

Betty Gaul, 89**April 26, 1925 - Dec. 26, 2014**

EARLING — Betty was born Emelia Elizabeth Zimmerman on April 26, 1925 to Emil and Josephine (Posch) Zimmerman on a farm near Westphalia. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia, where she also attended Catholic school. She went to work for her brother Rev. Al Zimmerman as a housekeeper, for a short time, in Chicago, IL after her schooling.

June 11, 1951, Betty was united in marriage to Verner Gaul. They became parents to three sons: Gene, Bryon, and David. She helped her husband and son David on the farm from the time they were married to the present. As an adult, she earned her high school diploma. In addition to being a homemaker, she was also a sales representative for several companies, particularly Avon but also Fuller Brush and Sara Coventry. At age fifty, she began to study the organ and served as the organist for masses, funerals, and weddings at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling for the next thirty-nine years. She was a long-time member of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court St. Katherine, #266 of Earling and served as Grand Regent and District Deputy. Betty died on Friday, December 26, 2014, at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE, after a brief illness. She had attained the age of eighty-nine years and eight months, or 32,751 days.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents; six brothers: Roman, Barney, Jack, Father Tony, Father Al, and Larry Zimmerman; and one sister, Marie. She is survived by her husband of sixty-three years Verner Gaul of Earling; sons: Gene Gaul and his wife Peggy of Walnut, Bryon Gaul, MD and his wife Carrie of Spirit Lake, and David Gaul of Earling; three grandchildren; one step-grandchild; three great-grandchildren; one step-great-grandchild; sisters Ann Gaul of Omaha, NE and Sr. Irene Zimmerman of Milwaukee, WI; other family members and friends.

The 10:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Rev. Urey Mark and concelebrated by Rev. Chuck Kottas and Rev. David Smith, S.J., on Wednesday, December 31, 2014 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. Jodie Wingert was the accompanist and Mary Jo Schmitz was the choir director.

The vocalists for the service were Dave Hoffmann, St. Joseph's Choir, Ruth Hoffmann, Sarah Schumacher, Craig Kenkel, and Karen Chamberlain. Honorary casket bearers were Jim Gaul, Joe Gaul, John Sorrick, Lee Gaul, Paul Zimmerman, Phil Zimmerman, and Rae Zimmerman. Serving as casket bearers were Tom Gibson, Jeff Johnson, Timothy Gaul, Chris Gaul, Scott Gaul, and John Zimmerman. Interment was held at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Earling.



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