

GHR Thursday and Monday
12/26/2024 12/30/2024

Carol Jean Thomas



and moved to Yankton, SD. She was employed at St. Francis Hospital and at Golden Sun Feeds, Inc., in Grinnell—the first woman in management for Golden Sun Feeds, as office manager. After moving to Yankton she was employed at Utica Grain, Inc. During her children's younger years Carol was a den mother, campfire leader, and PTA President. She was active in St. Mary's Church and in 4-H. She enjoyed family, especially having them around her to cook for. She also liked crafts and made every family member several afghans—everything for family. Her faith in God and prayer was a great part of her daily life.

Carol is survived by her husband, Michael Thomas; children Michael Renbarger of Chamberlain, SD, and Kathryn Andrews of Coralville, Iowa; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; sister Stella Fleener of Grinnell; and other relations.

She was preceded in death by her parents and son Steven Renbarger.

Carol Jean Thomas, 88, of Yankton, SD, and formerly of Grinnell, died Thursday, Dec. 19, 2024, at Avera Majestic Bluffs Hospice House, Yankton, SD.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, SD, with the Rev. Casey Holencik officiating. Burial was in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, Parkston, SD, Saturday afternoon. Visitation was held Friday evening, Dec. 27, at the funeral home with a Scripture service at 7 p.m.

Online condolences may be sent at: www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com. To view CJ's service, click this link: <https://server.attend.live/static/event/R6L3K>. In lieu of flowers, gifts can be made to: American Macular De-generation Foundation at PO Box 515, Northampton, MA 01061-0515 or "PALS" at Poweshiek Animal League Shelter, PO Box 123, 4167 20th Street, Grinnell, IA 50112.

Carol Jean Farmer Thomas was born in Grinnell, on Oct. 19, 1936, the daughter of Charles Burrson and Dorothy Grace Scandrett Farmer. She was raised in the Westfield area southwest of Grinnell. She attended Grant 9 School and graduated from Grinnell High School in 1954.

Carol married Jerry Renbarger in 1956, and they had three children. She married Michael Thomas in 1994