last year when I lost my husband she helped my niece make a quilt from his jeans. I cherish that quilt! She has earned her wings.*

Diane Nelson - January 26, 2021 at 02:25 AM

MP

“ Are condolence to you and your family GerriAnn prayers are with you for your loss. It's hard to loss a mother but remember all the things she has thought us we would not be here with out all those memories.

Love and prayers
Marietta & Andy

Marietta Polanchek - January 25, 2021 at 08:31 PM

LD

“ Christine was the sweetest woman I know.Heaven gained angel.Cousins so sorry for your loss. Thinking about you. I'm so proud I was born on the same day forty years apart.Linda

Linda Deines - January 25, 2021 at 06:50 PM

LD

“ Linda Deines sent a virtual gift in memory of Christine Ann Finneman



Linda Deines - January 25, 2021 at 06:44 PM