

Although I cannot see you,
I feel your presence near.
I will hold you close in memory,
'Til I drop my very last tear.

So sleep now with the angels,
And let your golden heart rest.
Although our hearts are broken,
We know God took the best.

So dance beyond those golden gates,
And join your loving mom.
I'll see you when I'm sleeping,
And pray for you to come.

So rest now, my beautiful Nana,
I'll never forget how much you have done.
So until my hand meets yours again,
Sleep now in the sun.



Honoured to serve the family of Fern Hillstead
To send a condolence, please visit our website at
www.cornerstonefuneralhome.com | 403-381-7777 (24/7)



Fern Hillstead

OCTOBER 4, 1943 - NOVEMBER 26, 2019

It is with great sadness and grief that we announce the sudden passing of Fern Hillstead at Chinook Regional Hospital in Lethbridge on Tuesday, November 26, 2019, at the age of 76 years.

Fern is survived by Morris, her loving husband of 59 years, her daughters, Kelly Mantler of Lethbridge, Barbara (Bote) Miedema of Abbotsford, and Charlotte Bennett of Calgary; grandchildren and great-grandchildren Robin Bullock, Matt (Kaylie) Mantler and Aaliyah, Danelle Mantler and Seirah, Haley (Aaron) Wierenga and Patrick, Addison and Tanner. She also leaves to mourn, her sisters, Laura Larsen and LouVonne Skjerdal and many in-laws, nieces, and nephews - all special but too numerous to list. Fern was predeceased by her parents, Art and Cora Matters, in-laws Ted and Bessie Hillstead, twin sister Faye Friedrichsen, brother Lloyd Matters, sister Lorraine Neilsen, and other special family members.

Fern was born in Midale, SK on October 4, 1943, just a minute or two before her twin sister, Faye, with whom she did everything. When Fern was nine, she suffered severe burns and had to be away from her family for months. She always said that separation from her twin was almost more agonizing than her injuries. The twins continued to do everything together and on July 23, 1960, they were married in a double ceremony. Fern and Morris and Faye and Pete had three children each within a five year period and we all spent much time together. Fern and Morris were in the oilfield service business and never did a young couple work harder. As Fern and Morris and the girls followed the opportunities in the oil field, they were able to live in quite a few places and became expert movers. Fern was a compassionate woman who always championed the underdog, pursued fairness to an exact degree and loved and lived for her family. Nana was often found playing with her grandchildren in the pantry with a flashlight, and later as technology advanced, with her great-grandchildren in the closet with an iPad. Nana always made sure everyone had the treats they liked at family gatherings and loved spending time with each of us.

The past three years have been hard on mom's health with injuries, illness, and loss of stamina. Mom frequently expressed that she couldn't have asked for any better care than what Morris provided to her every day and she was grateful to him for making her life easier.

Service of Remembrance

Cornerstone Funeral Home
2825 - 32 Street South, Lethbridge, AB
Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 11:00 A.M.

Officiant - Reverend Pauline Bell

Tributes	Kelly, Barbara & Charlotte, Robin & Haley, and Matt, Danelle & Seirah
Fern's Life in Photos	Created by Cornerstone Funeral Home
Musical Selections	<i>Presbyterian Guitar</i> by John Hartford <i>In the Garden</i> by Randy & Cheryl Johnson <i>Both Sides Now</i> by Joni Mitchell (during video) <i>Swing Low, Sweet Chariot</i> by Third Tyme Out <i>Winter Fairy Tale</i> by Boney M
Scripture Reading	<i>Psalms 23, The Lord is My Shepherd</i>

After the Service of Remembrance, family and friends are invited to join for lunch in the Reception Room at Cornerstone

