

IN LOVING  
MEMORY OF

*Winnie Wambolt*



NOVEMBER 2, 1926-  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024



*After Glow*

I'd like the memory of me  
to be a happy one,  
I'd like to leave an afterglow  
of smiles when life is done.

I'd like to leave an echo  
whispering softly down the ways,  
Of happy times and laughing times  
and bright and sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who grieve,  
to dry before the sun  
Of happy memories that I leave  
When life is done.

Carol Mirkel

To my Children -  
Grandchildren  
love - Mom -

**VISITATION**

Sunday, September 8, 2024 from 2:00-5:00 p.m.  
Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home  
Miles City, Montana

**FUNERAL SERVICE**

Monday, September 9, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.  
Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home  
Miles City, Montana

**OFFICIATING**

Pastor Dan Lutz

**MUSIC**

Mary Wambolt & Charlotte Sloan  
"Amazing Grace" "In The Garden"  
"How Great Thou Art"

**PALLBEARERS- GRANDCHILDREN**

Kristy Majerus, Andrew Johnson,  
Joleyn Larson, Sara Erlenbusch,  
Julie Krutzfeldt, Freddie Wambolt,  
Curt Meidinger, Ronda Allison, Amy Yamani,  
Jennifer Prickett & Micheal McClure,  
Honorary Pallbearer- Jim Watts

**INTERMENT**

Will follow in the family lot of the  
Custer County Cemetery in Miles City.

**LUNCHEON**

Will follow the graveside service,  
at the Parlor, 1806 Main Street.  
Everyone is invited.

*Arrangements by  
Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home  
Miles City, Montana*





**Winnie Wambolt**, age 97, of Miles City, MT passed away peacefully, with the love of her family surrounding her, at her home at Holy Rosary Residential Living on September 3, 2024 in Miles City, MT, 2 months shy of her 98th birthday.

Winnie was born on November 2, 1926, the second daughter of Albert and Catherine (Gatwood) Garwood in Saffron Waldon, Essex, England. She grew up in the neighboring village of Great Chesterford on the same road as her paternal grandparents, aunts and uncles. When her family moved into a new manufactured home, she remembered needing to feed the coin-operated electricity meter in the entry way to get the lights on before dark. Winnie attended primary school in England, which is where she learned to crochet. As a teenager, Winnie's quick math skills led to her first paid job collecting fees and checking tickets at the Great Chesterford railway station. In 1943, Winnie snuck her father's bike to ride down to the general store, where a young American soldier caught her eye. Sergeant Fred Wambolt Jr. had been stationed, with his unit, across from her

village and on November 25, 1944, they were married at Great Chesterford Church in England. When WWII ended, her husband was sent back to the United States, and it would be 11 months before Winnie would see him again.

At the age of 19, Winnie left her home in England and traveled across the ocean arriving in New York on July 3, 1946. Because of the holiday she spent the weekend aboard the ship until they opened Ellis Island, and she was able to enter. Winnie traveled alone by train until she reached the Milwaukee Depot in Miles City. Fritz and Winnie made their home at Kinsey, MT where they farmed until 1953. They lived in various other places before returning, in 1962, to Kinsey where Fritz worked as the Water Master for the Kinsey Irrigation Project. That is where they made their forever family home- raising their 4 beautiful children, Patricia, Sandra, Fred and Pamela. Winnie worked at the Kinsey store off and on but most of her time was spent doing what she loved most- being a mother and wife and making their house a home. Winnie and Fritz were happily married for 42 years before his passing in 1986.

Even after living in the United States for 78 years, she never lost her quiet English accent or her love of England. Winnie was proud to gain her United States Citizenship in 1960 – becoming an official American Citizen. Her citizenship was celebrated at every 4th of July gathering by telling her, “We are sure glad they let you off the boat”. Winnie was able to live, on her own, in her house on Woodbury Street until 2017 when she moved to Holy Rosary Residential Living.

Winnie loved her family wholeheartedly and was the epithet of resilience, strong work ethic and respect for all. She loved being at family celebrations and holiday dinners year-round. Seeing her family together and watching all the smiles and laughter, she would comment, “Boy, are they loud”. Winnie enjoyed spending time at the senior center and spent some time on the dance floor. She enjoyed playing Bingo- and took great joy in being the first to get BINGO and get the pick of the prizes when played at family gatherings. Winnie loved to knit, crochet, sew and quilt and her blankets are sprinkled among her children and grandchildren. Halloween was her opportunity to get first pick from any willing grandchildren's trick or treat bags to get a few of her favorites. She led the countdown to every Easter Egg hunt—purposely slowing down as she got closer to 1. Winnie enjoyed “Wheel of Fortune” and “Jeopardy”- watching them nightly. She celebrated many birthdays at the Airport Inn, rarely straying from her chicken strips and a baked potato dinner. Winnie loved the Atlanta Braves and her hometown favorite, the Custer County Cowboys. She faithfully listened to all of their games on the radio.

Winnie was a woman of strong faith. She attended First Lutheran Church in Miles City, sitting on the right side, 7 rows back, on the aisle seat. She was a classy woman always wearing a dress with a matching heels, necklace and purse. Prayer during family dinners ended with “Now you can all go to bed”, because that is what Grandpa said.

Winnie is survived by 4 children, Patricia Gardner of Miles City, MT, Sandra (Jerry) Meidinger of Miles City, Fred (Mary) Wambolt III of Miles City and Pamela (Dave) Kaderis of Gulf Breeze, FL, 14 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great grandchildren. She is also survived by her sisters-in-law Pauline Wambolt and Helen Dlouhy, brother-in-law Jack Sherman and numerous nieces and nephews. Winnie was preceded in death by her parents, an infant brother, Ernest, an sister Sylvia Eileen, her husband Fritz, an infant daughter Rose Marie, son-in-law Kenneth Gardner, grandson-in-law Archie Rickett, granddaughter Lindsay Gardner and dear friend and sister-in-law Mary Watts.

Winnie's family is especially thankful for all of the caregivers at Holy Rosary Residential Living and Hospice for the loving care she received while she made her home there.

