

Remembering Arlie

Arlis "Arlie" Brendsel Knutson, 88, passed away peacefully on May 15, 2026, surrounded by the love of her three children.

Arlie was born in Brookings and later moved to Sioux Falls, where she graduated from Washington High School. It was in Sioux Falls that she met the love of her life, Richard "Dick" Knutson, at the Arkota Ballroom. Family always enjoyed the story that Dick first introduced himself to Arlie as "Ricardo" — a memorable beginning to a love story that would span more than 65 years and countless nights lighting up the dance floor together. They were united in marriage on October 14, 1956, in Sioux Falls.

The couple made their home in Dell Rapids, where they farmed and raised dairy cattle while raising their three children: Jeff (Darci Collins), Doug (Steffi), and Shelly (Ed Anderson, deceased). In 1978, Arlie and Dick moved to Custer, a place Dick lovingly referred to as "God's country."

In 2016, they moved to assisted living in Brandon. Following Dick's passing in 2021, Arlie returned to Sioux Falls before moving to Custer Care and Rehab in 2024, where she remained until her passing.

Arlie will be lovingly remembered for her warm and radiant smile, her joy of giving, the love of her family, and her well-known fondness for shoes. She leaves behind her cherished granddaughters: Dayna Tully (Aaron), Rachel Steece (Tim), Jordyn Herra (Jayson), Elizabeth Knutson, and Nikki Gardner (Michael); and her beloved great-grandchildren: Bastian Tully, Jude and Finlay Steece, Myles Herra, and Maisie Gardner.

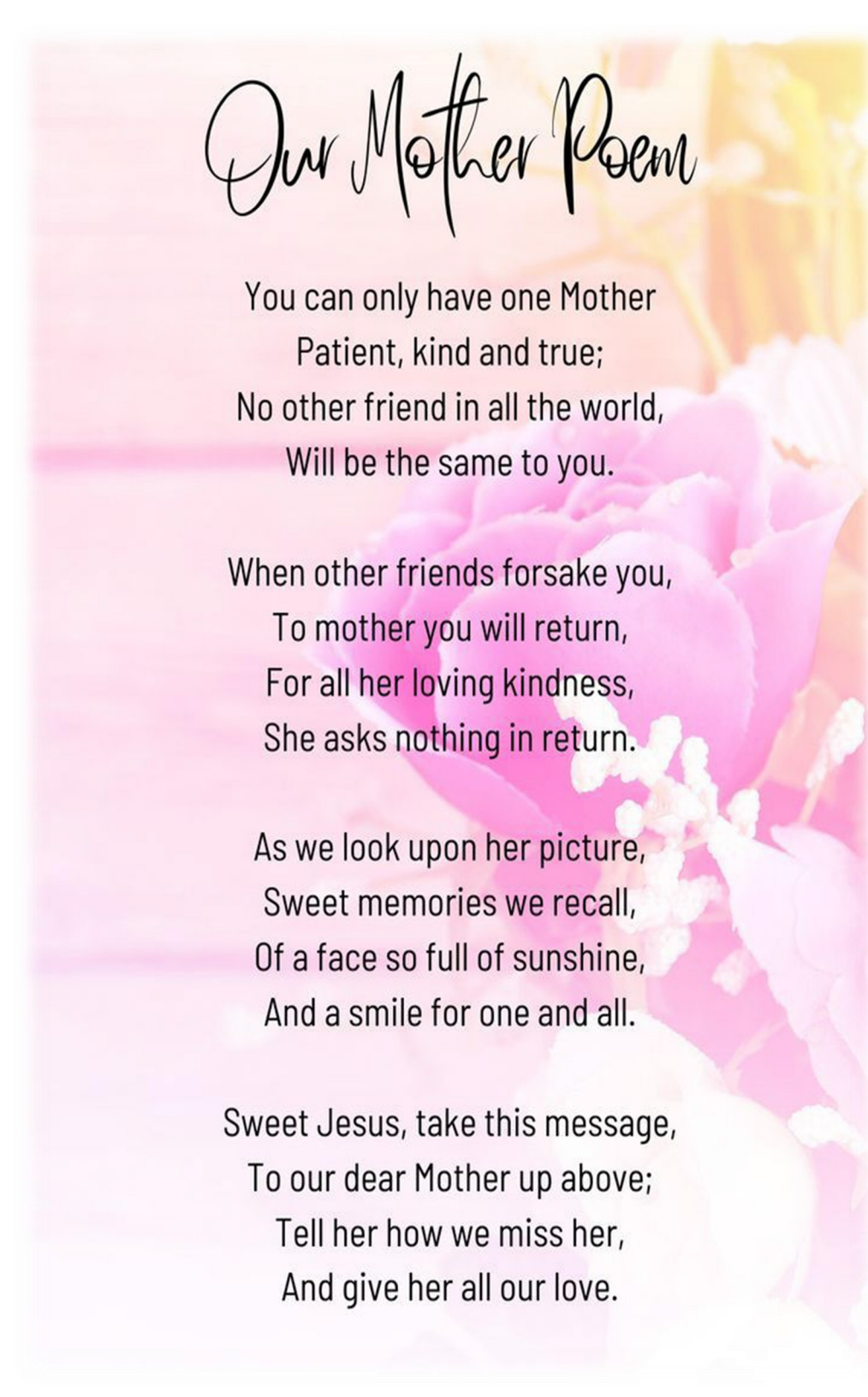
She is preceded in death by her parents, Lars and Alice; her siblings, Jerry, Mel, Joyce, and Corrine; and her son-in-law, Ed.

Chamberlain McColley's Funeral Homes

IN LOVING MEMORY



Arlis Knutson
1937-2026



Our Mother Poem

You can only have one Mother
Patient, kind and true;
No other friend in all the world,
Will be the same to you.

When other friends forsake you,
To mother you will return,
For all her loving kindness,
She asks nothing in return.

As we look upon her picture,
Sweet memories we recall,
Of a face so full of sunshine,
And a smile for one and all.

Sweet Jesus, take this message,
To our dear Mother up above;
Tell her how we miss her,
And give her all our love.

In Loving Memory

Arlis “Arlie” Knutson

August 18, 1937—May 15, 2026
Brookings, South Dakota—Custer, South Dakota

MEMORIAL SERVICES

10:00 a.m., Saturday, June 13, 2026
Custer Lutheran Fellowship
Custer, South Dakota

OFFICIANT

Rev. Shannon Witt

SOLO

“Remember Me Beautiful” by granddaughter Dayna Tully

TAPED SELECTION

“The King is Coming”
“The Old Rugged Cross”
“One Day at a Time”

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Arlie’s granddaughters—Nikki Gardner & Elizabeth Knutson

EULOGY

Arlie’s granddaughters—Rachel Steece & Jordyn Herra

LUNCHEON

Custer Lutheran Fellowship Hall

MEMORIALS

Custer Library Foundation in honor of Arlie’s love
for children and lifelong love of reading

COMMITTAL SERVICES

Black Hills National Cemetery