



Geneva "Jennie" Simmons

September 4, 1918 - March 7, 2015

Funeral services for Geneva "Jennie" Simmons of Wadena will be held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at the United Methodist Church in Hewitt. Friends may call at the Johnson-Schuller Chapel in Wadena on Monday from 5:00 until 7:00 PM and at the church on Tuesday from 9:30 AM until the time of services. Jennie passed away peacefully at the age of 96 years on Saturday, March 7, 2015 at the Fair Oaks Lodge in Wadena with family by her side.

Geneva "Jennie" Matson was born on September 4, 1918 to Hans Peter and Jennie Marie(Pfeiffer) Matson in McHugh, Minnesota. In 1936, at the age of 18 Jennie moved to North Dakota. She met the love of her life, Richard Woodrow Simmons and they were married on January 28, 1939 in Wahpeton, ND. By 1951, she became a friendly neighbor in the Wadena area. As a devoted wife and mother, her days were filled with caring for their family. She was known for her culinary talent, with her children and grandchildren continuing to use her recipes, each having their favorites. Friends and neighbors have referred to her as the "best cook in the county" and "best in the west" at dishing up her tasty treats! Jennie served as a volunteer at Tri-County Hospital and as a 4H Ambitious Club leader. She was a member of the Ladies Aid in Norwich, ND, and locally in UMW, Christian Women's Club, a craft group and served as a Bible Study leader.

Jennie was preceded in death by her husband Richard on November 20, 1984; parents Hans & Jennie; daughter Joyce Ann Sayers; brother Pete & wife Helen Matson; sister Elna Schooler; son-in-law Andy Andrews; and brother-in-law Merwin Pearson.

She is survived by daughters Janet Louise Andrews of Federal Way, WA, Wanda Kay Wood of Molalla, OR and Sherry Sue (Steve) Hartung of Anchorage, AK; sons, Richard (Melba) Simmons of Wadena and Wayne Edward (Joyce) Simmons of Palmer, AK; brother, Arvid Leo Matson of Frazee; sister Nina June Pearson of Frazee; 18 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren & 4 great-great grandchildren; along with several nieces & nephews.

All of Jennie's grandchildren will be honorary pallbearers. Serving as pallbearers will be Dale Matson, Wesley Truax, Allen Scofield, Robb Oyster, Gary Zacharias and Robert Brostrom.

Burial will be at Chilton Cemetery in Frazee, MN.

Cemetery Details

Chilton Cemetery

Chilton Cemetery
Frazee, MN 56544

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 9. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

MAR 10. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

United Methodist Church - Hewitt
801 East 3rd Ave.
Hewitt, MN 56543

Service

MAR 10. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

United Methodist Church - Hewitt
801 East 3rd Ave.
Hewitt, MN 56543

Tribute Wall



“ *Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Geneva "Jennie" Simmons*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - March 09, 2015 at 12:00 PM

AK

“ *Amy Kleinke lit a candle in memory of Geneva "Jennie" Simmons*



Amy Kleinke - March 14, 2015 at 01:12 PM

CB

“ *Jennie was always ready with a greeting and a smile over the many years that I knew her, even in the later years when she was going through physical pain. She was one of my mother's friends and now they can visit again in our Heavenly home!
May you be blessed with comfort and strength during this time of grief/celebration of your Mom and Grandma.*

Conrad and Shirley (Klucas) Van Batavia

C and S Van Batavia - March 12, 2015 at 11:03 AM

IM

“ I have such fond memories of dear sweet Aunt Jennie. She was such a pleasure to be around and always included everyone. You all have my deepest sympathies on your loss. She is walking those streets of gold with those who have gone before. May God hold you all close to him
Irene Matson

Irene Matson - March 10, 2015 at 09:59 AM

CI

“ To the Simmons family,
Our family lived next door to you out in the country just outside of Wadena. I remember learning to bake in Jennie's kitchen and she helped me with my 4-H projects. She always had a smile on her face and her home was very warm and welcoming. She babysat for my youngest brother, Kelly, so I got to see her every afternoon when I picked him up after the bus dropped us off at your home. I have very fond memories of spending time with her and your family on your farm.
A couple years ago, on a trip to Wadena, I enjoyed visiting with Jennie. She had that same wonderful smile and laugh, and had such a youthful spirit. My mother, Katy, asked about her just a couple months ago. She will be very sad when I tell her about her good friend Jennie.
You are in my thoughts and prayers,
Connie Irish-Hess

Connie Irish-Hess - March 09, 2015 at 08:55 PM

JO

“ Jennie will surely be missed by all her friends and neighbors. She had a big heart and was a wonderful neighbor.
The Zacharias family

Joanne Ostlund - March 09, 2015 at 07:06 PM

DH

“ *Darrell & Lisa Hoemberg lit a candle in memory of Geneva "Jennie" Simmons*



Darrell & Lisa Hoemberg - March 09, 2015 at 06:43 PM

TF

“ *my deepest sympathy is extended to the family.*

Tammy Fredrickson - March 09, 2015 at 05:47 PM

JB

“ *I will always hold my grandma dear to my heart. She was always there for me and my brothers and sister. I always felt so loved by her. When I was a child I remember getting ready for the Wadena fair. Grandma would be baking up a storm and she would help us kids get things ready for the exhibits. I really enjoyed making the dancing girls out of flowers. I have so many fun and loving memories that I will always treasure. I will miss my grandma. Julie Ann Brostrom*

Julie Ann Brostrom - March 09, 2015 at 03:48 PM

AL

“ *Jennie's family,
I will always remember your mom for her caring, loving, and generous heart. And, of course, all the good food. Your folks were good neighbors to us. I have so many good memories of all of you and how I missed you when you moved to Wadena. My thoughts and prayers are there with you and how I wish I could be there.
Peace and love, Annette*

Annette Loer - March 09, 2015 at 01:59 PM

DA

“ I so enjoyed visiting with Jennie at FOL. She was a dear lady! May your memories be blessed.



Diane Anderson - March 09, 2015 at 10:53 AM

KL

“ Ken And Nancy Lawson lit a candle in memory of Geneva "Jennie" Simmons



Ken and Nancy Lawson - March 09, 2015 at 10:05 AM

RB

“ Jennie always had a friendly hello for you. I wish she had been my neighbor.

My sympathies to the family.

Ray Beyer



Ray Beyer - March 09, 2015 at 07:57 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Geneva "Jennie" Simmons.



March 08, 2015 at 03:42 PM

VW

“ Vern & Ginger Wiederich lit a candle in memory of Geneva "Jennie" Simmons



Vern & Ginger Wiederich - March 08, 2015 at 10:31 AM

RA

“ Rita Anderson lit a candle in memory of Geneva "Jennie" Simmons



Rita Anderson - March 08, 2015 at 08:08 AM

MS

“ Mike And Lea Snyder lit a candle in memory of Geneva "Jennie" Simmons



Mike and Lea Snyder - March 08, 2015 at 07:20 AM