

## Leona Mae Casteel

Leona Mae (Huddleston) Casteel was born March 7, 1926, to Lee and Mayme (Miner) Huddleston in Wasta, SD. Leona was raised in Piedmont and Sturgis, SD. Leona graduated from Sturgis High School in 1944 and received her diploma from National School of Business in Rapid City, SD, in 1945. She married Donald W. Casteel on January 21, 1946, and they raised seven children on the family farm near Vale.

Leona, 91, died Saturday, September 23, 2017, at the Lippold Hospice Suite at Sturgis Regional Hospital surrounded by her family.

She is survived by sons, Don (Flora Weisz) Casteel, Riverton WY, Guy (Billye Jo) Casteel, Newell, SD, Jerry (Pat) Casteel, Sturgis, and Doug (Chomporn) Casteel, Mobile, AL; daughters, Susan Bruce, Sturgis, Connie (Michael) Manning, Littleton, CO, and Sandy (Tim) Smith, Belle Fourche, SD; 14 grandchildren, Dawn Casteel, Cressie Mahaffey, Gary Ellington, Steve Ellington, Wanda Casteel, Lynn (Josh) Nixon, Kelly (Miranda) Casteel, Krystal Casteel, Ryan (Keri) Casteel, Seth (Annie) Bruce, Stacy (Dan) Castro, Stephaine (Patrick) Isom, and Lisa Smith; 24 great-grandchildren; and 4 great-great grandchildren. Leona is also survived by sister, Lois (Blas) Skvicalo, Lead, SD, and brother, Bill (Darlene) Huddleston Sturgis, SD.

Leona was preceded in death by her spouse, Donald Casteel; parents, Lee and Mayme Huddleston; brothers, Bud Huddleston and Red Huddleston; sisters, Mrytle Malen and Betty Dubry; and grandson, Jason Bruce

Leona "THE SWEETEST" lady ever enjoyed making baked goods for friends, family, and strangers alike. She enjoyed working at the auctions (handing out numbers, visiting with people, and providing baked goods), and playing cards. She was still playing cards and winning up until the night before she went into the hospital. Family was very important to our mom. She was the center of our family and had a heart of gold. **She is the best of each of us and will be missed!**

Thank you to our brother, Jerry (& Pat), and sisters, Susan (Thank You So Much) and Sandy (& Tim), for being there to support Mom in her later years.

Memorials have been established to the Vale Fire Department and Sturgis Ambulance.

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

*The family invites you for fellowship and lunch in the Community Room at the high rise, 1220 Cedar St., Sturgis, following the committal service.  
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*

## *In Loving Memory Of*



*Leona Mae Casteel*

1926 ~ 2017

*God saw she was getting tired and a cure was not to be  
So He put His arms around her and whispered "come to Me."  
With tearful eyes we watched her suffer and saw her fade away  
Although we loved her dearly we could not make her stay.  
A golden heart stopped beating, hardworking hands to rest  
God broke our hearts to prove to us He takes the very best.*



***Just a Memory Away***

I'm no longer by your side, but there's no need to weep;  
I've left sweet recollections I'm hoping you will keep.

Eternal joy and memories stay in our hearts forever,  
Strengthening our special bond that parting cannot sever.

Now it's time to journey on, so let your faith be strong,  
For I am in a better place...I'm home where I belong.

And if times of loneliness bring sorrow and dismay,  
Don't despair, for I am there...

***Just a Memory Away***

-Rita S Beer

***In Loving Memory Of  
Leona Mae Casteel***

**Born**

March 7, 1926  
Wasta, South Dakota

**Died**

September 23, 2017  
Sturgis, South Dakota

**Funeral Service**

Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 2:00 pm  
Kinkade Funeral Chapel, Sturgis SD

**Officiating**

Pastor Tim Smith

**Music Selections**

"The Old Rugged Cross"  
"Amazing Grace"  
"Wind Beneath my Wings"  
"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

**Pallbearers**

Don Casteel ~ Jerry Casteel ~ Guy Casteel ~ Doug Casteel  
Ryan Casteel ~ Michael Manning ~ Kelly Casteel ~ Connie Manning

**Honorary Pallbearers**

Dawn Casteel ~ Steve Ellington ~ Gary Ellington ~ Cressie Mahaffey  
Wanda Casteel ~ Lynn Nixon ~ Krystal Casteel ~ Seth Bruce  
Stacy Castro ~ Stephaine Isom ~ Lisa Smith

**Interment**

Bear Butte Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota