



*In Loving Memory Of*

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***Juanita Blossom Norton***

***Born***

January 13, 1920  
Reva, South Dakota

***Died***

April 24, 2017  
Hayward, California

***Graveside Services***

Friday, June 16, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.  
Black Hills National Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Officiant***

Pastor Kris Garlick

*For each thorn, there's a  
rosebud,  
for each twilight ....a  
dawn  
for each trail... the  
strength to carry on.*

*For each storm cloud...a  
rainbow...  
for each shadow...the  
sun...  
for each parting...sweet  
memories when sorrow is done.*



***Juanita Blossom Norton***

*1920 ~ 2017*

## Juanita B. Norton



Juanita Blossom Gullickson was born January 13, 1920, in Harding County on the family ranch near Reva. However, their address at the time was Strool, SD. Juanita arrived ahead of schedule and she was delivered by the county doctor, Doc Hodges. Her parents were Ernest Frederick Gullickson who was born in 1888 in Dakota Territory and Ida Oline Lien born in 1891 in Britton, SD. Juanita joined older brother, Gerald born in 1919 and would later gain another brother, Waldo, who arrived in 1924.

Both Ernest and Ida had entered homestead claims as individuals and had lived in sod houses. Juanita's family lived on the land homesteaded by her father. The ranch was run as the Gullickson

Brothers Ranch but Juanita's family lived there and tended to the daily maintenance. Their home never had electricity, indoor plumbing or running water and the family never owned a tractor. Juanita grew up on the ranch. Her first eight years of education were at Grand View School, a one room school house. The first two years of high school took place at Sorum High School, a WPA school, where she lived in a dormitory. From there Juanita and her mother and two brothers moved to Spearfish where she finished her last two years of high school at Spearfish High. Her brothers entered college and the eighth grade.

In 1938, after Juanita finished high school, her father's ill health forced the family to move to Buffalo, where her father died in December. For a while they lived in the Lutheran Parsonage. Juanita went to work in the County Court House. She worked part-time for the Draft Board, County Superintendent, Treasurer and Auditor, sometimes working for her uncle, Cliff Gullickson, who was the treasurer and auditor. While at the Court House she met Lloyd G. Norton who worked for the Register of Deeds and was also a child of homesteaders (Tracy and Christena [Wheeler] Norton).

Lloyd left to join the Army Air Corps in 1942 and Juanita and her cousin decided to go to Seattle to find work in factories there. They got as far as Kalispell, MT, where a friend of her cousin lived. Juanita went to work in the office of the Equity Supply Company. She was still living there when Lloyd returned from Europe on a furlough. They were married June 21, 1945, in Baker, MT.

When Lloyd was discharged from the military several months later they began their life together in Kalispell. Airplanes were Lloyd's life-long passion and he found work in Great Falls, MT, converting war planes from military to commercial use.

Lloyd went to work for United Air lines in 1946 and he and Juanita moved to Cheyenne, WY, where their first child, Bonita, was born in 1947. One year later, the family moved to Redwood City, CA, where their two sons, Leslie (1950) and Robert (1951), were born. In 1955, the family moved to Thornton, CO, and in 1958, they returned to California, settling in Hayward, where they lived the rest of their lives.

Juanita was a dedicated mother serving as a room mother, Cub Scout den mother, Sunday School and Bible School teacher, chauffeur, loyal member of the Little League cheering section, and supervisor of all things involving homework. As a grandmother she cheered at the sporting events, clapped at music programs, ate campfire food with the scouts, and beamed at graduations. In 1965, Juanita began working in the school cafeterias, first as a substitute and later as a cafeteria manager. She worked for the school district



for fifteen years. She also worked side-by-side with Lloyd as they built a cabin in the Sierra foothills in California.

Lloyd and Juanita always enjoyed traveling and after retirement they enjoyed it even more. South Dakota was always a favored destination and those visits became more frequent as special events were celebrated-all school reunions, Labor Day, milestones for Buffalo, Harding County, and family members. They had so much fun sharing time with family and friends in the area. They visited all fifty states, many more than once, and enjoyed special trips to Costa Rica, Norway, and New Zealand. When Lloyd died in 2014 they had been married nearly 69 years.

Juanita was a quiet woman with a deep understanding of giving and sharing with others. She and Lloyd were charter members of their church in Hayward, which they attended faithfully since 1958. She was a member of the Altar Guild, taught the young children and, for the last twenty plus years, she was a dedicated member of the Craft Group at Messiah. Here she could share her creative talents freely and generously. At 96, she was still crocheting lap robes and baby blankets to sell at the annual boutique. Juanita loved her family and enjoyed nothing more than spending time with them and listening to their chatter and stories.

Juanita B. Norton died as she had lived her life, quietly and without fanfare, on April 24, 2017, at her home in Hayward, CA. She was 97 years old.

Those left to carry on her spirit are her children, Bonnie (Tony) Sanchez, California, Leslie (Diane) Norton, Texas, and Robert (Anne) Norton, South Carolina; grandchildren, Matt (Alix) Norton, California, Anthony (Andrea) Sanchez, California, Elizabeth Byrd, South Carolina, Jeffery (Pamela) Sanchez, California, Sarah Norton, Maryland, and Brett Sinclair, California; great-grandchildren, Henry, Sadie, Cate, Maya, Grady, Delilah, Wynn, and Sierra; and many caring nieces and nephews.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).



*The family would like to invite you for fellowship and lunch at Grace Lutheran Church in Sturgis following the service at Black Hills National Cemetery. We thank you for your presence and condolences.*