



Shirley Christine Zook

October 13, 1932 - September 14, 2023

Shirley Christine Zook, age 90, of Beach, North Dakota passed away on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at St. Alexius Health in Dickinson, North Dakota. A Vigil Service will be held at 7:00 PM on Thursday, September 21, 2023 at St. John's Catholic Church in Beach. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:00 AM on Friday, September 22, 2023 at St. John's Catholic Church with Father Nicholas Vetter officiating. Rite of Committal will follow at St. John's Catholic Cemetery in Beach. Silha Funeral Home of Beach has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Shirley was born October 13, 1932 at home in Carlyle, Montana, the daughter of Louis P. Larson and Nellie (Jakin) Larson. She received her education at Quale (formerly Badlands) School until eighth grade then attended high school in Wibaux, Montana, graduating in 1950. Shirley attended Miles Community College for practical nursing.

On October 11, 1952, Shirley married Ralph Zook at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Beach. Shirley and Ralph lived at the farm, seven miles south of Beach, where they raised five children until they moved to town in 1988. Shirley loved farm life, gardening, flowers, baking, cooking, canning, her chickens, and any creature that happened to wander into their yard or be orphaned by an unfortunate haying incident. Nobody ever went hungry at Shirley's. She enjoyed hosting many family holiday meals, midnight breakfasts, and the South of Beach monthly women's breakfasts with neighbor ladies. Upon entering her house, her candy drawer and cookie

containers were the first point of contact for her kids and grandkids. She bowled in leagues at Bob's Lanes, enjoyed downhill and waterskiing, camping with family and friends, and golfing. Shirley's creativity was boundless. She created countless delicious "Shirley cakes" for every occasion imaginable, and they were hauled precariously to events near and far. She taught ceramics in her in-home shop, "Shirley's Ceramics", and led Cub Scout and Girl Scout Troops. Shirley designed and created costumes and sets for children's school programs, proms, and parades. She was also regarded as the Queen of Halloween and created the most clever and unique Halloween costumes for four generations of family and friends. No one in the family could go around a corner in her house without bracing to be scared by a "boo" or a terrifying mask...her uncontrollable giggles still echo in our ears.

Shirley was a devoted member of Saint John the Baptist Church. She served as a Eucharistic minister, sacristan, and greeter. She also served in St. Anne's Altar Guild and often did whatever she saw needed to be done.

The lunch boxes are empty, the mixer is silent, the apples are waiting to be harvested, and the little white pickup is missing from her favorite parking spot behind the church...Shirley will be deeply missed by family, friends, and community near and far as she touched many lives.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Ralph; brother, Calvin; and sisters, Lucille, Babe, and Lola.

Shirley is survived by her children, Vicki, Owatonna, MN, Mike (Leah), Cindy (Bob) Makelky, Steve (Carey), and Paul (Tami Fricke), Beach; thirteen grandchildren, Troy (Sharon) Kreitingner, Byron, MN; Brooke (Paul Listrani) Kreitingner, Greensboro, NC; Noah (Jenna) Kreitingner, Owatonna, MN; Rusty (Hillary) Makelky, Sentinel Butte; Emily (Brandon) Richard, Belfield, ND; Clay Makelky, Belfield, ND; Owen (Rachel) Makelky, Fryburg, ND; Allyssa (Bo) Liekhus, Omaha, NE; Nolan Zook, Beach; Bailey Waldal, Salt Lake City, UT; Ariana (Tim Grounds) Zook, Fargo, ND; Myia Zook, Phoenix, AZ; Zoey Zook, Beach; thirteen great-grandchildren, Taylor Kreitingner, Minneapolis, MN; Brady Kreitingner, Wahpeton, ND; Isaac and Isabel Kreitingner, Owatonna, MN;

Emmet, Eversynn and Finley Richard, Belfield, ND; Dane and Jensen Makelky, Sentinel Butte; Benson and Banks Liekhus, Omaha, NE; Matthias Listrani, Greensboro, NC; Tymber Makelky, Fryburg, ND; four siblings, Virgil (Laura) Larson, Wibaux, MT; Alice Johnson, Liberty Lake, WA; Sidney Fleck, Mandan, ND; Bob (Lora) Larson, Aberdeen, SD; sister-in-law, Glennette Hobbs, Laguna Woods, CA, and numerous nieces and nephews.

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

Previous Events

Vigil Service

SEP **21**. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
162 2nd Avenue Northeast
Beach, ND 58621

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (MT)

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
162 2nd Avenue Northeast
Beach, ND 58621

Tribute Wall

PB

“ *Saddened by passing of Shirley. She was always the foundational part of my Beach Community. She made me feel welcome and included as a newcomer in '73 - always had a smile and a kind, thoughtful word. She was a lovely lady and the world will miss her. My sympathy and prayers for the family. In the Love of our Lord, Pam Bragg*

Pam Bragg - October 23, 2023 at 10:34 AM

VU

“ *Tyler and I extend our deepest sympathy for your loss. May she rest in eternal peace.*

VERNETTE & TYLER UNDERWOOD

VERNETTE UNDERWOOD - October 12, 2023 at 03:42 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Shirley Christine Zook.*



September 22, 2023 at 01:34 PM

JH

“ You are in our hearts and prayers as you celebrate the life of Shirley, one of the most creative women I've ever known! Always generous with her time and talent, she added a sparkle to life at church, in the community, and in her home. Every special event was made more special with a "Shirley Cake" or a beautiful decoration! She was an amazing woman who will be missed. May God bless you all.

Love and prayers,
Jayne Hardy and family

Jayne Hardy - September 22, 2023 at 10:36 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Shirley Christine Zook.



September 20, 2023 at 11:24 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Christine Zook.



September 20, 2023 at 11:19 AM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Shirley Christine Zook.*



September 20, 2023 at 10:30 AM



“ *I'll never forget on April Fool's Day when we were in the 4th grade, Mike offered me chocolates that Shirley had made. Knowing how good all of Shirley's cakes and candies were, I took a huge bite only to find out that Shirley had dipped soap in chocolate for April Fool's. It was the only thing she ever made that I didn't like, but even the chocolate was still delicious.*

David Francis Kreitinger - September 20, 2023 at 07:46 AM



“ *Meat & Cheese Wooden Gift Crate was purchased for the family of Shirley Christine Zook.*



September 20, 2023 at 07:41 AM



“ *John and Wendi Zook Nusbickel purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Shirley Christine Zook.*



John and Wendi Zook Nusbickel - September 18, 2023 at 07:56 PM

CU

“ Clarice Utgaard lit a candle in memory of Shirley Zook



Clarice Utgaard - September 18, 2023 at 07:54 PM

RH

“ I have so many good memories of Shirley. When I was young she was always part of my life. We spent many Sundays together at our house or theirs. I especially remember our trips to Odlands dam where we shared a boat and learned to water ski. Eventually we built a cabin there and used it a lot during the summer. Even in winter we pulled toboggans or old car hoods loaded with us kids around on the ice. Shirley was always fun to be around.

Rick Hardy - September 18, 2023 at 02:38 PM

GJ

So very sorry for your loss! Ralph and Shirley were such gracious and fun friends while living in Beach. Always enjoyed Shirley's "antics"!! Prayers to the Zook family as you grieve her passing. Glynda and Jerry Janz

Glynda Janz - September 20, 2023 at 10:51 AM

ME

“ Mark Dawn Egan lit a candle in memory of Shirley Zook



Mark and Dawn Egan - September 17, 2023 at 07:50 PM

LS

“ *Lori Schulte lit a candle in memory of Shirley Zook*



Lori Schulte - September 17, 2023 at 05:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Christine Zook.*



September 17, 2023 at 05:16 PM



“ *I am going to miss this woman. We had some of the best conversations. I loved her and I could feel her love for me. Rest in peace, Shirley.*

Carol TescherObrigewitch - September 17, 2023 at 03:30 PM

EN

“ *Evelyn Nelson lit a candle in memory of Shirley Zook*



Evelyn Nelson - September 17, 2023 at 11:28 AM

JO

“ God bless you Shirley ,you were a beautiful person and a most kind friend ever ,my condolences to your family,you will never be forgot ,
jack osterhout,

Jack osterhout - September 16, 2023 at 06:01 PM