

SYLVIA RYAN DOERR

MEMORIES OF MOM

I have so many wonderful memories of my childhood and my adult life. I'm sure it's due to having the two greatest parents in the world.

My mother, who just happens to be my best friend, is the most multi-talented person I will ever know. Whether she is sewing a quilt, baking caramel rolls or making a porcelain doll, she does an excellent job. I only wish I could do half as good. I am so grateful I have the opportunity to share so many different experiences with her. Whether we are on a shopping trip to Red Wing or tying a quilt in the garage, I have enjoyed every minute that we've spent together.

I feel that I have learned so much from my mother. She has shown me the importance of family and being proud of your ancestry.

She is truly a wonderful lady and my best friend. You will be forever in my heart and thanks for all the wonderful memories, Mom.

Love,
Your Daughter Connie (Doerr Yorek)

GRANDMA SYLVIA DOERR

When I was growing up in LeCenter, Grandpa and Grandma lived only a few miles from us on Lake Gorman where they owned a lot since 1978 and built a house on it in 1986. Grandma was always baking something. My favorite was her famous homemade caramel rolls and fresh baked buns right out of the oven. She was also sewing something anywhere she was. I could always count on Grandma to finish off my home-ec projects.

Grandma has so many wonderful qualities, I look around my house and see her everywhere I look – whether it's quilts, pillows, dolls or dishtowels I will always have a constant reminder of you, Grandma. Thanks for all the memories, Grandma.

Love,
Tracy Yorek

When asked to write a few paragraphs about my Grandma, many clichés came to mind. Grandma always had fresh bread or homemade cookies ready to be devoured or she was making quilts for everyone and needed all our old jeans to use as a pattern. All these qualities apply to my Grandma.

But what I admire Grandma most is for her strength. The strength to raise seven children while maintaining employment. The strength to pack everyone into her townhome where most of the gifts that are give by Grandma are actually made by her. The strength to lose her husband and to continue life each day knowing it is going to be an uphill battle and there will be that feeling of loneliness.

Although Grandma may not know it, I think she is the strongest person in our family and I hope to obtain a fraction of that strength to raise my own family. You make me very proud to be your Grandson, Grandma.

Love,
Travis Yorek

What I remember and enjoyed the most about my Grandma Doerr was that I lived so close to her while I was growing up and all the family vacations we went on. My Grandma is the most multi-talented lady I know, whether its cooking or baking, making porcelain dolls or hand quilting quilts, she's the best at whatever she does. My Grandma taught me some important qualities in life that I hope I can pass on to my own family. Another thing that I am grateful for is her teaching me all about my Irish heritage. Grandma, I am so proud of the person you are and all your wonderful qualities you have taught me.

I love you!
Your Granddaughter, Tara (Yorek)

During a snowstorm of December 28, 1927, on the family farm, in Lakeville, MN, Sylvia Veronica was born to T. Frank and Margaret (Brennan) Ryan. Most of her years growing up were near St. Patrick, MN, with six siblings. Sylvia married Rudy Doerr on February 16, 1946, at St. Patrick Catholic Church. They lived in Marystown until 1957 then moved to Jordan, where they worked and raised their children. Sylvia and Rudy retired to their lake home and then later to Lakeville. As a couple, they relished the years traveling the country. Sylvia later traveled to many European countries.

Sylvia was first and foremost a wife and mother. Through the years, Sylvia worked many jobs but was most proud of her years as Director of Senior Services at the Schule Haus.

Committed to the community, Sylvia enjoyed volunteering at All Saints Catholic Church, Lakeville Senior Citizens, Young at Heart and the Lakeville Area Historical Society and the Red Hat Chorus.

Sylvia was a talented and amazing crafter. She was a gifted seamstress making her children's clothing, hundreds of quilts and Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls. In Sylvia's spare time, she enjoyed collecting tea pots and thimbles. Sylvia felt the most at home, being surrounded by her family, cooking and making pies, especially at Christmas time.

Having a great sense of humor, Sylvia loved laughter and having a wonderful time with family and friends. She loved to celebrate her 100% Irish ancestry. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandma, great grandma and great great grandma. Sylvia was strong willed, creative and lived a full and positive life. But it was her strong faith in God that encircled Sylvia's 91 years, that made her who she was to everyone.