



Grace Tena Brietzke

March 25, 1924 - March 21, 2025

Grace Tena Brietzke, age 100, of Nora Springs and formerly of Minot, North Dakota, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 21, 2025, at MercyOne Medical Center in Mason City.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at St. Luke Lutheran Church, 101 N Hawkeye Avenue in Nora Springs, IA with Pastor Joel Nye officiating. Lunch will follow. Visitation will be held the same day from 10:00 a.m. until service time. Grace will be laid to rest at a later date at Rosehill Cemetery in Minot, ND.

Grace was born on March 25, 1924, in Hartland, ND to Christ Ole Norgard and Torhild Olavsdotter Sanda Norgard. She was the second youngest child of 5 children. Grace grew up on a family farm in Hartland where she helped immensely with taking care of her family, especially after her mother passed at the young age of 12. Grace would bake bread before school and cooked for everyone, including the farm workers during planting and harvest season. This continued on into adulthood; Grace was an incredible cook and always made servings for at least 8 plus people.

After graduating high school, Grace earned her 2-year teaching degree at Minot State Teaching College, where she met her husband, Lawrence Brietzke. On June 28, 1945, she was united in marriage to Sergeant

Lawrence John Brietzke and to their union, two children were born: John and Gloria. The family lived in Minot, ND (where Lawrence built their first home) and then moved to Austin, MN where Grace taught at Austin Vocational School until retirement. After Lawrence passed in 2004, Grace moved to Nora Springs, IA in 2011 and became a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church.

Grace was a very loving, giving, and generous person. She lived her life serving others; always willing to help others in need. She often told stories of growing up on the farm to her grandchildren and talked about the farm goats and growing up with her siblings. She was such a blessing to everyone who knew and loved her.

Those left to cherish her memory include her son, John William Brietzke and his wife Jean Brietzke of Nora Springs; son-in-law, Ted Decker; grandchildren: Paul (Karolynn) Decker, Chet (Laura) Decker, Tera (James) Cox, Kristin (Kelly Searle) Brietzke, Sonia Brietzke and Angela Brietzke; great-grandchildren: Nolan Lawrence Decker and Brady Austin Decker and their mother Courtney Austin, Gloria Grace Cox and Wyatt Alexander Cox.

She was reunited in heaven with her husband, Lawrence; daughter, Gloria Ann Brietzke Decker who passed away in 1992; parents and siblings: Helga Anderson, Conrad Norgard, Gladys Jensen and Sam Selmer Norgard.

Cemetery Details

Rosehill Cemetery

Minot, ND 58701

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 25. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Luke Lutheran Church
101 N Hawkeye Ave.
Nora Springs, IA 50458

Funeral Service

MAR 25. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Luke Lutheran Church
101 N Hawkeye Ave.
Nora Springs, IA 50458

Tribute Wall

SL

“ Grace, Lawrence, Gloria and Johnny were one of our families best friends. We had many fun times together. Grace was always lovely, laughed readily, always interested in us. One of my mother’s best friends; we loved her. Blessings to you, John and your family.

Shari Nelson Lapof - June 06, 2025 at 10:09 PM

CD

“ Grandma is the sweetest, moral, giving person I have ever met in my nearly 48 years of life. She always smiled, always prepared a meal or a snack for you and was always thrilled to hear from you. She taught me to read and write as a kid and took exceptional care of a Grandpa in later years. She was a believer and is with the Lord right now, perhaps with Grandpa and my mother, her daughter Gloria, who sadly passed on in 1992. If that's how heaven works, they're finally together again. Rest in peace, Grandma. For an entire century you made the world around you a better place. Thanks for shaping my life in so many ways. And most of all, thanks for teaching me about Jesus and taking me to church as a child. - Grandson Chet Decker

"Every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. Amen."

Chet Duane Decker - March 25, 2025 at 01:17 AM

KK

“ Dear Sonia and family, I am very sorry for this deep loss. From all of the stories Sonia shared of her Grandma Grace, I can tell that Grace was a remarkable, one of a kind person. 💜 May you be surf by God’s peace and comfort as you keep the memories of Grace alive in your heart and in the stories you share of Grace. Sincerely, Kathleen

Kathleen Kropp - March 24, 2025 at 06:53 AM

BB

“ Bud and Patricia Anderson Brennen purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Grace Tena Brietzke.



Bud and Patricia Anderson Brennen - March 23, 2025 at 09:59 PM

LM

“ Mrs. Brietzke was my high school typing and shorthand teacher at Minot High School in 1966-1967. She was a wonderful, patient and kind teacher, and she was my favorite teacher! She helped me with accuracy, spelling, and sentence structure, which helped me immensely in college and beyond. I will always remember her fondly. I got to meet her again later in our lives when she visited St. Paul with distant cousin Jean Brietzke several years ago.

Louise (Blessum) Nesdaahl class of 1968 M - March 23, 2025 at 03:01 PM

RE

“ John, please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.

Ron and Karen-Knudtson Real Estate - March 23, 2025 at 09:20 AM