

GADDIS, Grace (Waring)

March 21, 1920
Sioux Falls
June 16, 1999
Sioux Falls

Viborg Enterprise
June 24, 1999

Grace W. Gaddis

Grace W. Gaddis was born March 21, 1920 in Sioux Falls, SD. Her parents were John and Edith (Carey) Waring. Grace grew up on a farm outside of Sioux Falls, and rode her horse to country school. Grace graduated from Washington High School in Sioux Falls. She attended Long Beach Junior College in Long Beach, CA and California College of Mortuary Science in Los Angeles, CA. Grace married Larry Gaddis on December 18, 1943 in California. She worked at Fores Lawn in Glendale, CA, before returning to Sioux Falls, where she worked at Miller Funeral Home. They moved to Viborg in October 1946, where she managed the Fraternal Burial Association for 50 years. She continued to work part-time to assist her daughter at the funeral home.

Grace and Larry built the Eat 'N Spin Drive Inn and Roller Rink in Viborg. Grace and Larry had the private ambulance service for 30 years, until she helped initiate the Viborg Community Ambulance Service. Grace continued to work with the ambulance service and had been on the governing board. Grace was a member of the United Methodist Church, where she was a lay minister and part of the Ladies Aid. She was on the school board, PTA president and on the Viborg City Council. Grace was a leader in initiating the building of Pioneer Memorial Hospital. In 1986, she was given a plaque by the Mayor of Viborg for her 40 years of service to her community. Grace enjoyed outdoor activities such as fishing, playing softball and golfing. She was also seen tooling around town on her little motorcycle or riding bike with her granddaughter. Grace enjoyed reading, crossword puzzles, jigsaw puzzles and playing games

with family and friends. Her favorite past times were playing Bingo and socializing with people over coffee. She loved the comfort and joy her dogs had brought her throughout the years.

Grace passed away on June 16, 1999 at Sioux Valley Hospital in Sioux Falls. She had attained the age of 79.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, George.

Grace is survived by her husband Larry of Viborg; one daughter, Rhoda and Evert Fredricks of Viborg; one son, Glen and Shelly of Hardwick, MN; one granddaughter, Geri of Viborg; six step-grandchildren Erik, Jason and Jennifer Fredricks, Michelle Mueller, Melanie Conklin and Angie Nelson all of Sioux Falls; one step-greatgrandson Jared Conklin; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were Saturday, June 19, 1999 at First Baptist Church, Viborg. Pastor William Hoffman, Pastor Lawrence Christensen, and Pastor Mindy Ehrke Officiated. Organist was Dotty Larsen and Ethel Ward, Gary Ward and Alan Ward provided the music.

Pallbearers were Don Gaddis, Wayne Johnson, Mike Larsen, Dan Nelson, Rodney Ness, and Charles Sorensen. Ushers were Duane Larsen, LeRoy Skonhovd, and Dale Christensen. Virginia Hansen and Shirley Skonhovd attended the Register Book.