



## **Jeannette Ann Beckstrom: October 14, 1938 - October 23, 2023**

Our lovely mother, Jeannette Beckstrom, sadly passed away on October 23rd, 2023 at the age of 85 after suffering a stroke. She was young at heart, full of personality, and had a lot of life left to live. She was welcomed into heaven to be with her husband and parents, whom she missed dearly.

The world became brighter October 14, 1938 when she was born. Jeannette Ann was the daughter of Andy and Alice (Storhaug) Johnson of Milnor. She was baptized, confirmed, and married at Milnor Lutheran Church. She graduated from Milnor Public School and proudly played trumpet in the Governor's Band.

While in high school, she met a good-looking guy with a 1956 aqua and cream Buick Special with side pipes. She said she could hear him roar into Milnor in that car. Jeannette married Gerald Beckstrom on July 26, 1957. While the men were in the field, Jeannette raised hogs, chickens, and four busy boys: Kim, Terry, Randy, and Bobby. She always liked having country music playing in her home. For years she hosted big holidays and then later, making everyone's favorite version of banana bread. She was an excellent cook but could be quite secretive of her recipes, especially her potato salad.

Jeannette will be remembered for wearing the most dazzling outfits, her signature red lipstick and hair style, and extraordinary personality. She has a wonderful knack for laughing at herself and getting others to have fun. During her 20 years working at the grocery store, she greeted everyone with a genuine smile and made a point to know your name (and most of your business). She called herself "grandma" to many children throughout the decades; giving out lots of hugs, kisses, and treats.

Jeannette belonged to the Gwinner Civic Club and was honored as Citizen of the Year. She loved to socialize and could be found at most events throughout the area. She never wanted to miss out. She loved her church family at GA Lutheran, actively participating in WELCA, Circle, Alter Guild, and mentoring confirmation students. She met for coffee every Friday with her nieces.

She loved to travel: Las Vegas to see Elvis, the ocean, driving over the Golden Gate Bridge, visiting extended family all over the country, and anywhere else Bobby or Gerald drove her. She and Gerald loved to dine out, especially at the Red Lobster, shop, take drives, and when they were younger, fly Gerald's plane after church.

She was a wonderful mom and mother-in-law to: Terry (Shelly) Beckstrom, Randy (Penny) Beckstrom, Bobby Beckstrom, and Sharon Beckstrom. Grandma to: Kayla (Michael) Mahrer, Kelsey Beckstrom (Brian Brintnell), Tyler (Arielle) Beckstrom, Tyler (Sarah) Christensen, Karson Beckstrom (Jasmine Reas), Blake Beckstrom (Alani), Chase Christensen (Janie Suarez), Caleb Beckstrom (mother, Rhonda Fullerton), Isaiah Beckstrom (Jula Thuoch), and Elijah Hanson. Great-grandma to Whitney, Lucy, Lincoln, Nora, Simon, Rowan, and Benett. She was anticipating adding two more great-grandchildren to the family tree this year. She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Gerald; son, Kim; sister, Pearl; and brother, Lloyd.

Visitation and services will be held on Monday, October 30th at GA Lutheran Church in Gwinner. Visitation from 3:30-4:30 followed by the funeral at 4:30 p.m. Jeannette's service will be live streamed on our website on her obituary page.