



Ruth Arlene Gorton

January 3, 1920 - February 24, 2011

Surrounded by family, Ruth Arlene Gorton passed away in her home on February 24, 2011 at the age of 91. Born on January 3, 1920 in Merriman, Nebraska, to Peter and Alice Pruden Nee Nelson, Arlene was raised along with her six brothers in Gordon, Nebraska. After graduating from Gordon High School in 1938, she worked in the Sheridan County Courthouse. She met Edwin Gorton, 9 years her senior, at a dancehall in Chadron, Nebraska. The two were married on April 18, 1942 and made their home in Crawford where Edwin had grown up. Shortly after they were married, Edwin entered the Army and was eventually deployed to Europe, landing at Omaha Beach on Aug. 17, 1944. Edwin returned from World War II in December 1945, and the couple had three children: Edwin Delos, who died at two months old, Glenda and Dennis. Edwin worked for twenty years as the postmaster of Crawford and she worked as a bookkeeper for Herron Bros. Lumber, Disco Seeds, Midwest Hardware and as treasurer for the City of Crawford. Meanwhile, she became a beloved fixture among neighborhood children as she frequently taught them to sew and do various crafts. Always in search of new projects, she experimented with making wine, brandy and more successfully she and a close friend taught themselves how to carve candles, selling them at regional craft fairs. After Dad's passing she learned to play golf with ladies from Crawford and looked forward to their daily golf outings and even played in several tournaments. Mom and Dad were active in the Methodist church and regularly volunteered to head groups such as Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and

youth groups. In 1982, she moved to Fort Collins to be closer to her daughter and family. There, she passed on her guidance to the next generation, teaching her grandchildren how to paint, bake, tie their shoelaces and appreciate Alfred Hitchcock. She sewed Halloween costumes and ice skating dresses and rarely missed a performance or competition. She passed along old Swedish family recipes as well as old Swedish reprimands and brought over cookies when illness forced her grandchildren to stay in bed. She always provided a safe haven from bothersome siblings and a warm environment where learning and creativity were encouraged. She was active in golf and bridge clubs in Fort Collins and was a strong supporter of the American Cancer Society. Consistently gentle and compassionate, Mom had a kind word for everyone she met. A loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she will be greatly missed by all who knew her. She was preceded in death by her husband, Edwin, who died in 1976, as well as their first child, Edwin Delos, who died in 1944, and her six brothers: Leland, Keith, Arnold, Sonny, Sidney and Shorty Pruden. She is survived by her daughter, Glenda Ron Hartmann of Fort Collins; her son, Dennis Gorton Pam of Rapid City, South Dakota; her grandchildren: Charice Hertel of Portland, Oregon, Casey Gorton of Los Angeles, Jason Hartmann Kourtney of Westminster, Colorado, Alissa Hartmann of Jackson, Wyoming, Kendra Hartmann of San Diego, and her great-granddaughter, Holly Hartmann. A Funeral Service will be held at First United Methodist Church Chapel, 1005 Stover St., Fort Collins at 2:00 p.m. on Monday. On Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. there will be a Funeral Service at the First United Methodist Church in Crawford, Nebraska with interment at the Crawford Cemetery. Donations may be made on Mom's behalf to their charity of choice.

Tribute Wall

DZ

“ Glenda, I learned of your mother's passing today when speaking on the phone with Cathy Perkins. I have very fond memories of playing bridge with Arlene. She was always so kind to everyone. I am very sorry for your loss. Sincerely, Diane Zeigler

Diane Zeigler - March 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ Glenda,Ron,Denny,Pam & Families For as long as your heart is feeling the sadness of her passing, may it also feel the warmth and caring that surround you. She was quite a lady-----and will be missed by many. We liked reading her nice obituary, we learned so many more nice things about her. We are sadden by your loss. Fondly Al and Linda Hartmann

Al & Linda Hartmann - March 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ Glenda, Ron and Family, We send our deepest sympathy on the passing of your mother. She was a lovely , talented lady, and we will miss her. Cherish your wonderful memories of her. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and all your family. Sincerely, Marilyn and Ed Nix

Marilyn and Ed Nix - February 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Arlene touched my heart. I am so sorry for your loss. I hope I have 2 grand daughters that are as wonderful.....Been thinking about you all and wanted to let you know my thoughts are with your family.

Lori Hanson - February 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Denny, So sorry to hear of your mother's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Brad Sorensen - February 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Glenda and family, My deepest sympathy in the death of your dear mother. I enjoyed reading the beautiful obituary. Hold your memories close. Love, Debbie Graff

Debbie Graff - February 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Denny,Pam and family. So sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. May your good memories of her bring you much comfort in the days ahead. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Glenn and Cindy Sealey

Glenn & Cindy Sealey - February 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Glenda, Denny & families, My sincere sympathy in the loss of your mother. She was a beautiful lady who lived an admirable life. I hope warm memories will help you in your loss.

Deitra Marshall Coakes - February 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ Denny and Pam-Sorry to hear of your moms passing. After reading of her life it sounds like your mother and mine would have gotten along just fine, always looking out for others. You and yours have our deepest sympathys. Take care and BE SAFE.

LeRoy & Marie Koopman - February 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ *Denny, Pam, and all the family--Sorry to hear of your mother's passing. Thinking of you with sympathy. Cherish all the fond memories of your Mother. Hofers*

Duane, Frankie, and Krista - February 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM