



In Loving Memory
CELEBRATING A LIFE

Family Receive Friends

Friday, July 12, 2024 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Community Presbyterian Church
Jordan, Montana

Funeral Service

Saturday, July 13, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.
VFW Hall
Jordan, Montana

Officiating

Rex Phipps

Music

Skip Olson & Jen Crawford

Pallbearers

Kyle Cameron, Kevin Cameron,
Walt Harbaugh, Wally Harbaugh,
Weston Harbaugh, Wendy Shaw,
Heather Merial, Trenton Harbaugh,
Canda Fuqua, Chantel Brooks & Skylar Harbaugh

Following the service, a luncheon will be held at
the VFW. Everyone is invited.

Private Family Interment

Harbaugh Family Ranch, Jordan, MT

Hope Strength

Arrangements By
Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home

IN LOVING
Memory



Velma Jean Harbaugh

September 18, 1933 - July 8, 2024



Velma Jean Mart Harbaugh was born on September 18, 1933, in Jordan, Montana, on a memorable day in Jordan's history, the day that much of the town burnt down. In fact, even the doctor was busy fighting the fire and missed her delivery. She was the youngest of 11 children born to Pearl and Elsie Mitchell Mart, 10 of whom grew to adulthood. The family homestead was west of Jordan near Smokey Butte. Velma's parents moved from the homestead to Jordan in 1939 where Velma attended school. She was a cheerleader in high school while holding down her job at Fosters Drug Store as a soda jerk. In 1947 Velma was asked to be one of the models in a Chevrolet promotion that took place in Jordan with photos being published in Look magazine.

Graduating high school in May of 1951 was her second exciting adventure that spring as she had married her high school sweetheart Carl Harbaugh on April 1 prior to graduation. Following graduation Velma left the comforts of the big town of Jordan to move to the Harbaugh Ranch and inhabit the partial dug out bunkhouse as their first home. By 1953 the couple had started building their new home on the ranch as well as beginning their family; their daughter Sandra Jean was born March 15 of that year. Followed by Wade Lee in December of 1954, Tony Carl in September of 1957, and Shane Scott in August of 1964. Velma sewed, knitted, and cooked for not only her family but friends and relatives throughout the years. She enjoyed painting and has shared her works with her kids and grandkids.

Carl was her personal pilot and she loved to fly with him, going so far as to take flight lessons, not so much to become a pilot but to be able to land the plane if she ever needed to. She was involved in many local organizations including the Fair Board, elections judge, and a church elder with the Presbyterian church to name a few. Carl and Velma moved from the main ranch to the Riley place along the Big Dry in 1987. During the following years they enjoyed traveling to Arizona, Texas, and other warmer climates during the winter months, settling on Casa Grande, AZ, as their favorite hangout. Carl and Velma eventually moved into Jordan in 2010. After losing her husband of 64 years in 2015, Velma enjoyed visits from



friends and family including her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren. Velma was a woman who cherished family above all else and treated all additions as if they were her own. She saw her greatest accomplishments in raising her family. She did not raise her children to be rich, she raised her children to be happy and realize that true value lies in cherishing those whom you love the most. Velma was blessed to spend her life in such a caring community and the family would like to especially thank Phyllis (Sis) Berry for her loving in home care that enabled Velma to remain in her home until her passing.

Velma was preceded in death by her husband Carl, her parents Pearl and Elsie Mart, and her 10 siblings; brothers Wren, Thamar, Roy, Homer, Pearl, and Dee; sisters Sophia, Vera, Lucille, and Monta.

Velma is survived by her children Sandy Cameron (Al); Wade Harbaugh (Bev); Tony Harbaugh (Lori); Shane Harbaugh (Holly); 11 grandchildren, 43 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren; her sister-in-law Virginia Mart; brothers in law Gene Harbaugh (Ellen) and Don Harbaugh (Donna); and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Garfield County Ambulance Service.