



Bernice Packard

January 2, 1920 - March 12, 2013

The funeral Mass for Bernice Packard will be celebrated at 11:00 AM on Saturday, March 16, 2013, at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Wadena with Father Donald Wagner as celebrant. Friends may call at the Johnson-Schuller Chapel in Wadena from 4:00 until 8:00 PM on Friday, with the Rosary at 5:00 PM and Parish Prayers at 7:00 PM. Visitation will resume at the church on Saturday from 9:30 AM. until the time of Mass. Bernice Louise (Maroney) Packard, 93, of Wadena passed away Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at the Long Prairie Memorial Nursing Home where she had resided the last 16 months. A strong woman of Irish heritage, she overcame lung cancer but succumbed to Lewy Body Parkinson's.

Bernice Louise (Maroney) Packard was born the sixth child of John H. and Grace (Stevenson) Maroney on January 2, 1920, at rural Wadena, Minnesota. She attended St. Ann's school through the 8th grade and graduated as salutatorian from Wadena High School in 1938. She worked as a photographer and photographer's assistant for Rex McDonald Studio during high school, for Osborne Studio in Dickinson, ND from 1940 to 1945, and then back at the McDonald Studio for many years. Bernice married Sidney Packard on September 4, 1948. They lived on a farm southwest of Wadena where they raised two sons and two daughters.

Active throughout her life in the community in which she was born, Bernice

chaired the District

1541 School Board, was a member of St. Ann's Christian Mothers, Wadena Whirl-A-Ways Square Dance Club, and was a 4-H leader. She also owned Packard Art Supply, taught tole painting and rosemaling, made quilts for each of her children and grandchildren, and participated in many craft shows in the area. Bernice and Sidney enjoyed traveling with trips to England and Alaska providing particularly special memories. They retired from the land in 2000 and moved into Wadena. They celebrated 63 years together. Bernice was the matriarch and moral compass for her devoted family.

Bernice is survived by sons Mark (Audrey) of Mantorville and Bruce (Nona) of Papillion, Nebraska; daughters Nancy Leasman (Ron) of Long Prairie and Christi Dickey (Bill) of Fergus Falls; 15 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren, brother-in-law Herman Hammel, sister-in-law Margaret Packard, and many special nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Sidney in 2011, brothers Howard and Richard Maroney; sisters, Mary Smead, Catherine Stombaugh, Frances Boehland, and Lois Hammel, and son Terence who died at birth.

Pallbearers will be Mark Packard, Jr., Jeff Packard, David Packard, Bradley Packard, Michael Leasman, Silas Leasman, Charles Stombaugh, Walter Packard.

Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery in Wadena.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

Franklin Dr. & 6th St SW
Wadena, MN 56482

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 15. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Johnson-Schuller Chapel
205 4th Street Southwest
Wadena, MN 56482
(218) 631-3632

Visitation

MAR 16. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st St. SE
Wadena, MN

Service

MAR 16. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st St. SE
Wadena, MN

Tribute Wall

CD

“ *Busy Hands*

If idle hands are the devil's handiwork, surely Bernice is in heaven.

Her hands

never stopped doing, giving and praying. She accidently, ran her hand through a washing machine wringer and had skin grafts, but that never stopped her. She added color to pictures before pictures were taken in color. She played piano and organ. If she was not gardening, canning, freezing, doing laundry, ironing, cooking, baking or

cleaning she would be doing a crossword puzzle, knitting, crocheting, quilting, painting or some other artistic thing. The TV may have been on but only as a backdrop to something she was doing. She loved to visit and make friends. She was fond of her daily walk and chocolate. Bernice and Sid square danced until he could dance no longer. They traveled to the places they always wanted to see. They were there for the important events for their children and grandchildren. Bernice truly had a life well lived.

Christi Dickey - March 17, 2013 at 03:52 PM

BP

“ *50 files added to the album Bernice over the years*



Bruce Packard - March 17, 2013 at 11:47 AM

MM

Bruce- thank you so much for posting these pictures! I truly enjoyed seeing these and would never had a chance if you had not posted them. Thank you for taking the time and for sharing these memories with us. My deepest sympathies to you and your entire family. Bernice will be missed but her memory will be cherished. Mandie Maroney-Smith

Mandie Maroney-Smith - March 17, 2013 at 06:03 PM

DH

“ *Bernice's family,
Bernice was an amazing woman! Extremely talented and hard working, she taught me so very much about the photography business, and print retouching in particular. Dedicated and fun to work with. I keep tons of memories of our time working at Rex McDonald Studio, she is very a terrific role model! I know you are all proud of the life she lived, and how she lived it. Know that I have you in my thoughts.*

Sincerely

Don Hoffmann

Don Hoffmann - March 16, 2013 at 06:40 PM

CI

“ *i will miss my dancing partner--we had many smiles and laughter together--will always be remembered*

cindy - March 13, 2013 at 08:30 PM

VM

“ *Packard Family,*

Bernice was my Grandpa's sister. As long as I can remember I was fascinated by her wit and wisdom. She was a beautiful woman and I will always think of her smiling. I loved the description of her being the moral compass of the family. What a wonderful legacy! I am very sorry for your loss . Love, Vicki Munson

Vicki Munson - March 13, 2013 at 02:11 PM