



## Birdie Heern

February 8, 1923 - January 7, 2010

Birdie Luella Heern was born to Karl Edward and Anna (Johnson) Skaro on February 8, 1923 in Bluegrass, MN. She passed away on January 7, 2010, at the age of 86, at Fair Oaks Lodge in Wadena. Birdie lived her entire life in Wadena. She married Ralph Clyde Heern on June 22, 1946. They raised 4 children Wanda, Donna, Darwin, and Doug. She served the community for many years with her commitment to the Wadena Empty Stocking Fund. She was a dedicated member of the First Congregational United Church of Christ for 63 years, participating in their women's circles and will be remembered for the many jars of home-grown pickles she provided for funerals over the years. Her hands were busy with crocheting, gardening, and caring for her family. Birdie was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph, on January 7, 2008; her parents Edward and Anna; son Darwin; brother William; sister Doris Broker; and son-in-law Gregg Marquardt. She is survived by her son Doug of Wadena; daughters, Wanda Marquardt of Duluth, and Donna (Duane) Trana of Wadena; grandchildren Julie (Jason) Brink, Tracy Trana, both of Wadena, Michael (Sue) Marquardt, Denise Ozdemir, and Paula (Milo) Swenson all of Duluth; great-grandchildren Josh and Jordan Brink of Wadena, and Owen Swenson and Jacob Marquardt of Duluth; sisters Nellie Heern, and Shirley Skaro both of Wadena, and Pearl Westby of Sebeka; sister-in-law Geraldine Skaro of Sebeka; and numerous nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held on January 12, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. in the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Wadena, with Pastor Bob Griggs officiating. Pallbearers

were Michael Marquardt, Kenneth Broker, Chad Broker, Allen Skaro, Ray Skaro, and Steven Skaro. Interment was in the West Lyons Cemetery in rural Nimrod.

# Tribute Wall

LW

“ Donna, Wanda, Doug and families  
Just want you to know we are thinking about you and remembering you in our prayers. This will not be an easy time but know that we care. Always treasure the memories of your mom and remember how much she cared for all of you.  
Jim and Lauren

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**Lauren Wilde** - January 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ What a dear sweet lady! And she was a trooper to the very end! Also, when visiting with her you were very aware of how important her loving family was to her.  
My sincere condolences to all of you, her special family.  
(Her "church family" will remember her for her generous donations of delicious dill pickles when needed!)  
Ruby

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**Ruby Lynk** - January 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ When I opened the Johnson Memorial website this morning I learned of Birdie's passing. My heart goes out to all of you Skaro sisters other family members, especially Donna and family, who I got to know better than others.  
I know my parents thought the world of Birdie and Ralph.  
Mary Ellen

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**Mary Ellen Kennedy Kollodge** - January 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Donna Julie Tracy and Families*  
*I'm so sorry for your loss. We all knew she was getting weaker and after talking to you the last time she was in the hospital I had a feeling she would soon be joining her loved ones in heaven. You have many fond memories-cling to them. She will be missed by all.*  
*PEACE*

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**Bonnie Schlecht** - January 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ *Birdie and Ralph were a mainstay at church for many years. They were such pleasant, caring, good people. I, also, enjoyed the pickles! Birdie was a role model in her quiet way. She embodied all the attributes of a fine Christian woman. God Bless you, her family, in your time of sorrow. With sympathy...Dick and Cicely Johnson*

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**Cicely Johnson** - January 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ *Donna and family, We are sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. You have our heartfelt sympathy. I Know how you will miss her. Thank goodness for our faith. Gordon & Karen*

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**Gordon & Karen Moller** - January 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ Our sympathy to all of Birdies' loved ones. Moms are so special. May all the memories of your childhood fill these sad days with the happier events and occasions as you reminisce about the good old days.

We always looked forward to fall, not only for its beauty but we knew the squash in Birdie's garden were almost ready to harvest and just thinking about them made our mouths water. So it was out to the orchard to pick apples for our annual bartering. What fun. And I am still enjoying all the hand towels she crocheted the tops on, so they could hang on the cupboard handles in the 5th wheel. She had a special part in our lives and we will always remember her with love.

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**Kathie Trana** - January 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM