

Mary Madell Schuster was born in Sturgis May 18, 1925, in her grandmother Keffler's "midwifery" house. Her parents were Joseph and Florence (Keffler) Schuster. She attended St. Martin's Academy from 1st through 12th grade. She graduated from National College of Business in Rapid City.

She married George Piekkola in February of 1950 in Sturgis. They ranched at the Piekkola homestead until George's death in 1973. Madell and George adopted two children: Janice, age 4, and Kenneth, age 2, in 1954. Later they adopted a baby boy of two weeks of age, William Thomas. Madell loved being a wife and mother and grandmother. Her family was her greatest joy.

She loved dancing, sewing, cooking, canning, traveling, playing cards, and visiting. She was an amazing woman, always having projects to work on. Madell was a very hands-on mother with her children. She was very active in extension club, altar society, 4-H, and sports, and a beloved leader in Boy Scouts. One of her greatest joys was when William attained his Eagle Scout award. She was a long-time den mother and officer in that organization.

Madell loved and excelled at sewing. She made many prom/pageant dresses and "Make it with Wool" projects winning many purple ribbons. She made her daughter's complete wedding attire. She was very honored to make her two granddaughter's complete wedding outfits for a double wedding. She made hats as well as men's suits. Madell also made many little "coats" for baby animals on the farm.

She suffered the last of her years battling health issues, mainly her legs causing her to be in a wheelchair. She remained confident, kind, helpful, and happy.

After George's death, she spent many years alone, but the Lord blessed her with her second husband, William "Bill" McDonagh. They traveled in their 5th wheel all over the U.S. Bill was her knight in shining armor. Madell wanted to return to Sturgis. She moved into Sturgis Regional Senior Care for where she lived for 1½ years. She made very special friends there, Betty, Rene, and Sara, to name a few.

Madell, 92, Sturgis, died Sunday, January 28, 2018, at Rapid City Regional Hospital.

She is survived by her sister, Hazel Schuster Malmbeck of Hawaii; daughter, Janice Anderson; son-in-law, Brad Sedlacek; sons, Kenneth Piekkola (Anita Ulrich) and William Piekkola (Kymberlie); grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Mason and Spencer, Rachel and Rodney Schaub, Alex and Scott Craig, Julianna and Taylor, Lisa Anderson Pelton (Bruce), Kaine, Hayden, and Christian, Michael and Sharon Anderson, Raedon, Laeton, Talon, and Rhianna, Daniel and Kirby Anderson, Taite, Thad, Tyson, and Triton, Corey Piekkola, Jennifer Piekkola, Lea and Neeko, Max Piekkola, Marissa, Chaz and Deena Piekkola, Lathan, Johnny, Chaz, Alessa, and Annie Piekkola.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents; her parents; brother, LaVerne; husbands, George Piekkola and William McDonagh; grandson, Mark Piekkola; and son-in-law, Andy Anderson.

Madell's children and grandchildren will forever be grateful for her loving, kind, and moral example she always set! "Til we meet again, Mom."

A memorial has been established to the St. Francis of Assisi Altar Society. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch in the church hall following the Mass. We thank you for your presence and condolences.

In Loving Memory Of



Mary Madell McDonagh

1925 ~ 2018



COMFORT

*In everybody's garden
A little rain must fall
Or life's sweetest fairest flowers,
Wouldn't grow and bloom at all.
So heavy. Oh! My friend.
I'm sure that God who
sends the shower
Will send the rainbow's end.*

In Loving Memory Of

Mary Madell McDonagh

Born

May 18, 1925
Sturgis, South Dakota

Died

January 28, 2018
Rapid City, South Dakota

Vigil

Friday, February 2, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
Sturgis, South Dakota

Mass of Christian Burial

Saturday, February 3, 2018, at 10:00 a.m.
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

Celebrant

Father Timothy Castor

Organist ~ Dr. Barry Furze

Soloist ~ Myron Volk

Musical Selections

"Amazing Grace" "In The Garden" "Be Not Afraid"
"Ave Maria" "On Eagle's Wings"

Pallbearers

Mason Piekkola ~ Spencer Piekkola ~ Raedon Anderson
Laeton Anderson ~ Taite Anderson ~ Kaine Pelton ~ Hayden Pelton

Interment

Monday, February 5, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.
Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota