

Leota Hannegrefs was born August 12, 1920 in Henryville Township, Renville County, Minnesota to Leo J. and Olga (Bleck) Puls. She was raised on a farm east of Oliva and attended country school and later attended Olivia High School where she and the neighbor kids took a horse and buggy for the first semester. The family later moved, and then her dad drove her to school. She remembered coming home from school in a dust storm that was so bad they couldn't see, and she had to watch the road on one side while her dad drove. They moved into Olivia when Leota was a sophomore. She graduated from Olivia High School in 1937. After graduation she began working as a secretary for attorney Edward Lindquist.

On May 6, 1940 Leota was united in marriage to Lester Hannegrefs. The couple lived on a farm near Bird Island, and in Olivia before moving to Epping, North Dakota in July 1944. The couple moved into Williston in October 1972. Leota went to work as secretary for KXMD until the office was closed. She then worked for Ralfstad Attorneys at Law until 1975. That fall she went to work at St. Joseph's and part time at the Federal Land Bank. In January 1979 she became full time at St. Joseph's until she retired in 1982 at age 62.

Lester and Leota loved to travel, taking annual trips to Minnesota and even a trip to Europe. They had been to every state west of the Mississippi and several east of the Mississippi, seeing many interesting places and things. Lester passed away in 1997 and it was very hard for Leota. She tried to keep busy, she knew he was in heaven, and said he had been back twice. She could still feel him taking care of her.

Leota was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and the Altar Society. She was active in the Catholic Daughters and Cursillo. She also taught CCD at the church. She became active in school and was a band mother, and eventually became clerk of the school board. She was also a 4H leader for 15 years and then a member of the Upper Missouri Fair board.

She is survived by her sons, Eugene (Rhonda) of Buffalo, MN, James (Susan) of Roseville, CA and Dale of Williston, ND; daughters, Leota (Martin) Zagurski of Dallas, TX, Myrna (Ken) Bottolfsen and Janet (Mike) Holmen both of Williston, ND; brothers, Bob (Ann) Puls of Sioux Falls, SD and Don (Arlys) Puls of Minneapolis, MN; 14 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and 1 great great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Lester; and by her brother, Leroy.



In Loving Memory
Leota E. Hannegrefs



Footprints

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed
he was walking along the beach with the LORD.

Across the sky flashed scenes from his life.

For each scene he noticed two sets of
footprints in the sand: one belonging
to him, and the other to the LORD.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him,
he looked back at the footprints in the sand.
He noticed that many times along the path of
his life there was only one set of footprints.
He also noticed that it happened at the very
lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he
questioned the LORD about it:

"LORD, you said that once I decided to follow
you, you'd walk with me all the way.
But I have noticed that during the most
troublesome times in my life,
there is only one set of footprints.

I don't understand why when
I needed you most you would leave me."

The LORD replied:

"My son, my precious child,
I love you and I would never leave you.
During your times of trial and suffering,
when you see only one set of footprints,
it was then that I carried you."

In Memory Of *Leota E. Hannegrefs*

Date And Place Of Birth

August 12, 1920

Renville County, Minnesota

Date And Place of Death

December 30, 2013

Williston, North Dakota

Funeral Service

10:00 AM, Saturday, January 4, 2014

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Williston, North Dakota

Officiating

Father Russell Kovash

Musicians

Sarah Anderson ~ Organist

Priscilla Keck ~ Vocalist

Jennifer Holmen ~ Soloist

Casketbearers

All of Leota's Grandchildren

Honorary Bearers

Catholic Daughters

Interment

Riverview Cemetery

Williston, North Dakota



You may share your remembrances and condolences
with the family at the Fulkerson Funeral Home website
www.fulkersons.com