

Clara Louise was born to William and Nora Cotter on June 2, 1941 in Fairview, MT. She joined her older sister and closest friend Marlene and was followed later by Ervin, Lillian, Matthew, and Elaine. When she was three, the family moved to Crane where she attended school through eighth grade before attending Sidney High School, graduating in 1959.

During her junior year of high school, she met the love of her life, Don Mastvelten on a blind date and they were married on September 12, 1959. They welcomed three beautiful children Dona, Shelly, and Randy and from that moment on their home was happy, full, and busy. Don and Clara welcomed many kids into their home with an open door and an available bed if needed, they truly believed "there was always room for one more." She was a blessing to her family and friends.

Clara was a true homemaker. She sewed many clothes for her kids, including their cheerleading uniforms for the high school squad, washed football uniforms for the entire team, and was always cooking something. She spent countless hours with Maxine Gregg and Betty DeShaw baking goodies to share with her family and neighbors. Clara always had a hot cup of coffee and a seat at her puzzle table ready for anyone who stopped in, no one was a stranger. She was the county travelling hairdresser, going wherever needed to fix the hair of anyone who asked, never charging for her services.

When her grandkids started to arrive, her life became even fuller. Her grandkids and great grandkids filled her home, her heart, and even her bed! She was always a willing participant in whatever they asked her to do, whether it was fixing her hair and makeup, assisting her with her baking, or popping popcorn without a lid. She treasured every note and drawing they gave her and displayed them proudly. And none of them ever grew too big to sit on her lap to be rocked in her chair.

Clara loved bingo (a trait she inherited from her mom), walking in the fall leaves, collecting decorative churches and anything with chickens,

and taking trips to Deadwood with her daughters and sister, Marlene. She was a fierce Warrior fan, only missing games when she absolutely had to. She followed her kids, grandkids and her great grandkids throughout the state to any event they competed in. She was their number one fan! Clara survived breast cancer and was a proud and dedicated survivor, attending the Relay for Life every year with her daughters and close friend Marlene Hedegaard in Billings.

Clara joined the angels on November 10, 2021. She will be greatly missed by the entire community of Savage, but especially by the hearts and lives that she touched.

Clara is survived by her husband Don, daughters Dona (Glenn) Dillman and Shelly (Randy) Sanders, son Randy (Cheryl) Mastvelten, sister Marlene Reitz, brothers Ervin (Janel) Cotter and Matt (Kim) Cotter, grandchildren Kirk (Melissa) Sanders and their children Hunter, Madycen, and Jaxcen, Nicole (Chris) Peterson and their children Aspen, Karlee, Jaylee, and Kynlie, Donny Dillman and his son Bennett, Austin Mastvelten, and Andria Mastvelten and her children Trycaen, Jemma, and Aubrie. She is preceded in death by her parents William and Nora, her sisters Lillian Cotter and Elaine Rehbein, sister-in-laws Kaye Braun and Patsy Barone, brother-in-laws Doug Barone and Wally Braun and great grandson Tayler Peterson.



*In Loving*  
M E M O R Y



Hope  
Strength

*Clara Louise  
Mastvelten*

*June 2, 1941 ~ November 10, 2021*

A memorial card for Clara Louise Mastvelten. The top features the words "In Loving" in a large, elegant cursive font, with "M E M O R Y" in a smaller, spaced-out font below it. The background is a pink and white paisley pattern. A central photograph shows Clara Louise Mastvelten, an elderly woman with short, wavy grey hair and purple-rimmed glasses. She is wearing a blue and white striped collared shirt under a grey jacket. The photo is framed with a black border. Below the photo, a pink ribbon graphic is overlaid with the words "Hope" and "Strength" in a light pink, cursive font. Underneath the ribbon, the name "Clara Louise Mastvelten" is written in a large, black, cursive font. At the bottom, her dates of birth and death, "June 2, 1941 ~ November 10, 2021", are written in a smaller, black, cursive font.





# Memories

## The Chain

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We knew little that morning  
That God was going to call your name.

In life we loved you dearly.  
In death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you,

You did not go alone,

For part of us went with you,

That day God called you HOME.

You left us  
*peaceful memories,*

Your love is still our guide:

And though we cannot see you,

You are ALWAYS at our side.

Our family chain is broken,

And nothing seems the same,

But as God calls us one by one

The chain will link again

# Clara Mastvelten

*Born to William & Nora Cotter*  
June 2, 1941 ~ Fairview, Montana

*Passed Away*  
November 10, 2021 ~ Sidney, Montana

*Mass of Christian Burial*  
10:00AM Monday November 15, 2021  
St. Matthews Catholic Church  
Sidney, Montana

*Presider*  
Father Callistus Igwenagu

*Music*  
Kathy Bidegaray      Lori Utter

*Readings*  
Terry Braun      Lyle DeShaw

*Casketbearers*  
Marshall Vojacek    Shawn Conradsen    Tom Reitz  
Justin Schmierer    Troy Cotter    Russell Sharbono

*Honorary Casketbearers*  
All of Clara's Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren

*Ushers*  
Ron Reitz      Scott Wheelhouse

*Final Resting Place*  
Riverview Cemetery ~ Savage, Montana

*Luncheon will be served at the Savage Hall*  
*following the burial*



*Loving Memory* Honor