



Erna Rau

March 27, 1930 - January 19, 2023

Our mom Erna (Odenbach) Rau, age 92 of Glendive, Montana, passed peacefully into her Lord's presence on Thursday, January 19, 2023. She was born in Bonesteel, South Dakota, on March 27, 1930 to Herman and Katherine (Bachman) Odenbach. As a family, her parents, brother Alvin, sister Alma, and Erna moved to Sidney, Montana, where they bought a farm. At a young age, Mom accepted Christ into her heart, and she attended church until her health declined. Erna met Elmer in 1946, the man of her dreams – a cute, tall, farm boy. They were married in 1948. Together they made a life of farming and raising children, a son Darrell, and daughters Lynnette and Katherine. In 1958 they moved to Glendive, where they purchased a farm in West Glendive. Their son Donald was born in 1960.

While Elmer was busy farming, Mom helped as much as she could by raising children and cooking for the family and hired men. In 1985, a young man named Bryan Robson joined our family's farming operations, and still is very important in our lives today.

Mom loved her family and made holidays special with delicious caramel rolls, kuchen, pies, and all the foods she canned in the fall. Mom had a tradition of freezing corn every fall. The whole neighborhood would benefit from the sweet corn that Mom and Dad grew. Mom enjoyed making quilts and embroidering. She made quilts for all of her grandchildren. Mom loved to play her organ when she thought no one was listening, but we were anyway.

Mom was very passionate about her faith and remaining active in her church.

She taught Sunday School and participated in the lady's prayer group, where she met lifelong friends. She was a prayer warrior for her church, children, and grandchildren.

Upon Dad retiring from farming in 2004 and his passing in 2010, Mom moved into Grandview Retirement Home in 2012. She remained there until 2018, when she moved into the GMC Extended Care. She resided there until her passing.

Mom was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer, of 61 years; her parents, brother Alvin, and sister Alma Kaiser.

Survivors include sons Darrell (Char) Rau of Steele, North Dakota, Don (Vicky) Rau of Glendive; daughters Lynnette (Will) Papka of Billings, Montana, Katherine (Joe) Sharbono of Glendive; grandchildren Tiffany, Jason, Amber, Bryan, Jennifer, Brad, Brittney, Blayne; 16 great grandchildren; sisters-in-law she loved dearly, Alvina, Donna, Carol, Joanie; special cousins Leonard and Hilda Mae; and very special niece LuAnn Price and son Shayne.

Memorials are suggested to the Glendive Alliance Church Missions at 105 Highland Park Road, Glendive, MT 59330.

Visitation will be held from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM on Friday, January 27, 2023 at the Silha Funeral Home in Glendive. Funeral services will be at 10:00 AM on Saturday, January 28, 2023 at the Glendive Alliance Church with Pastor Phil Elmer and Ed Williamson officiating. Interment will be in the Dawson Memorial Cemetery. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

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

JAN 27. 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>

Funeral Service

JAN 28. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (MT)

Glendive Alliance Church
105 Highland Park Road
Glendive, MT 59330

Tribute Wall

BS

“ Thoughts and prayers go out to Ernas family



Betty Shearer - February 05, 2023 at 06:49 PM

BS

“ Sympathy and prayers are with Ernas family



Betty Shearer - February 05, 2023 at 06:40 PM

DB

“ My condolences to the family and friends of Erna Rau at this difficult time. Prayers to all.



Denise Borotrager - February 01, 2023 at 09:47 PM

DB

“ My condolences to the family and friends of Erna Rau at this difficult time. Prayers to all.



Denise Borotrager - January 28, 2023 at 05:14 AM

SD

“ I will always remember your Mom for her beautiful smile. I always looked forward to our visits at the DQ. May God comfort you now until your days brighten with priceless memories.

Sherilyn Senner Danielson - January 25, 2023 at 02:25 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Erna Rau.



January 25, 2023 at 11:14 AM

BS

“ Bob Kristie Stanhope lit a candle in memory of Erna Rau



Bob & Kristie Stanhope - January 25, 2023 at 09:02 AM

DS

“ I'm saddened to hear of Aunt Erna's passing as I know we will miss her. I am happy, though, that she and my mom, Alma Kaiser are together again and hugging each other. Aunt Erna's passing marks the end of an era and now her children, nieces and nephews are charged with carrying the mantle of love and living.

Dawn Kaiser Smith - January 24, 2023 at 11:11 PM

PR

“ I will sure miss my Erna. She is with her Savior now. Much love to her awesome family.

Patti Robison - January 24, 2023 at 09:42 PM

BJ

“ All of you are in our prayers. Hold onto those memories.



Bob and Dixie Justice - January 24, 2023 at 09:27 PM

RA

“ Ron, Dawn, Randy, Pam, Roger & Kim Aberle purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Erna Rau.



Ron, Dawn, Randy, Pam, Roger & Kim Aberle - January 24, 2023 at 05:46 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Erna Rau.



January 24, 2023 at 12:57 PM

DR

“ To the family of Erna Rau, I am sad to hear of the loss of your mother. A mother's gift is a special love that is not found anywhere else. May the faith she instilled in you and your loving memories give you comfort in your days ahead. God bless.

Deb Roeslein - January 23, 2023 at 08:25 PM

CW

“ Carol Wolff lit a candle in memory of Erna Rau



Carol Wolff - January 23, 2023 at 04:06 PM

BT

“ Kathy and Family I'm so sorry for your loss! No matter how old we are it's still hard to lose our parents.
Cherish your Memories and hold them close they will help get you through the difficult days!
Prayers
Becky(Chouinard) Tipton

Becky Tipton - January 22, 2023 at 08:25 PM



“ sorry hear about your mom



James Schock - January 22, 2023 at 05:47 PM

DE

“ Don Deb Evans lit a candle in memory of Erna Rau



Don & Deb Evans - January 22, 2023 at 05:41 PM



“ James Schock lit a candle in memory of Erna Rau



James Schock - January 22, 2023 at 05:40 PM



“ Sorry hear about your mom

James Schock

James Schock - January 22, 2023 at 03:46 PM

LI

“ Lynn Ingraham lit a candle in memory of Erna Rau



Lynn Ingraham - January 22, 2023 at 03:28 PM

LD

“ *Linda Deines lit a candle in memory of Erna Rau*



Linda Deines - January 22, 2023 at 01:29 PM

PZ

“ *Don and I send our sincere condolences to Erna's family! We wanted to attend the funeral to see the kids but we will be out of town. God bless you all as you mourn this matriarch of your family. LOVE, Don and Penny*



Penny Zimmerman - January 21, 2023 at 08:47 PM

MK

“ *Mary Kutzler lit a candle in memory of Erna Rau*



Mary Kutzler - January 21, 2023 at 01:58 PM

CB

“ *So very sorry to hear about your mom. I know my mom really enjoyed having her as a friend during their stay at Grandview. Hugs and prayers to all.*

Cindi and Dennis Byron - January 21, 2023 at 11:19 AM

GE

“ Grace Evirude lit a candle in memory of Erna Rau



Grace Koffler Evirude - January 21, 2023 at 10:03 AM

MG

“ Marlene Gehnert lit a candle in memory of Erna Rau



Marlene Gehnert - January 20, 2023 at 08:25 PM

JS

“ Rau Family, We are so sorry to hear about your Mother's passing. May God Bless you all.

Jim & Donna Latka Stanfill - January 20, 2023 at 06:58 PM

DD

“ Daryl And Betty Lou Dekaye lit a candle in memory of Erna Rau



Daryl and Betty Lou Dekaye - January 20, 2023 at 06:57 PM

AK

“ *Erna will always have a special place in my heart. She knew how to be a servant, share what she was blessed with, and bless others with her prayers.*

Angie Kreiman - January 20, 2023 at 05:08 PM

PH

“ *So sorry to hear of the loss of Erna. Such a wonderful woman! Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Josh and Piney (Nelson) Helmuth*

Piney Helmuth - January 20, 2023 at 01:37 PM

MM

“ *Sorry to hear of Erna's passing. I enjoyed our visits when she lived at Grandview.*

Marla McCormick - January 20, 2023 at 12:14 PM