

Remembering Helen

Helen Lou Sandberg 93, of Custer, SD passed into the Lord's arms on August 8, 2026. Helen will be missed by her family and friends. Her daughters say she was the strongest women they ever met. In every unforeseen situation she went through, she would always say, it could have been worse, and God will help us through.

Helen L Sandberg was born to Langdon and Esther (Howard) Landis on February 3, 1933, at home in Wamblee, SD. When she was six months old her family moved to Custer, SD. She grew up in Custer and attended all 12 grades; she participated in Brownies, Girl Scouts and belonged to 4-H. Graduating in 1951 the following fall she attended college in Brookings, SD taking Home Economics for a year. On August 31, 1952, she married her high school sweetheart Harland Olson, and they made their home in Pringle, SD. They brought 3 daughters into the world, Jenny 1961, Tracy 1962 and Twila 1963 (passed away after a few hours). They raised their family in Pringle until moving to a ranch in Highmore, SD in the spring of 1967. In the fall of 1970, the Lord took Harland suddenly and Helen was left to raise their two young daughters. Times were hard, but she always trusted the Lord would guide her in the right direction. She again married Robert Sandberg in the fall of 1972 and moved the family to Unityville- Salem, SD. In this Union another daughter was born, Karla 1973. In the fall of 2000 Robert passed away suddenly. Helen was a stay-at-home mom most of her life, very active in church and would lend a helping hand to family and friends whenever there was a need. She was a 4-H leader for 3 years, belonged to the Unityville Home Extension Club and was an officer off and on for 20 years. When her girls were grown, she worked at the Wrapit Corporation in Howard, SD for 7 years and then at Care-a-Lot Childcare in Salem, SD for 12 years. She moved back home to Custer, SD in the spring of 2010, to be closer to family. She lived in her home until moving to Assisted Living in November of 2022. She was a member of Salem Evangelical Church at Center, SD active in WELCA, circle and was a Sunday school teacher for 40 years. She later became a member of the Custer Lutheran Fellowship. Helen devoted her life to the Lord, starting each day with devotions. One of her most memorable days was her surprise 90th birthday party, put on by her daughters. This was the first time her family was all together and the look on her face was priceless. She also enjoyed reading, crocheting, quilting, doing puzzles and attending book club with her church friends.

Helen is survived by: 3 daughters, Jenny (Todd) Nelson of Salmon, ID, Tracy (Ed) Pulse of Custer, SD and Karla (Dave) Dather of Milford, IA. 10 Grandchildren: Colleen (Doug) Sabers, Twyla (Kevin) Hommert, Jeremy (Lori) Pulse, Tanya Rayman, Josh (Erin) Pulse, Becky (Todd) Arneson, Dan (Megan) Bentley, Joe Bentley, Andy Bentley and Shelby Bentley. 10 great grandsons and 5 great granddaughters and 3 great great grand-daughters. Two sisters: Hazel Jacobsen, Shirley Fernen, two sisters-in-law's: Belva Landis and Isabel Hanson.

She was preceded in death by her husband's Harland Olson and Robert Sandberg. Infant daughter Twila Rae Olson. Parents; Langdon and Esther Landis, brother; Earl Landis, sisters; Alice Johnson, Grace Fuller and Donna Knutson.

In Loving Memory

What Life Is

Life is a race. Don't whimper if the track is rough and the goal is distant. One day you shall reach it.

Life is a voyage. Don't complain if the storms batter the hull or the winds tatter to shreds the sails. One day you shall come to your heaven.

Life is a growth. Don't find fault if the seed lies smothered and submerged in the dark earth before it blooms and blossoms. One day you shall have your harvest.

Life is a pilgrimage. Don't falter on the road through self-pity because stones cut your feet and leave your blood on the trail. One day you will come to Immanuel's land.

The God who through the boundless sky guides the flight of the sparrow, who builds the blind bird's nest, will see to it that in his good time you shall arrive.

Joseph R. Sizzo

In Loving Memory

Helen L. Sandberg

*February 2, 1933—August 8, 2026
Wanblee, South Dakota Custer, South Dakota*

MEMORIAL SERVICES

10:00 a.m., Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Custer Lutheran Fellowship

Custer, South Dakota

OFFICIANT

Reverend Keri Webb & Intern Juliana Jimenez Avalaro

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

"In The Garden"

"How Great Thou Art"

"On Eagles Wings"

ACCOMPANIST

Cozy Dorton

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Helen's sons-in-law—Todd Nelson, Ed Pulse, Dave Dather

Helen's grandchildren—Colleen Sabers, Twyla Hommert,

Jeremy Pulse, Tanya Rayman, Josh Pulse, Becky Arneson,

Dan Bently, Joe Bentley, Andy Bentley & Shelby Bentley

INURNMENT

Will be held at a later date