



Rita Schmidt

September 29, 1951 - March 4, 2014

The Mass of Christian Burial for Rita Schmidt of Hewitt will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 7, 2014, at the St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Bertha, with Father Peter VanderWeyst as celebrant. Friends may call on Thursday at the Domian-Anderson Chapel in Bertha from 5:00-8:00 p.m., with Prayers at 6:00 and Rosary at 7:00 p.m. Visitation will resume at the church on Friday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of Mass. Surrounded by her family, Rita passed away at the age of 62, on Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at her home in Oak Valley Township, Otter Tail County, MN.

Rita was born to Raymond and Esther (Schwebach) Ollendick on September 29, 1951 in Benson, MN, and was raised in Tara Township, Swift County. Rita attended District #20 Country School, Clontarf Public School and graduated with the Benson High School Class of 1969. Rita was united in marriage with Clarence "Clyde" Schmidt on June 10, 1983, and they moved to the Wadena and Hewitt area, where she lived for 31 years. Rita was an avid horse lover and cared for all animals, which brought her to be a member of PAWS. She was a collector of the most unique items. If it was wanted she could find it; an absolute garage sale artist! She loved music and enjoyed attending concerts. Over the years, Rita worked as an administrative assistant, in insurance sales, and as a non-specialized transportation driver for Medi-Van and Peoples Express. People in the area may remember her, also, as a school bus driver and rural mail carrier.

Rita was preceded in death by her parents Ray and Esther; brother Pete Ollendick; and sister Lucy Gorres

She is survived by her devoted husband Clyde; step-daughter Samantha Peterson of Wadena; step-grandchildren Kassandra and Kayla Peterson; and sister Annie (Jim) Schirmer of Clontarf.

Honorary pallbearers will be her many nieces and nephews.

Burial will be held at a later date at St. Malachy Catholic Cemetery in Clontarf, MN.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 6. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Domian-Anderson Chapel
309 2nd Avenue NW
Bertha, MN 56437
(218) 924-4000

Visitation

MAR 7. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church - Bertha
205 Cherry Street NW
Bertha, MN 56437

Service

MAR 7. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church - Bertha
205 Cherry Street NW
Bertha, MN 56437

Tribute Wall



“ *Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Sheri Wilde - April 19, 2014 at 04:50 PM

CT

“ *Rita you will be missed by all your Las Vegas family!! RIP cuzn and glad to know your with your mom & dad again:) Tell everyone in Heaven hi and until we are together again soar with the angels!!*

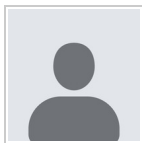
Cathy Turnell - March 14, 2014 at 10:34 PM



“ I was greatly saddened to hear of our loss of Rita. I always enjoyed talking, laughing and arguing with Rita during my brief time at Homecrest. Rita is an original and as you got to know her, one had to appreciate the honesty and kindness that were her most endearing qualities. My thoughts are with Clyde and the rest of Rita's family.



Myron Swanberg - March 14, 2014 at 10:03 AM



“ Cindy Anderson lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Cindy Anderson - March 13, 2014 at 08:19 AM



“ I worked with Rita with Lakes Medi Van in the mid 90s and she was the most fun loving person to work with! Condolences to Clyde and the family.

David Gunderson
2315 fern St
Grand Rapids Mn
55744

David Gunderson - March 12, 2014 at 07:29 PM

CD

“ *Coralie DeWald lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Coralie DeWald - March 11, 2014 at 03:34 PM

CD

I am so stunned at Rita's passing. I knew she was ill and had kept somewhat current through Caring Bridge. My memories of Rita are through our membership with PAWS, and our mutual love for animals. Rita was a talented lady, and I recall at our "Cabin Fever" dance for PAWS, several winters ago, seeing her and her husband Clyde dancing for most of the evening. They were good, too!! May you, her family take comfort in knowing that she will be missed, and the many things she accomplished in her too short life, will be remembered! With sincere sympathy.

Coralie DeWald - March 11, 2014 at 03:41 PM

AS

Thank you, Coralie, for mentioning the love of dancing that many people witnessed... sincerely, annie

Anne Schirmer - March 14, 2014 at 11:55 AM

JP

“ *I was so saddened to hear of Rita's passing. She suffers no more. I remember her never giving up! Even lately she was always a person who greeted you and was eager to help anybody out anytime! God has another angel. All the years working with her at Homecrest, gosh, those were the good days! She could always make me laugh. She will be missed dearly! May God give you peace and comfort in the coming days until we meet again as our Savior has promised! God Bless!*
Jackie and Jay



Jackie and Jay Perius - March 10, 2014 at 01:31 PM

LW

“ Our sympathy and caring thoughts in memory of Rita! Dave and Lynda Wosmek

Lynda Wosmek - March 07, 2014 at 03:16 PM

PW

“ Some 46 years ago when I became your roommate in the cities I knew then you were a "force to be reckoned with"! You were strong and confident and always up for adventure! A fierce & loyal friend and the best "road tripper" I have ever known!! That trip we took to California was one I will never forget!! We went through some things, the two of us. Our friendship bond was immediate and has lasted all these years. Even though we didn't always see each other or talk - I knew you were there for me and I hope you knew the same. I'm so blessed we spent some time together last fall. Our talks in the last few weeks are memories I will always treasure. Christa and I are still going to take the road trip in May - I know you will be there with us! My heart is broken and the world is not as good a place as it was a few days ago when you were still in it. Now you've gone to that place we all want to be - I will see you there! Clyde - you know you are in my thoughts and prayers. I pray for your comfort and peace. I will be checking on you - take care! Annie - she talked of you so often, loved you so much. I will keep you in my prayers. Pat Warner

Patricia Warner - March 06, 2014 at 09:10 PM

GP

“ Gerald And Peggy Porter lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Gerald and Peggy Porter - March 06, 2014 at 08:58 PM

CR

“ Chris Randall lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Chris Randall - March 06, 2014 at 05:49 PM

SW

“ Clyde and family,

I'm sorry for your loss. I'm glad we had a chance to visit with you recently. It meant a lot to me and my family to reconnect after all these years.

I remember spending a few weeks in MN. Visiting the Paul Bunyan park, learning to shoot a bow in their yard, taking trips to the lakes. We have many memories over the years. Thanks for all that. Rita always had a kind heart and spirit.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to you! RIP.

Scott and Sherrie Weigel.

Scott Weigel - March 06, 2014 at 02:59 PM

BL

“ Becky Lietzau purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rita Schmidt.



Becky Lietzau - March 06, 2014 at 02:53 PM



“ *A Full Life was purchased for the family of Rita Schmidt.*



March 06, 2014 at 01:49 PM



“ *Rita worked for me on the overnight shift at Orton's some years past. She was one of the best overnight workers I ever had on that shift. She knew how to handle situations that came up and was a really good worker. I never had to worry about anything when she was working. She had a unique sense of humor and an unmistakable laugh. We had a lot of good laughs when she worked for me. My thoughts and prayers go out to you Clyde at this difficult time. I wish for you and all Rita's family God's blessings and peace at this time.*



Ginger Wiederich

Ginger Wiederich - March 06, 2014 at 01:36 PM



“ *Steve, Jeri, Megan And Ian Cottrell sent a virtual gift in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Steve, Jeri, Megan and Ian Cottrell - March 06, 2014 at 12:30 PM

SC

*When I am an old woman I shall wear red
With a purple hat which doesn't go and doesn't suit me.
And I shall spend my pension on good wine and summer gloves
And cowgirl boots, and say we've no money for butter.
I shall sit down on the pavement when I'm tired
And gobble up samples in shops and press alarm bells
And run my stick along the public railings
And make up for the sobriety of my youth.
I shall go out in my slippers in the rain
And pick the flowers in other people's gardens . . .*

*But maybe I ought to practice a little now?
So people who know me are not too shocked and surprised
When suddenly I am old, and start to wear red.*

*Rita, I know you liked this poem and now I have changed it to fit "you".
The sun will shine where you are now and there will be no pain. Our
last days together were nothing short of what I would have expected
from you; stubborn, tough, courageous, painful and still polite, and yet
still "Queen Of The Oneliners"! Take care of mom and have fun.
Goodbye my friend and "sister"! Jeri.*

Steve, Jeri, Megan and Ian Cottrell - March 06, 2014 at 12:42 PM

JD

“ Dear Clyde, and Schmidt family, so sorry for your great loss.
Sending hugs and prayers. Jane and Scott Dettmer. (Samuelson)

jane samuelson dettmer - March 06, 2014 at 10:54 AM

AS

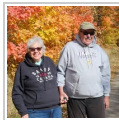
“ Rita had gotten her passport in recent years. She knew it would be
a hassle to get one and she wanted to "be ready" if ever the
opportunity presented itself for her to take a journey
(Canada/Mexico/Carribbean/etc.) . She didn't want that to be the
obstacle to her next adventure...that was Rita...

Anne (Ollendick) Schirmer - March 06, 2014 at 05:11 AM

AS

“ She was my sister and my best friend. These passed few years we traveled together and flew with our brother Pete to Las Vegas (2001) to visit relatives and see the town and Hoover Dam, we drove to Medora, ND, and saw the Enchanted Highway as well (2008), we flew to Ft. Myers, FL, (2009) to visit relatives and rented a car to drive to Palm Harbor and Ft. Lauderdale to visit more relatives. We flew to Los Angeles, CA, (2010) to visit relatives and see the sites. WE HAVE SUCH WONDERFUL RELATIVES! She joined me on a business trip to Washington, DC (2011) and we were able to meet up with one relative that lives in that area. We took the bus to see the sites lit up at night there and we walked "The Mall" by day and saw Arlington National Cemetery...and finally we 3 were together again on a road trip in July 2012 to journey to Reed KY to visit our dad's brother, but we stopped at every tourist venue there was! The SPAM Museum at Austin, MN, the Little Brown Church at Nashua, IA, the Isle Casino at Waterloo, Cedar Rock House (by Frank Lloyd Wright), the Field of Dreams at Dyersville, IA. etc. and that was just getting there!! And, yes, we had to stop at a few rummage sales along the way. Rita found treasures all the time. But mostly, she treasured the friends she made in her journey of life...Thank you all for the memories you share. Sincerely, (her little sister) Annie

Anne (Ollendick) Schirmer - March 06, 2014 at 05:02 AM



Anne, I was thinking of the trips you've taken with Rita and Pete, too, over the past years and feeling happy that you got to have so much fun and make memories together. You can hold on to them forever! See you tomorrow,
Eileen

Eileen Bliss - March 06, 2014 at 09:36 PM

AS

I neglected to include the trip Rita & I did to Cedar Rapids, IA, in Aug. 2011. When we were waiting to depart from Washington DC the year earlier (Sept.), the announcement was made that 30 people would need to take the next available flight back to Mpls., MN, and those who came forward/volunteered would be given a \$300 voucher valid for 1 year! What a deal! She grabbed our tickets and made the deal, and that's how we were able to fly to Cedar Rapids (from Fargo! what a nice, relaxed atmosphere there!) to visit more relatives for four days! Thanks, Rita. You made life so fun for me! Annie

Anne Schirmer - March 14, 2014 at 12:12 PM

CT

“ *RIP Rita, you were a wonderful cousin and loved dearly :) So happy you are in heaven with the rest of the family, keeping them in stitches !! Love you forever:)*

Cathy Ollendick Turnell - March 06, 2014 at 03:23 AM

CD

“ *Rita your in peace now...condolences and prayers to your husband and family and friends.*

*In sympathy,
Cathy Dressen*



Cathy Dressen - March 05, 2014 at 10:14 PM

CD

“ *Cathy Dressen sent a virtual gift in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Cathy Dressen - March 05, 2014 at 10:09 PM

GW

“ *Gerald And Mary Wulf lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



gerald and mary wulf - March 05, 2014 at 09:23 PM

DM

“ *Sure going to miss this woman who was a friend for years. She had such a unique sense of humor. A very hard worker, too. Lots of fun, especially when we couldn't bowl very well. We won't talk about our steering of the ball, stomping of our feet when releasing incorrectly and other such silly things! Liking horses and other animals was just a plus. I, too, love horses! Glad I got to spend a few hours with you and your precious dogs when you were "doing well for the shape you were in." You were still sharp enough to ask me what I meant by that and I told you the way it was, as your memory had slipped at times in those last few weeks. I told you the pain would end soon and it did. May God bless you and keep you in that better place. May you rest in peace, Rita. Glenn told me he had worked with you, too, at Homecrest. Glenn & Donna Fearing*

Donna Mayo-Fearing - March 05, 2014 at 08:42 PM

SD

“ Gary and I send our condolences. Your family is in our prayers.
Love you all.

Shelly Disse - March 05, 2014 at 08:36 PM

JA

“ Jonell & Duane Asfeld lit a candle in memory
of Rita Schmidt



Jonell & Duane Asfeld - March 05, 2014 at 07:55 PM

SS

“ Sandy & Ray South lit a candle in memory of
Rita Schmidt



Sandy & Ray South - March 05, 2014 at 05:51 PM

DF

“ Dave & Sharon Folkestad lit a candle in
memory of Rita Schmidt



Dave & Sharon Folkestad - March 05, 2014 at 05:46 PM

BT

“ *Bill Skarka & Kim Theisen lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Bill Skarka & Kim Theisen - March 05, 2014 at 05:36 PM

RR

“ *Rocky Reese lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Rocky Reese - March 05, 2014 at 04:06 PM

RT

“ *Rich & Marilyn Trout lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Rich & Marilyn Trout - March 05, 2014 at 03:31 PM

DO

“ *Doug & Joan Ostlund lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Doug & Joan Ostlund - March 05, 2014 at 02:24 PM

BH

“ *Bob & Donna Haman lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Bob & Donna Haman - March 05, 2014 at 01:36 PM

DD

“ *My Thoughts and Prayers to Rita's Family...
I grew up about a mile from Rita....
We played softball at her homeplace every Sunday. Great times and memories...
R.I.P. Rita.....*

Dick and MaryAnn Doyle - March 05, 2014 at 01:11 PM

CD

“ *Carol Dilly lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Carol Dilly - March 05, 2014 at 01:08 PM

TL

“ *Ten Pin Keglers Bowling League lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Ten Pin Keglers Bowling League - March 05, 2014 at 12:40 PM

BW

“ *Brenda Walz lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Brenda Walz - March 05, 2014 at 11:50 AM

MG

“ *Mark and Annette,kids, grandkids purchased the Written in the Stars for the family of Rita Schmidt.*



Mark and Annette,kids, grandkids - March 05, 2014 at 11:14 AM

VJ

“ *I met Rita when we worked nights, as she worked at Ortons and I at Holiday. What a truly wonderful person. Many many memories and time spent. Most recent was when she drove bus for Bertha and we had time to chat at track meets and she also stopped to visit as she walked thru the license bureau. I'm so very sorry Clyde for your loss. God comfort you and your families.*



Vicki Jahnke - March 05, 2014 at 10:51 AM

MB

“ *Sending prayers*



Michele Branby - March 05, 2014 at 09:25 AM

SO

“ *My sons (Josh, Cody Olson) played horseshoes with Rita in Wadena. My dad & brothers along with my husband did Archery at the place across from the Post Office in Wadena. She will indeed be missed. Heaven has another awesome angel... May God hold you all in his loving care....*

Sharyl Olson

Sharyl Olson - March 05, 2014 at 08:49 AM

LT

“ *Linda And Lee Tarrell lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Linda and Lee Tarrell - March 05, 2014 at 08:30 AM

LT

Clyde our thoughts and prayers are with you

Linda and Lee Tarrell - March 05, 2014 at 08:36 AM

DK

“ Dan Kern lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Dan Kern - March 05, 2014 at 07:32 AM

MC

“ Marlene And Dale Campbell sent a virtual gift in memory of Rita Schmidt



Marlene and Dale Campbell - March 05, 2014 at 07:17 AM

DA

“ I always enjoyed visiting with Rita. With sympathy and good memories, Diane S/A



Di Schiller Anderson - March 04, 2014 at 11:30 PM

JD

“ Jeff & Missi (Plautz) Dunn lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Jeff & Missi (Plautz) Dunn - March 04, 2014 at 10:36 PM

Bobbi Brown

“ *Bobbi Brown lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Bobbi Brown - March 04, 2014 at 10:32 PM

TS

“ *Trish And Bruce Steinkopf lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Trish and Bruce Steinkopf - March 04, 2014 at 10:01 PM

VT

“ *So sorry to hear this. I so wanted to help Rita in some way. Loved it when she would stop in the station and have coffee with me in the evenings when she drove for Peoples Express. Clyde, may the Lord give you the peace that passes all understanding.*



Vickie Thompson - March 04, 2014 at 09:39 PM

BL

“ *Clyde and family, I want to share my sympathy with you for the loss of your wife Rita. She was a very special friend to Theresa and Dale and was also here for me when George was sick several times. My prayers for you during this time of loss. A neighbor and friend, Betty Lipinski*



Betty Lipinski - March 04, 2014 at 09:10 PM

SK

“ SCOTT J KERN lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



SCOTT J KERN - March 04, 2014 at 08:55 PM

SK

“ I REMEMBER RITA WELL AND CYDE. SHE USED TO BE INTO ARCHERY AND MAKING ARROWS FOR MANY FOLKS INCUDING ME. THEY USE TO SELL ALL KINDS OF ARCHERY ITEMS BEHIND WESTSIDE SPORTS AND THEN MOVED THE ARCHERY OVER TOWARDS THE BASMENT ARCHERY PLACE NEXT TO POST OFFICE. I ALSO WORKED WITH HER AT HOMECREST A SHORT TIME. HER HUBBY CLYDE ALSO WORKED THERE AND I THINK STILL DOES. HER STEP-DAUGHER SAMANTHA WAS IN OUR WEDDING BACK IN 1994 AND PLAYED THE ORGAN FOR US. I HAVE ALWAYS LIKED RITA..SHE WAS FUN TO TALK TO AND ALWAYS HAD SOMETHING TO SAY. SHE WILL BE MISSED . GOD BLESS HER.

SCOTT J KERN - March 04, 2014 at 08:54 PM

DS

“ Dustin & Amanda Snyder lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Dustin & Amanda Snyder - March 04, 2014 at 08:41 PM

GW

“ Glenn And Doris Winter lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Glenn and Doris Winter - March 04, 2014 at 08:10 PM

TO

“ Tom And Lisa O'Connor lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Tom and Lisa O'Connor - March 04, 2014 at 08:07 PM

JO

“ Jim & Tina (Stokes) Olson, lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Jim & Tina (Stokes) Olson, - March 04, 2014 at 07:56 PM

DM

“ Dixie Murray lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Dixie Murray - March 04, 2014 at 07:56 PM

JT

“ *Jamie And Mat Toftum lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Jamie and Mat Toftum - March 04, 2014 at 07:26 PM

GW

“ *Glenn and Doris Winter*



Glenn and Doris Winter - March 04, 2014 at 06:43 PM

LM

“ *Clyde and family we send you our sympathy, prayers, and hugs at this very sad time of loss. Lee and Lee Meyers*



Lee and Lee Meyers - March 04, 2014 at 06:24 PM

BF

“ *Bernie &Char Ficek lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Bernie &Char Ficek - March 04, 2014 at 06:04 PM

TD

“ Tom And Connie Doll lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Tom and Connie Doll - March 04, 2014 at 04:55 PM

LH

“ Leo Haisman lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Leo Haisman - March 04, 2014 at 04:15 PM

JS

“ Jill Stevens-Becker lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Jill Stevens-Becker - March 04, 2014 at 03:54 PM

GK

“ Gene & Sandy Kapphahn lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Gene & Sandy Kapphahn - March 04, 2014 at 03:14 PM

RY

“ Rick And Linda Youngbauer lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Rick and Linda Youngbauer - March 04, 2014 at 03:00 PM

JM

“ Jim & Jackie McManigle



Jackie McManigle - March 04, 2014 at 02:59 PM

TR

“ Toni Rimpila lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Toni Rimpila - March 04, 2014 at 02:23 PM

PL

“ Pat Lorentz lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt



Pat Lorentz - March 04, 2014 at 02:18 PM

ST

“ *Sue Theisen lit a candle in memory of Rita Schmidt*



Sue Theisen - March 04, 2014 at 01:46 PM

DF

I Knew Rita and Clyde from Homecrest days. Clyde, Marlene, and family, we are praying for you and wishing you many hugs!

Debbie & Buck Foster - March 06, 2014 at 06:03 AM