



Irene Gladys Smith

September 3, 1919 - June 13, 2014

Irene Gladys Smith, age 94, of Retah, East of Richey, Montana, passed away on Friday, June 13, 2014 at her sons home in Richey. A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Saturday, June 28, 2014 at the Bethlehem Mennonite Church in Bloomfield with Pastor Darrell Nefzger officiating. Interment will be held in the Bethlehem Mennonite Cemetery in Bloomfield. Silvernale-Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Irene was born in Retah, Montana, on September 3, 1919, a daughter of Henry and Susie (Richert) Shoenwald. She was raised and educated in Retah where she attended grade school in a one room school house called the Divide School and graduated from Richey High School with the class of 1938. Irene remained on the family farm after high school helping her family with farm work.

She met and later married Marvin Smith on September 26, 1940 in the Bethlehem Mennonite Church in Bloomfield and to this union five sons were born. Shortly after their marriage, Irene and Marvin purchased her family's farm from her father and farmed until 1968 when they moved to Bozeman, Montana. While living in Bozeman, Irene worked at the Montana State University in housekeeping and Marvin was working road construction. Marvin passed away in 1984 and Irene continued to reside in Bozeman until 1986 when she moved to Billings, Montana until 2013 when health issues forced her to move back home with her son, Larry.

Irene was a self taught pianist; a gift she was given by the Lord and a gift she

was delighted to get to share with everyone. She enjoyed quilting and her family was very precious to her.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; five sisters; one brother; one step-grandchild and two daughter-in-laws.

She is survived by her five sons, Calvin Smith of Billings, Arden (Carolyn) Smith of Seattle, Washington, Robert (Shari) Smith of Phoenix, Arizona, Larry (Bonnie) Smith of Richey, Montana and Kent (Caron) Smith of Marysville, Washington; eleven grandchildren and twenty-one great-grandchildren; one brother, Don (Anita) Schoenwald of Ohio and numerous nieces and nephews. In Lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Eastern Montana Bible Camp in Richey, Montana.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.silve-rnale-silhafuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall



“ Irene Gladys Smith

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ My prayers for your comfort but also prayers of thanksgiving that Irene is with her Lord. I remember attending the Bethlehem Mennonite church on Sunday evening with Teddi Senner Whitmer. I saw her shepherding four of your boys to the front of the church. All very well behaved! You sang "I've got a mansion, just over the hilltop". It made quite an impression on me. I thought if I ever have kids they're going to sing in church to the Glory of God, and they did! Such a great example!

Karen Pickart - June 16, 2014 at 04:13 PM



“ So sorry to learn of Irene's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this trying time. Irene was one of the strongest women (she had to be - raising 5 boys) I have ever met, she was hard working and her faith was deep. She will be missed but never forgotten - I recall stories from the family talking about incidents with the boys growing up on the farm. I am so glad she was able to be at Richey at the end, I am sure it was very important to her.

Donna McAllister Deisher - June 16, 2014 at 03:43 PM