



Gladys Marie Patton

August 26, 1931 - February 4, 2019

Gladys Marie Patton, 87, of Fullerton died Monday, February 4, 2019 at Clover Lodge Living Center in St. Edward, Nebraska after several years of declining health. Funeral Services will be Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. at Fairview United Methodist Church in Central City with Pastor Lauri Beach officiating. Visitation will be Friday, February 8th from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Solt-Wagner Funeral Home. Burial will be in the Fullerton Cemetery in Fullerton, NE.

Condolences can be sent to the family at www.soltwagnerfuneral.com.

Memorials are suggested to Fairview United Methodist Church or the Fullerton Foundation.

Gladys was born August 26, 1931 to George and Helen (Obermiller) Spilger, at home in rural Palmer. She attended Gage Valley grade school, a one room school house, and graduated from Palmer High School in 1948. She boarded with a family in Palmer during High School. Gladys attended Kearney State College in the summers and did correspondence courses through the University of Nebraska receiving certification to teach kindergarten through 8th grade. She started teaching at age 16 at county schools near Palmer, St. Paul and Central City, teaching for 6 years. She could outrun the 8th grade boys, who were bigger than her and not that much younger. She would have continued teaching after Tracy was born, but could not find a babysitter. One year she bought a corn picker with her earnings.

On May 31, 1953 Gladys married Elmer Patton of rural Fullerton after he

returned from serving in Germany during the Korean conflict. They were married at the Palmer Methodist Church, where Gladys was a member, by the Rev Ethel O. McAninch. Rev. McAninch encouraged them to attend church every Sunday and suggested Fairview Methodist Church, a country church near Central City. At Fairview they found a warm church family, lifelong friendships and a personal relationship with Christ.

In addition to her role as a busy farm wife and raising 4 children, Gladys was a member of the Flock Together Extension Club, Eagles Auxiliary, Fairview United Methodist church where she continued her teaching gifts as a Sunday School teacher for pre-school students to adults. She was very proud of her children and grandchildren's many accomplishments, and loved attending their programs, concerts and sporting events.

She and Elmer loved to dance and were members of a dance club; they also belonged to several card clubs. Gladys and Elmer traveled, including an extended trip to Brazil, visiting Sonali Greiner and her family, and to Mexico City visiting Fernando Sansores and family, both were exchange students in their home during the 1970's.

In 1982 Gladys survived a serious car accident in which her daughter Jan (Patton) Hanchera died. After a long period of rehabilitation, she was able to walk, drive and again enjoy traveling to Denver to visit her grandchildren, and even taking several international trips. She greatly loved all her grandchildren, especially playing games – she could beat just about everyone at scrabble, and had a couple of them accompany her to the Legion Club for bingo.

Up until the end of her life, Gladys was sending birthday and sympathy cards, sometimes it would take her most of the day to work on one card, but she was thinking of others. She wrote a book about Elmer, and was writing some short stories about her life. Having served as an election judge many times, she continued her patriotism by voting in the 2018 election, and was interested in current events.

Gladys put a unique touch on all she did, and despite having faced multiple losses, she retained a sense of humor and deep faith.

Gladys is survived by her daughter, Tracy (Chris) Chapman of Denver, CO; her sons, Doug (Karrie) Patton of Palmer, and Jerry (Suzanne) Patton of Fullerton; her sister, Sandra (Kirk) Baird of New Haven, CT; and her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, George and Helen Spilger; her husband, Elmer Patton in 1990; her daughter, Jan in 1982; and her sister, Donna Elliott.

Cemetery Details

Fullerton Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 8. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Solt-Wagner Funeral Home
1507 17th St.
Central City, NE 68826
(308) 946-3303
soltwagnerfuneral@gmail.com
<https://www.wagnerfuneral.com/>

Funeral Service

FEB 9. 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM (CT)

Fairview United Methodist Church
2398 13th Road
Central City, NE 68826

Tribute Wall

BH

“ Gladys was a wonderful lady. I am so sorry for your loss. Your parents were so much a part of Fairview. It's so hard to watch that generation pass on. Again, my sympathies to your family.

Beth Brandes Hentzen - February 15, 2019 at 09:45 PM

CA

“ Families of Gladys,
Sending. our sympathy and prayers. Sorry we could not attend her services, talking to Sandra brought back a lot of memories of our growing up years!! All the cousins getting together for birthdays and sometimes just Sunday afternoons. We always had a good time!! As we grew up and had our own families we did not not get together but always enjoyed Our times together. Rest In Peace Gladys!
Darrel & Connie (Obermiller) Anderson



Connie Anderson - February 08, 2019 at 06:20 PM

FC

“ It was only a few weeks ago that I visited Gladys at Cloverlodge Care Center. She was alert and had been eating cookies, I think. We had a good visit and talked about some of the lovely family pictures in her room. Gladys was a neighbor of mine and years ago she and I would go to the school to watch a play or enjoy a music program. She was a delight to know and I thank God for that privilege. As the Lord brings you, your family, to my mind, I will continue to pray for you. God is the God of all comfort and He will surely comfort you.

Fran Cupples - February 08, 2019 at 03:00 PM

ES

“ Tracy & Family: I am thinking of you all as you mourn the loss of your mother. May your memories comfort you now and in the days to come. You have my deepest sympathy. Elsie Stonestreet

Elsie Stonestreet - February 08, 2019 at 03:41 AM

RA

“ My sympathies to you at the loss of your mother. I always loved visiting your home where Gladys was welcoming and kind to me. May Gods peace and comfort be near you now.

Ronda Anderson - February 07, 2019 at 01:26 PM

WV

“ with love, Donna, David, Alan and Linda Veitch purchased the Sympathy Arrangement In Basket (Large) - Pink & White for the family of Gladys Marie Patton.



with love, Donna, David, Alan and Linda Veitch - February 07, 2019 at 01:31 AM

J(

“ Tracy and family, I was sorry to hear the news of your mom’s passing. She was always such a nice person. It’s been a lot of years since I’ve seen you, but I will be thinking about you all. ... Julie (Hunzeker) Pelster

Julie (Hunzeker)Pelster - February 06, 2019 at 10:21 AM

DE

“ Debra lit a candle in memory of Gladys Marie Patton



Debra - February 06, 2019 at 09:45 AM



“ Cherished Memories - All White was purchased for the family of Gladys Marie Patton.



February 05, 2019 at 03:04 PM