



Virginia Beach

May 3, 1949 - June 20, 2016

The funeral service for Virginia Beach, of Clarissa will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 26, at the New Life Church of God in Bertha, with Pastors Dan Foster, Jason Knoll and Daryl Jacobson presiding. Visitation will be held on Sunday from 2:00 p.m. until the time of service. Under the tender care of Lakewood Hospice of Staples, Virginia, age 67, passed away Monday, June 20, 2016 at her home in Clarissa, MN.

Virginia "Ginny" Marie Pontius was born May 3, 1949 at Long Prairie Hospital to Matt and Olga "Ole" (Nelson) Pontius. She attended Eagle Bend Public School and graduated with the Class of 1967.

After graduation Ginny moved to Spokane, WA, where she made her home with her brother, Dave, for five years. She did a variety of jobs including cooking, waitressing, along with nursing home & hospital aide. She returned to Minnesota and worked in Minneapolis for a year before attending Brainerd Community College where she completed Psychiatric Technician Training in 1974. At that time she returned to Eagle Bend to help care for her dad.

During this course of time Ginny met the love of her life, Roger Beach. They started dating on December 21, 1974 and were married on March 21, 1975. In 1976, Roger quit roadwork and they purchased the home farm. Ginny learned the ropes of farming, tractor driving, planting and harvesting crops. Her favorite was milking cows. She always wanted to live on a farm and work outdoors. But, she once said, "one has to watch what you wish for!". It was here that they raised their three children, who worked hard and learned many life lessons, making them productive adults that their parents are so proud of today.

In 2003, with their kids raised, Roger and Ginny sold their milk cows. By 2004 they moved into Clarissa and passed the farm onto the third generation of Beaches. Ginny worked at a group home and cleaned houses until her cancer slowed her down. She fought the battle with God at her side for over 10 years. She inspired and encouraged others along the journey with her unending trust in God.

In her spare time Ginny enjoyed, gardening and beautifying her yard. She spent endless hours sewing, with a focus on quilts. Baby quilts were her specialty. This past Christmas she made 20 TV quilts for her grandchildren and other special people in her life. Her passion was teaching her family how to make homemade foods like lefsa, noodles and doughnuts! She and Roger gave of their time giving 4-wheeler rides at the park for picnics or just for a spin-around-the-yard or town. They created a multitude of good memories that will last a lifetime.

Preceding Virginia in death were her parents Matt and Olga Pontius; in-laws George and Gladys Beach; sisters Donna (Derald) Johnson and Loretta (Wayne) Olson; niece Jenny (Pratt) Kaufmann and nephew Warren Johnson.

Left to celebrate Virginia's life are her husband of over 40 years, Roger; children Nancy (David) Toensing of Farmington, Bonnie (Jeremiah) Johnson of Bertha, Daniel (Nicole) Beach of Eagle Bend; grandchildren Connor, Quinn and Wesley Toensing, Madison and Boston Johnson, Kaeden, Delani and Harper Beach; sister Janet (Norris) Thorud; brother David (Helen) Pontius; and special sister-in-law Lonna Olson; brothers-in-law Norman, Myron, Dennis, Terry and Alan and their families; along with many nieces and nephews.

God bless the memory of Virginia!

Pallbearers will be Dick Klug, Dennis Gabler, Joel Sablovitch, Eric Denny, Jeff Sarff and Eric Adams.

Burial will be in the Pleasant Mound Cemetery, Clotho, MN.

Cemetery

Pleasant Mound Cemetery

Leslie Township, MN,

Events

JUN **Visitation** 02:00PM - 04:30PM

26

New Life Church of God

401 Main St. - West, Bertha, MN, US, 56437

JUN **Service** 04:30PM - 05:30PM

26

New Life Church of God

401 Main St. - West, Bertha, MN, US, 56437

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - June 25, 2016 at 11:35 AM



“ I will always remember the chats we had about life while waiting for Dan to get ready when we went to movies and such during my high school days

Neil - June 25, 2016 at 10:40 PM



“ I so remember her from school. She was always so nice and kind.

Karla Boseck Johnson - June 26, 2016 at 07:40 AM



“ Brenda Jones lit a candle in memory of Virginia Beach



Brenda Jones - August 07, 2016 at 08:50 PM



“ 47 files added to the album LifeTributes



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - June 25, 2016 at 11:12 AM



“ Sorry for your loss of an amazing person. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Debbie and Buck Foster - June 26, 2016 at 10:54 AM



“ Love's Tapestry was purchased for the family of Virginia Beach.



June 24, 2016 at 07:45 PM



“ With love, Todd John & Jeff & Vicky Kerbel purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Virginia Beach.



With love, Todd John & Jeff & Vicky Kerbel - June 23, 2016 at 08:38 PM



“ Blooming Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Virginia Beach.



June 22, 2016 at 01:57 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Ginny was a great person. I have known her for many year's. I knew the whole family. Prayers are coming your way

Sue Hamilton Stracek - June 22, 2016 at 12:44 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to all of you. R.I.P. Ginny



Shannon Jedlicka - June 22, 2016 at 12:21 PM



“ I have so many great memories made with cousin Ginny. Born only 45 days apart, with dads who were brothers and moms who were sisters, we shared all of the same relatives.

We grew up with photos of us together, sitting on our Grandma Emma's lap as infants, in Easter bonnets when we could 1st walk, as 2-year-olds holding hands in the farm yard. Every other Sunday, as kids, on rotation, we would be at each other's house for dinner, celebrating birthdays as family. Outside, we would walk bogs, build tree houses, swing on her extremely-highly-placed sack swing, play "kick the tin can" or badminton or "ante over", or catching fireflies in canning jars at night.

In winter, we loved playing "hide-n-seek" at Ginny's parents' home because it was a large, old mansion with secret passage-ways and lots of rooms. Of course, we loved eating at her mom's, too, because the table was laden with good home cooking from the farm, home-made bread and sausages, and delicious desserts, especially pies. (Ginny became an accomplished cook like her mom.)

I started seeing Ginny almost everyday in 4th grade, when the kids in my family began attending "town school", instead of the country school. We both were tomboys, skillfully playing baseball and racing the boys at recess. During junior and senior high years, we hung out together at lunch time, and sometimes after school, sometimes overnights, although we both had our own small jobs. Ginny not only would babysit various teacher's kids, but also helped her dad on the farm with the cows. Ginny's sister Loretta was a great support. She would invite us 2 over together, for an overnight, to celebrate our 16th birthday with girlfriends, with our families for meals and board games or cards. Loretta even made a graduation open house for both of us. She was a lovely and caring mentor. Ginny and I attended church together, and various youth activities there. I remember that we were the only 2 to water ski in May (Brrr) at our senior class outing. Ginny was the star of our class play about hillbillies with a visiting city slicker. From her family's old mansion, she provided most of the props and outfits. But, it was her improvisational moves, like occasionally scratching her disheveled hair, and taking swigs from an old crockery jug that had townspeople rolling on the floor. Graduation from high school sent us away from our home town in different directions, but there were various times of visiting and getting together. We wrote letters then.

Ginny continued to bring her humor, hard work, and sense of family and faith into her own marriage and family. She became a wife, mother, farmer (who could drive tractor with machinery, milk cows, deliver calves, and run a dairy farm), a hunter, gardener, canner, good cook, seamstress, quilt-maker, 4-H leader, regular and involved church worker. She came up with some of the most fun innovations, like a home-made swimming pool, and an unusual hunting shack, both which provided many hours and days of family fun. Her family has even more happy memories of their days with their mom, as she taught them to farm, fish, hunt, cook, bake, sew, wood-work, fix things, and, even more importantly, to take care of each other. Her caring for others has shone through.

It has been wonderful to be able to spend time with her, re-capturing some of our

memories, getting together with old friends, and just sharing thoughts and feelings, these past few years when farm life stopped for her.

I will miss early morning chats and texts, but I am confident that she is in an even better place with her Savior, where other loved ones have gone on before.

joanne - June 22, 2016 at 10:47 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Virginia Beach.



June 22, 2016 at 10:23 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Virginia Beach.



June 22, 2016 at 08:35 AM



“ Some great memories of the Pontius family, especially the trip Ole went to Colorado with me and Halvor, Sr in 1975. Was nice to connect recently with Ginny on Facebook, sorry to see her go. Mark Jackson in Colorado

Mark Jackson - June 21, 2016 at 09:57 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time. Bernard and Dorothy Voge

Dorothy Voge - June 21, 2016 at 03:52 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers surround you all during this time. Virginia was an amazing woman, who has touched the lives of so many. Her legacy lives on in the lives of everyone wrapped in her quilts, lap blankets, and other sacrificial gifts of love. I imagine, if it is at all possible, Virginia will now be sewing "welcome home" blankets to give to all new arrivals in the Kingdom of Heaven!

May His peace fill you all, surround you all, and carry you all through this time and in the future.

Amy Widmark - June 21, 2016 at 12:42 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time. Ginny was always fun to spend time with. Norman and Roger spent lots of fun times together. May Ginny rest in peace !
Special angel for all of you now!
Norman and Rose Joarnt

Norman and Rose Joarnt - June 22, 2016 at 10:24 AM