



Bertha Westad

August 21, 1911 - June 3, 2008

Bertha Sydna Westad was born to Samuel and Hannah (Walter) Beaman on August 21, 1911 in Deer Creek, Minnesota. She passed away, at the age of 96, on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at Tri-County Hospital in Wadena. She graduated from Deer Creek High School in 1929 and was valedictorian of her class. She raised pickles for the pickle factory in Deer Creek to pay for her class ring. She was enrolled in Normal School in Wadena for teachers' training. She taught country school at District 123 near Henning. During this year she met her future husband. The next year she taught at Elmhurst School near Richville. Bertha was united in marriage with Alvin J. Westad on January 25, 1932 in Fergus Falls. After teaching she was employed at Wesley Hospital in the dietary kitchen, and at Watco. As a homemaker she enjoyed making baby quilts for newborns, babysitting, and was known for her pie baking. She loved her family and grandchildren. They loved going to flea markets and collecting fruit jars and making sets. Bertha was a church circle member who helped served many Rotary meals. Bertha was preceded in death by her husband, Alvin; parents, Samuel and Hannah; daughter, Valerie Klever; brothers, Irvin, Clarence, Marvin, Ralph, and Lester Beaman; sisters, Blanche Embertson, Alta Edes, and Helen Mursu, sons-in-law, Norman Thomson, and Gene Munson; great-granddaughters, Jennifer and Amy Andrie; and nieces and nephews. She is survived by son, Lance (Joy) Westad of Farmington; daughters, Dolly (Harold) Deckert of Buena Park, CA, and Karen Munson of Richville; 15 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and 2

great-great-grandchildren; sister, Mae Hanebuth of Wadena; and many nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, June 7, 2008 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wadena with Pastor Rob Nelson officiating. Interment was in Wadena Cemetery. Honorary pallbearers were Steven, Timothy and Michael Decker, Vicki Zinter, Renee Andrie, and Stacey, Kate, Jaime and Jesse Westad. Active pallbearers were Kenneth, Kevin and Kurt Klever, Richard, Russell and Robert Thomson.

Tribute Wall

KK

“ *Many years ago, I lived near Bertha and became a friend of hers. I would visit her, along with my one year old son, during summer afternoons. We really enjoyed our visits and I have thought of her over the years, especially when I am back in Wadena. She was a sweet lady and I will keep her and her family in my prayers.*

Katy Kern - June 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ *I am so proud and blessed to be among our family's long line of smart, kind women. May we all be so lucky to live a life as long and full of love as Great Grandma Westad's.*

Jen Deckert - June 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ *I remember many good times at the farm near Henning. May you & Mom share your "birthday pie" in Heaven*

joan thoreson - June 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TD

“ *We are grateful for the times we got to spend with grandma both at our wedding and at her 90th birthday. Those are treasured memories along with Tim's memories of summers with grandma and grandpa and the rest of the family. She was soft, pleasant, gracious and always hospitable. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone today as we couldn't come and share in the celebration of her life. We know she will be greatly missed.
With much love and our sincere condolences, Tim and Shona Deckert*

Tim and Shona Deckert - June 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CZ

“ Aunt Bertha was such a beautiful, kind, and loving aunt. She leaves us all with so many wonderful memories.

Cathy & Ed Zembroski - June 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Sharing in the Westad's life since a young child has been a joy. Being welcomed into their home and Bertha always inviting me to stay for supper with her delicious home cooked meals followed by her famous pies was true friendship and love to her daughters friends.

My sincere sympathy to you all in the loss of a wonderful lady. I will miss visiting her and bringing her her favorite tomatoes. Love you all.....

Manila Wiebe - June 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Bertha was a dear friend and neighbor of ours for 25 years and her passing will leave a void in our life that we will only be able to fill with her memory. From her sweet sugar cookies and banana bread treats that she always had for us to remembering her and Al watching over our kids as they grew up across the street from her. Our deepest condolences to her entire family.

Jim and Renee

Jim & Renee Hegarty - June 03, 2008 at 12:00 AM