



## Frances Mae Jorgenson

September 16, 1926 - September 4, 2015

Frances Mae Jorgenson, 88 of Valley City, died Friday, September 4, 2015 at Mercy Hospital.

Frances was born on September 16, 1926 to Mary (Lehman) and Moses Bontrager in rural Wisconsin. At a young age, she moved with her family to farm in the Rogers, ND area.

She lived her entire adult life in Valley City. She married Robert Arthur Elstrom in 1946, and they established a home in North Valley City, along the Sheyenne River. At the time of Bob's death in 1964, they had six children, ranging in age from four months to sixteen years old. Frances continued to raise all six children on her own without hesitation.

She worked at several places in Valley City, among them Bloom's Bakery, as well as a long career at Sheyenne Care Center, from which she retired in 1985.

She married Howard Jorgenson in 1985, and they shared 20 active years together until his death in 2005. Until her recent illness in July, Frances continued to live independently, still gardening, driving, and supporting church and family. Her life was hallmarked by a love of family, connection to community, and her Christian faith.

Frances is survived by five children: Laurel, Ronald (Lora Raveling), Peggy (Bob Hendershot), James (Sara Sha), and Robert. Seven grandchildren: Lisa, Jeremy, Tyler, Forest, Rowan, DJ, and Bobby, 2 great grandchildren, Camille and Parker, and five siblings: Abe, Edna, Amelia, Jake, and Reuben, as well

as many nieces and nephews, stepchildren and their children.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one daughter, Shirley( Elstrom) Olson, two husbands, Robert Elstrom and Howard Jorgenson, three sisters, Sarah Mast, Anna Klein, and Mattie Steinhaus, and one brother, Simon Bontrager.

Visitation will be from 5-7 pm, with a prayer service at 7pm, Thursday, Sept. 10, at Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel in Valley City. Visitation will continue from 9:30-10:30 am, followed by the funeral service at 10:30am, Friday, Sept 11 at Epworth United Methodist Church in Valley City. Rev. Dayne Zachrison will officiate. Burial will be in Woodbine Cemetery in Valley City.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City. An online guestbook is available at [www.oliver-nathanchapel.com](http://www.oliver-nathanchapel.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **10.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Traditions Funeral Services - Oliver Nathan Funeral Chapel  
251 Central Ave. S.  
Valley City, ND 58072  
(701) 845-2414  
o-nchapel@bektel.com

## Prayer Service

SEP **10.** 7:00 PM (CT)

Traditions Funeral Services - Oliver Nathan Funeral Chapel  
251 Central Ave. S.  
Valley City, ND 58072  
(701) 845-2414  
o-nchapel@bektel.com

## Funeral Service

SEP **11.** 11:00 AM (CT)

Epworth United Methodist Church  
680 8th Ave. SW  
Valley City, ND

# Tribute Wall



“ Oliver - Nathan Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Frances Mae Jorgenson



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**Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel** - September 09, 2015 at 01:45 PM

LS

*Wonderful video. Blessings to all who loved her and will look for her in the garden.*

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**lynn swann** - September 11, 2015 at 03:56 PM

HD

*Peace and blessings to her family. The video tribute was wonderful.*  
*Hannah Desmond*

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**Hannah Desmond** - September 11, 2015 at 04:38 PM

BL

*Beautiful Video. Sending Healing Prayers and how very Lucky you were to have such a loving mother. Comfort is knowing she is in the Arms God. Amazing Grace my Favorite Song Brandy Larsen*

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**Brandy Larsen** - September 12, 2015 at 11:33 AM



“ I remember her big gardens and picking / eating things right out in the garden. Also the rhubarb slush drink and homemade apple cider. The home place out by the river was always a good place to be. - Mark Breitbach, V.C.

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**Mark Breitbach** - September 15, 2015 at 04:16 AM

JB

“ I knew most of the Bontreggor children as a youngster when Moses would come to visit my father, bringing a carload of beautiful girls along, and now most recently my friend that I have seen on one of my last visits to North Dakota, Rueben, and his son, I want to express my condolences to the family of Frances, and her siblings and their families. I got my first Harley Davidson motorcycle from Howard Jorgenson, who is also a relative of mine, back in the years when we both worked for Duffy Motors.

Jerry Bouck - September 13, 2015 at 02:58 AM

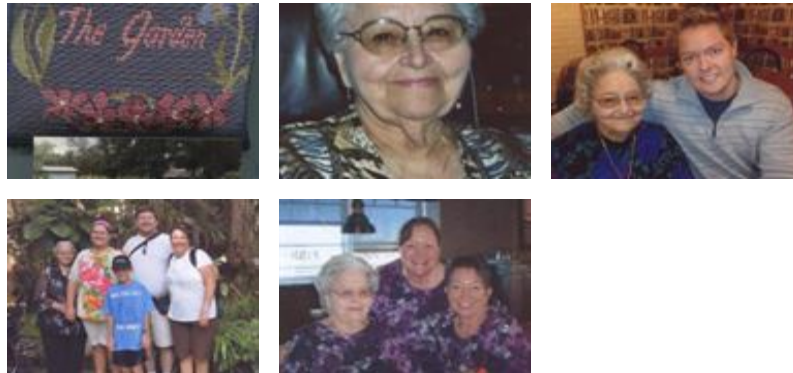
SB

“ She sounds like an amazing woman. I have enjoyed hearing about her from Tyler, and I am sending love and comfort to your family and all who knew her.

Stefanie Beierschmitt - September 11, 2015 at 07:46 AM



“ 102 files added to the album Life Tributes



Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel - September 09, 2015 at 12:02 PM



Beautiful memories to cherish. Praying for the family during this difficult time.

September 11, 2015 at 07:28 AM

VH

*Will miss you, Aunt Frances. I have many precious memories. See you in Heaven one day when we will have no more parting!*

*Praying for my cousins, my dear Daddy, Aunts & Uncles. God Bless you, Thank you for such a wonderful heritage. Love each one of you!*

❤ Valonne

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**Valonne Bontrager Hulzebos** - September 12, 2015 at 12:33 AM