



Leona Elizabeth Popiel

November 20, 1914 - December 27, 2016

Leona Elizabeth (Bares) Popiel, age 102, of Glendive, Montana, passed away on Tuesday, December 27, 2016 in Billings, Montana. Visitation will take place from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. and from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at Silha Funeral Home in Glendive. A vigil service will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at Silha Funeral Home in Glendive. Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Glendive with Father Francis Schreiber officiating. Rite of committal will follow in Dawson County Cemetery. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Leona was born on November 20, 1914, to Anthony H. and Anna (Schwinghammer) Bares in Golva, North Dakota on the family farm. During her first and second high school years she lived with a family and worked for her room and board. During her third year she lived with a friend and rented an apartment. Her fourth year of high school, she got to drive a Model T Ford back and forth to school from the farm. She graduated high school from Golva. She wanted to go on to school in Dickinson, North Dakota to become a teacher, but she was going with Joe and her Dad "wouldn't pay for school if she was just going to get married".

She met Joe L. Popiel when she was 14 at a dance at St. Phillips, Montana. She and Joe were married on November 20, 1935 on Leona's 21st birthday. They lived in Beach, North Dakota and Wibaux, Montana for a short time, then moved to Golva. They farmed, hauled coal, delivered milk and eggs, and

owned and ran Joe's Food Market. Leona loved working in that store and carefully balanced the books. They provided credit and food during the difficult depression years. Oranges were very scarce during the depression and they made sure that every family had at least one on every Christmas Eve. They also opened the store after church on Sunday morning so the people who shopped in Beach could pick up what they forgot to buy. Later Leona also worked at Dawson County High School for a number of years.

Joe and Leona moved to Glendive and Leona lived in the home that Joe built until she was 90. She then moved to an apartment at Grandview Retirement Home and resided there until the age of 97, when she moved to Tendernest Assisted Living in Laurel/Billings, where she resided there until the time of her death.

Leona sewed for her family; she made many of her children's clothes and every one of her children and grandchildren have more than one of her homemade quilts. She also had a beautiful flower garden and a large vegetable garden, which she canned all of the produce. Leona was famous for her homemade buns and canned fruit, and people would often stop by to enjoy them for dessert. She loved to dance and loved to "Go". She enjoyed several cruises and many trips. She was the family matriarch who kept her children coming "HOME".

Leona was a member of the Catholic Daughters, Court of St. Catherine, Altar Society, and Women of the Moose. She was one of the original organizers of the Quilters at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband Joe L. Popiel; oldest son Donald L. Popiel; one great-granddaughter Michelle Fasching; and one great-great-granddaughter Hannah Bishr.

Leona is survived by nine children; Carol (Mike) Fasching, Norman (Carolyn) Popiel, James L. Popiel, Joyce (Ben) Koffler, Annette (Dennis) Schwartz, Michael (Cheri) Popiel, Randy (Michelle) Popiel, Rita (Marvin) Nemitz, Patty (Wayne) Meidinger; twenty-seven grandchildren; forty-seven great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomes.com

Previous Events

Vigil Service

JAN 3. 7:00 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>

Visitation

JAN 3. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (MT)

Silha Funeral Home
221 North Meade Avenue
Glendive, MT 59330

Visitation

JAN 3. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (MT)

Silha Funeral Home
221 North Meade Avenue
Glendive, MT 59330

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 4. 10:00 AM (MT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
316 West Benham Street
Glendive, MT 59330

Tribute Wall



“ *Leona Elizabeth Popiel*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *Just know that all of you of Aunt Leona's family are in our thoughts and prayers and Aunt Leona was a very special lady.*

Dan and Carol Kreitinger

Daniel and Carol Kreitinger - January 08, 2017 at 10:25 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of the passing of your mother. Our prayers are with Leona and her family in this time of need.*

Jon Scherger - January 05, 2017 at 02:09 PM



“ *I had the privilege of knowing Leona through my grandma Dorothy. She would come over and they would have their coffee breaks everyday. She was a wonderful lady. She will be missed.*

Heather Handran - January 04, 2017 at 10:52 AM



“ *Bonnie and Randy Jones purchased the Rose Reembrance for the family of Leona Elizabeth Popiel.*



Bonnie and Randy Jones - January 03, 2017 at 06:58 PM

TS

“ Terry S. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Leona Elizabeth Popiel.



Terry S. - January 03, 2017 at 02:04 PM

GP

“ Our prayers and sympathy to the Popiel Family. I shared many days over at the Popiel home when I was visiting my Aunt Dorothy who was a neighbor. Leona was always so very kind and smiling. This angel will always be with us in our hearts as she left a wonderful legacy behind. Take Care and God Bless!



Ginger Tweet Pulse - January 03, 2017 at 01:22 PM

CS

“ sending heartfelt condolences to Annette, Dennis and all the family. Leona was a remarkable women, and always made me feel like I was one of her daughters. Thinking of you all.
Bruce and Cleo Schwartz and family



Cleo Schwartz - January 03, 2017 at 12:27 PM

RB

“ Dear Carol, Norman, Jim, Joyce, Annette, Mike, Randy, Rita, Patty and families,
Our deepest sympathy to you all for your loss. May happy memories bring comfort to you now and in the future. The Norbert Bares Family

Richard Bares - January 03, 2017 at 12:14 PM

GA

“ Gia, Bill, Boston and Camron Allen purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Leona Elizabeth Popiel.



Gia, Bill, Boston and Camron Allen - January 02, 2017 at 10:39 PM

GI

“ I was fortunate to live with grandma over a summer while I worked in Glendive. I am so happy I had the chance to spend some time with just grandma and get to know her just a little bit better. I will always cherish that time and will miss her very much.

Gia - January 02, 2017 at 09:44 PM

GI

“ I had the fortune of living with grandma over a summer when I worked in Glendive. I am so lucky to have had that precious time with her alone. I will forever cherish those moments and will miss her daily.



Gia - January 02, 2017 at 09:41 PM

LH

“ To all my dear cousins and their families. I send my condolences over the loss of your dear mother and grandmother. She has been and always will be my favorite aunt. She always had a smile, hug and kind words every time I'd see her. May you find comfort and peace in the days ahead.

David and Lisa Heinrich

Lisa Heinrich - January 02, 2017 at 08:17 PM

FQ

“ From the Rock Creek Quilters purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Leona Elizabeth Popiel.



From the Rock Creek Quilters - January 02, 2017 at 11:57 AM

MF

“ Leona was always special to me. I had known her for approximately 49 years and we were always friends even thru the life changes that I made. We were kind of on the same page in the game of life. I respected her life's journey; she was a very strong person and did everything possible to provide the best she could for her children. Her children and family were her life. She will always be in my heart.

Marilyn (Popiel) Foreman

Marilyn (Popiel) Foreman - January 02, 2017 at 11:55 AM

BP

“ Brian & Lyndsay Popiel purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Leona Elizabeth Popiel.



Brian & Lyndsay Popiel - January 01, 2017 at 12:47 PM

BM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Becca McCullough - December 31, 2016 at 09:55 PM

BM

“ Little Sisters of the Poor in St. Louis Missouri prayed in memory of Leona on 12/28, 12/29 and 12/30.



Becca McCullough - December 31, 2016 at 09:51 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leona Elizabeth Popiel.



December 31, 2016 at 09:02 PM

MF

“ Marilyn (Popiel) Foreman purchased the Glorious Grace Bouquet for the family of Leona Elizabeth Popiel.



Marilyn (Popiel) Foreman - December 31, 2016 at 05:55 PM

CS

“ Carol, Mike and the rest of the family,
Our sympathy on the loss of your mother. I always enjoyed visiting with
Leona when we still lived in Glendive. She was a special friend.
Jim and Cecelia Samuels

Cecelia Samuels - December 31, 2016 at 12:25 PM

MG

“ Marlene Gehnert lit a candle in memory of
Leona Elizabeth Popiel



Marlene Gehnert - December 30, 2016 at 10:26 PM

CF

Leona's grandson, Father Jeffery A. Fasching, offered Mass in remembrance of Leona Elizabeth Popiel.

Carol Popiel and Mike Fasching - December 31, 2016 at 09:48 PM

BS

“ *Leona was a very s special lady. We enjoyed many good times when the carpenters and their wives got together. Lots of fond memories. Jack and Joe enjoyed many trips together for the Carpenter's Union. Treasure the precious memories.*
Betty Shearer



Betty Shearer - December 30, 2016 at 09:15 PM

EL

“ *Eula Langton lit a candle in memory of Leona Elizabeth Popiel*



Eula Langton - December 30, 2016 at 07:22 PM

JJ

“ *Jane Jarvis lit a candle in memory of Leona Elizabeth Popiel*



jane jarvis - December 30, 2016 at 04:25 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Leona Elizabeth Popiel.*



December 30, 2016 at 12:50 PM

KG

“ Please accept our most sincere sympathy from our family to yours. Aunt Leona was a great GODMOTHER for me. There are so many memories of the times our families would get together and have such great times. You are all in our love and prayers. See you on Wednesday.

GOD'S BLESSINGS TO ALL. LOVE AND PRAYERS, KATHLEEN GOROSKI

KATHLEEN A. GOROSKI - December 30, 2016 at 11:52 AM

NS

“ Norma Shearer lit a candle in memory of Leona Elizabeth Popiel



norma shearer - December 29, 2016 at 04:34 PM

LS

“ LaNette Simonton lit a candle in memory of Leona Elizabeth Popiel



LaNette Simonton - December 29, 2016 at 04:04 PM

BT

“ *Becky Tipton lit a candle in memory of Leona Elizabeth Popiel*



Becky Tipton - December 28, 2016 at 10:01 PM

BT

“ *I am sorry to hear of this awesome lady's death. She was a neighbor for many years always working out in her yard. She was a very kind lady
Cherish your memories and hold them close.
Rest in Peace
Becky (Chouinard) Tipton*

Becky Tipton - December 28, 2016 at 10:01 PM

PR

*I am sorry to hear of Leona's passing. What a very special, kind, loving lady she was... and a very special friend to my Aunt Clara. Our sincere sympathies to all the families for this great loss.
Pat and Jim Reynolds*

Pat Reynolds - December 31, 2016 at 12:23 PM