

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil: my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

In Loving Memory
Mercedes R. Nishek

Date of Birth
February 22, 1945

Date of Death
March 25, 2026

Memorial Service
10:30 A.M. Monday, March 30, 2026
Zion Lutheran Church
Ellendale, North Dakota

Officiating: Pastor Paul Preus
Organist: Marilyn Burow

Congregational Singing
“Amazing Grace” #744
“On Eagles’ Wings” #727
“I Know That My Redeemer Lives” #461

Urn Bearers
Tyson Erickson Zach Erickson
Chase Nishek Alyssa Nishek

Honorary Urn Bearers
American Legion Auxiliary
VFW Auxiliary

Burial
Ellendale City Cemetery
Ellendale, North Dakota

Arrangements by
Hoven Funeral Chapel
Ellendale, North Dakota

Mercedes Del Rio Nishek, 81, of Ellendale, passed away peacefully on March 25, 2026, surrounded by three generations of her loving family.

Born February 22, 1945, in Cebu, Philippines, Mercedes was the daughter of Antolin and Godafreda Del Rio, and the youngest of eleven children. Affectionately called 'Bebe' by her siblings, she carried that spirit of warmth, quick wit, and joy throughout her life. She attended St. Alphonsus Catholic High School before earning an associate degree in secretarial science and a commerce degree from Colegio de San Jose.

Mercedes began her professional career as a secretary and office supervisor at Mactan Air Base in the Philippines, where her diligence and radiant personality made her well known and well loved. It was there that she met her husband, Donald Nishek.

Mercedes and Don married January 7, 1968, in Lapu-Lapu City before beginning their life together in Ellendale, North Dakota. Together, they built not only a home, but a life's work. Side by side, they established and grew Nishek Farms—a legacy rooted in perseverance, faith, and family. In the early years, Mercedes also worked at the Ellendale Hospital and Ellendale Public Library, and later worked for Satrom Travel Agency while helping manage Nishek Farms.

Mercedes had a gift for bringing people together, most often around her table. She was known for her exceptional cooking—from her unmatched lumpia and mango sticky rice to her family's favorite crème puff dessert and pigs in a blanket. Over the years, she joyfully fed not only her family but also countless friends and farmhands who were always welcomed with a full plate and a warm smile.

Mercedes found joy in gardening, homemaking, and hosting gatherings filled with laughter, food, and connection. She was a member of Zion Lutheran Church, Ellendale, the American Legion Auxiliary and the VFW Auxiliary. As an active member of the homemakers club, Mercedes shared her talents and built lifelong friendships.

Mercedes is survived by her beloved husband of 58 years, Donald Nishek; her children, Iris (Nishek) Erickson and Brad (Kari) Nishek; her grandchildren, Tyson (Sarah) Erickson, Zachary Erickson, Chase Nishek, and Alyssa (Thomas) Nishek; and her great-granddaughter, Gemma Marcouiller-Nishek. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews in the Philippines.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her ten older siblings.

Mercedes will be remembered for her warm heart, vibrant spirit, and the life she helped build—one rooted in family, hard work, and generosity. Though she will be deeply missed, her love, traditions, and light will continue to live on in all who knew her.

In Loving Memory



Mercedes R. Nishek

1945 ~ 2026