

Carmen VanRay, 91, formerly of Pingree, ND, passed away on Sunday, December 17, 2023 in Carrington, ND.

Carmen was born on August 25, 1932, the daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Nihill) Hoggarth. She grew up in the Courtenay, ND area, one of seven children. Carmen graduated from Courtenay High School in 1950 and attended the Valley City State Teacher's college. She taught three years in Stutsman and Griggs County schools.

Carmen was united in marriage to Ted VanRay on November 5, 1953. Ted and Carmen made their home in Edmunds, where they started farming and raising three boys. Ted passed in 1996, and Carmen remained on the family farm until 2020. Carmen's home was the heart of her ever-growing family.

Carmen was happiest with her house full of family and friends. She was always prepared to feed whoever stopped by. In her kitchen you could always find a jar of chocolate chip cookies and a full dispenser of M&Ms. When Christmas time came around, many people looked forward to Carmen's fudge and divinity. Carmen was a known spectator in the community, as she truly loved attending all of her sons' and grandchildren's events. She spent many hours in the bleachers watching her love for basketball being passed on and enjoyed many summer days and evenings at the diamonds watching softball. You could also find Carmen at the Stutsman County Fair every summer. She cherished her time visiting with family and friends at all of these events that were dear to her. Her Sundays started in her pew at the Congregational Church in Pingree, where she was a faithful and devoted member.

Carmen is survived by her 3 sons and daughters-in-law, Bill (Diane) VanRay, Jeff (Diana) VanRay, and Kent (Vonnie) VanRay, all of Pingree; 10 grandchildren, Matt (Jane) VanRay, Lisa (JJ) Jaehning, Krystle (Mike) Neis, Troy (Jacqueline) VanRay, Savanna (Kellen) Shebeck, Marc (Randi Jo) VanRay, Corey (Rachel) VanRay, Brad (Tressa) VanRay, Chelsea (Travis) Aljets, Jenna (Tommy) Bruns; and 28 great-grandchildren, along with a 29th great-grandchild due in January. She is also survived by her sister Karen Wolsky, brothers Duane (Cheryl) Hoggarth and Kenny Hoggarth (Priscilla Kungel), and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ted, parents, her sister Charlotte Uehran, and brothers Gerald Hoggarth and Tom Hoggarth.

# *Celebrating*

THE LIFE OF



*Carmen VanRay*

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AUGUST 25, 1932 – DECEMBER 17, 2023

Celebrating The Life Of  
*Carmen Yvonne VanRay*

August 25, 1932 – Kensal, ND  
December 17, 2023 – Carrington, ND

*A Mother holds her children's hands  
for a while...their hearts forever.*

*Thank you for the gift of love,  
Now you're sharing it up above.*

*You had many things to say,  
All in a caring way.*

*You always saw good in everyone,  
No matter what they've done.*

*You were always the one we could all lean on,  
Even though it must have felt like a ton.*

*You were always the strength of the family.*

*Now we must let you rest calmly.*

*As we say goodbye,*

*As tears roll down our eyes.*

*I know your place in heaven has a good view.*

*Because you're telling God,*

*I need to keep an eye on a few.*

*I know you will always be in our*

*Hearts and mind.*

*So grandma,*

*I must go but I'll never forget,  
you're one of a kind.*

**VISITATION**

Tuesday, December 19, 2023  
5:00PM – 7:00PM  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Carrington

**PRAYER SERVICE**

Tuesday, December 19, 2023  
7:00PM  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Carrington

**FUNERAL SERVICE**

Wednesday, December 20, 2023  
11:00AM  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Carrington

**OFFICIATING**

Rev. Bryce Tahrn

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

ArvaDell Tahrn ~ *Pianist*  
Rev. Bryce Tahrn & ArvaDell Tahrn ~ *Duet*  
Robert Marcotte ~ *Soloist*

Congregational Hymns

*How Great Thou Art ~ Amazing Grace*

**PALLBEARERS**

Matt VanRay ~ Brad VanRay ~ Marc VanRay  
Troy VanRay ~ Corey VanRay

**BURIAL**

Rest Cemetery  
Pingree, ND

Arrangements by  
Evans Funeral Home – Carrington & New Rockford, ND  
[www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com](http://www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com)