



Christine Nesje Redlin

November 26, 1921 - March 26, 2023

Christine Nesje Redlin

Calvary Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD
March 31, 2023 at 10:30

**Gathering Music / Visual Tribute
Welcome and Invocation
Prayer**

**Congregational Hymn "How Great Thou Art" 856
Eulogies**

Jerry Redlin - read by Meredith Redlin
Phoebe Redlin Johnson

**Congregational Hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy" 413
Scripture Readings**

Ruth 16 &17

Message

Congregational Hymn "Silent Night" 281

Prayers

Commendation

Recessional Hymn "On Our Way Rejoicing" 537

Lunch Following Service Calvary Lutheran Fellowship Hall

Officiating: Pastor David Piper **Pianist:** Al Spreizer

Pallbearers - Chris's Grandchildren

DeAnn Sanders, Jill Veltkamp, Erika Redlin, Zach Rutten, Mikal Rutten,
Phoebe Johnson, Peter Westlake, Seth Westlake

Chris's Children

Dan Redlin & Darlene Redlin, Ilene Christian & Dan Christian, Jenny
Redlin & John Johnson, Steve Redlin, Lisa Westlake

Chris's Great-Grandchildren

Milo Sanders, Ruth Sanders, Gracie Veltkamp, Ryder Schmucker, Rolli
Schmucker, Leedan Schucker, Anika Veltkamp, Ellie Veltkamp, Ian
Veltkamp, River Atwell, Izabel Rutten, Noah Rutten, Kiley Rutten, Haley
Rutten, Finley Rutten, Eden Westlake





101 years ago, Christine Nesje was born the daughter of Norwegian immigrant parents, on a productive farm in Divide County, North Dakota, one of the last states to invite homesteaders to take a chance at farming on the High Plains. Chris, her parents, Marie and Rasmus Nesje, and her brother Clifford, embraced farming and found a rich and rewarding life among neighbors and church in their Norwegian immigrant community of Upland Township. Lessons learned on the farm sustained Chris throughout her vibrant life.



Ever curious and hardworking, Chris earned her degree as a registered nurse from the Trinity School of Nursing. She worked as the head

nurse of the surgical floor in Minot at a time when veterans of WWII were returning from war. That degree served her well in the 20 years ahead as Chris and her faithful husband, Rollie Redlin, raised five kids on a farm seven miles away from her parents. Those children, Dan, Ilene, Jenny, Steve, and Lisa loved farm life, but eagerly joined their parents in their move to Washington, D.C. when Rollie was elected to Congress in 1964.



When the Washington chapter ended, the family settled in Minot where Chris dove into 40 years of community life including Christ Lutheran Church, the Minot Public Library, Sons of Norway, Heritage Park, and Hosfest lefse making as a foundation for her efforts. Rollie's political career continued in the North Dakota Legislature with his supportive partner, Chris, to share the ups and downs of political life.

Chris and Rollie's curiosity, adventurous spirits and love of nature prompted them to travel widely and energetically to North and South America, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica, often joined by family and friends.



In later life, Chris and Rollie moved to Rapid City, SD to be closer to family. Rollie, her "lock-step" partner of 65 years, died three years later. During her 15 years in Rapid City, dementia slowed Chris, but never stopped her. She enthusiastically joined in road trips, marveling at cherry blossoms, mountain views, expansive prairies, baby bison. Even at 100 years old,

Chris joined an 8-day trailer camping trip in SD, ND, WY and MT. The Adult Day Center of the Black Hills became a social outlet where she could mingle with friends and keep her mind and body invigorated. This year her presence at the SD



legislature helped illustrate the need for expanding adult daycare services in the state.



End-of-life changes are daunting, but Chris showed her family and friends an endearing wonder, looking at life free from the burden of the past. For over a century, Chris made our world a better place, filled with love.



Two Minutes

In any two minutes:

Chris may recall how to play FreeCell, or Crazy 8's, or how to read Dr.Seuss' The Cat in the Hat aloud

Or she might rearrange all of the nativity figurines into a formation never before seen, with all the human figures clumped confusingly in a pack, while the ox, camel, sheep and various birds are aligned beautifully in the front

Or Chris may sing along to jaunty tunes, with a look of concentration, and gentle tapping on the side of her breakfast plate, joining in the rhythm

In any two minutes this Mom and grandma and mother-in-law will be completely enraptured by the beauty of new snow, or the darkness of the night, or the comfort of the warm fireplace

Or by the faces, young and not-so-young, entertaining her on FaceTime

Or by the sights whizzing past as she gazes out the window of the vehicle...bison, pine trees, prairie, clouds, signs, houses, people...

And she will hold your hand, and gaze at you as if for the first and the hundredth time...all at once

And as with all the people, adventures, hardships, wonders and joys of a lifetime, Chris reminds us of the gift of any two minutes

For these two minutes, and for all of those to come

Lovingly,
Lisa