

Valley Falls, KS



Gladys Katherine Wunder, 98, of Valley Falls, KS, passed away on Monday, December 25, 2023, surrounded by her loving family at FW Huston Senior Living Center in Winchester, Kansas.

She was a long-time farm wife and supervisor of Wunder Farms. Gladys was born on November 8, 1925, in Valley Falls to Jacob Arnold and Genevieve Gertrude “Jennie” Brosa Senn. Her great grandfather, Henry Senn, was the first settler of Valley Falls.

She graduated from Rock Creek High School, where she played basketball and graduated as valedictorian of her class in 1943. She was very proud of this accomplishment. Although she was unable to attend college, she was very proud that three of her children and all five of her grandchildren were able to attend college and receive degrees from higher education.

Gladys married Harold Herd Wunder on December 4, 1956, at St. Paul- Lutheran Church in Valley Falls. They shared over 58 years of marriage before Harold passed away on August 1, 2015. She was preceded in death by her parents, a son, James Henry Wunder (June 11, 1962), and her brother Arnold Senn.

Survivors include her children, Maria Katherine (Ron) Dinkel, Billings, MT, John Harold (Lori) Wunder, and Anita Gladys Wunder, all of Valley Falls; and five grandchildren, Mary Katherine (Jake) Armstrong, Whitefish, MT, Jenna Maria Martin, Seattle, WA, JoAnn Elizabeth Martin, Missoula, MT, and Katherine Ann (fiancé, Corbin Warner) Wunder, Lenexa, KS, and Ryan John Wunder, Valley Falls; and one great grandchild Anna Claire Katherine Armstrong, Whitefish, MT.

Outside of her farm duties, she was an avid member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church Valley Falls, the Valley Falls Historical Society, Jefferson County Historical Society, Ozawkie Rebekah Lodge #657, Rock Creek High School annual reunions, and the Senn-Gettler-Brosa family reunions. Gladys' passions included researching her family genealogy, reading all of the local newspapers, gardening flowers, vegetable plants, baking, and cooking. She also loved to watch the Lawrence Welk show and enjoyed music, especially the piano. Most of all, Gladys was very proud of her farm, her family, and her grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, January 5, 2024, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Valley Falls, KS with the burial to follow at the Valley Falls Cemetery. A visitation will be held from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Thursday, January 4, 2024, at Mercer Funeral Home in Valley Falls. Gladys will lie-in-state Wednesday afternoon until 6:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul- Lutheran Church of Valley Falls or Valley Falls Historical Society c/o Mercer Funeral Home, P.O. Box 270, Holton, KS 66436. To leave the family a condolence, please visit www.mercerfuneralhomes.com