

Ruby Margaret Sauter

Ruby Margaret Sauter was born on July 16, 1922 in Tuttle, North Dakota. She graduated from Tuttle High School in 1940. Ruby was a star basketball player during her high school years. After graduation, Ruby attended cosmetology school in Fargo, North Dakota and worked as a beautician in Medina, North Dakota for several years. She then came back to Tuttle and began her long career at Riskedahl's Store. Ruby, along with her sister Louise, was a very dedicated hard worker, who took her job very seriously. She assisted Clifford with all the financial work at the store and when Clifford was gone, was often seen "up in the office" preparing the bank deposit for the day. Along with Louise, she initiated the weekly Super Valu order and all other orders for this "general store".

Ruby was an avid sports fan and derived much pleasure from watching as many Minnesota Twins' games as she could throughout the summer. She was also a loyal fan of local sports teams in the Tuttle Area, and could often be found up at the "baseball diamond" watching the games on Sundays and/or evenings when she didn't have to be at the store. She also loved movies and initiated many trips to Steele to see the movies that came there before they came to Tuttle.

Ruby was a quiet nurturing woman in the Sauter family who, like Louise, gave so much in so many ways, with little recognition. Living with her parents and sister throughout her life, Ruby balanced being a daughter, sister, and aunt in a very loving and unobtrusive way. She was not only a very devoted and loving family member but a true friend to many women in Tuttle, including her very close friend, Ruth Stark.

After Clifford died in 1972 and Erna sold the store, Ruby also moved to Bismarck where she lived until she became very ill with cancer. She dealt with this like she did so many things, with dignity even though it was apparent that she was often in severe pain. She underwent treatment for several months, but because her cancer was so advanced by this time, her body did not respond positively to this aggressive treatment and she died on December 21, 1991, at the age of 69, at her home in Bismarck, surrounded by her sisters Erna, Viola, Lynora and Mae who spent much time with her throughout her illness.

A woman of few words but unspoken support by her presence, it is hard to put into words what an important role Ruby played in many of our lives. She was more than kind and caring, she was a constant support in her quiet ways.

(written by Barbara Riskedahl)