



## Margaret Barbara Backes

September 7, 1931 - June 25, 2024

Margaret Barbara Backes (Kinzer), age 92, of Dassel, Minnesota, passed away on June 25, 2024. A mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at St. John's Catholic Church in Darwin with Father Jeffrey Horejsi officiating. Interment of the urn will be held at St. John's Catholic Church cemetery following the service.

A visitation will be held starting at 9:30 a.m. before the Mass of Christian Burial at St. John's Catholic Church in Darwin\*.

Margaret Barbara Backes (Kinzer), was born on September 7, 1931, to John and Mary Kinzer (Boeckmann) on their family farm near Cold Spring, Minn. Beginning at the age five, Margaret contributed to the family farm, performing a variety of tasks such as milking cows, feeding calves, canning, rounding up cattle on horseback, planting crops, and harvesting.

As a teen, Margaret moved to Bozeman, Montana with her sister, Helen, working at the Woolworth's candy department. While in Montana, she joined the bowling team and scored a perfect game. Later she returned to Minnesota, working as a page at the State Capitol and a nurse's aide on the maternity ward at both the St. Cloud Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital.

Margaret married David Backes on May 5, 1956, at St. Boniface Catholic

Church in Cold Spring, Minn. The couple lived in Davenport, Iowa and Austin, Minn. before moving to Dassel, Minn. in 1958, when they bought the Dassel Bakery. They lived above the bakery for a short time until building their home near Spring Lake in Dassel.

Besides working at the bakery, Margaret was a nurse's aide at the Dassel Lakeside Nursing Home and became a favorite of many residents. For 17 years she was employed by the Dassel-Cokato School District as a bus driver. Her ability to navigate her bus through Minneapolis made her a prized driver, as few others would make the trip.

Margaret had a passion for dance and attended Authur Murray's Dance Studio, especially enjoyed Latin and Big Band dances. An avid reader, she collected and read hundreds of books. She was dedicated to her faith and taught religious classes. Other favorite pastimes included crafts, creating floral arrangements, shopping, and watching birds and rabbits in the backyard.

Margaret is survived by her loving husband, David Backes, her children: Carol (Linden) Hermel, David (Susan) Backes, Mary (Bill) Yackley, Elizabeth (Wayne) Herberg, and Joseph (Cari) Backes; her 13 grandchildren: Jeremy, Melissa, John, Garrett, Stephanie, Andrew, Grant, Heather, Austin, Samantha, Madelyn, Elena, and Samuel; her 13 great-grandchildren: Valerie, Masie, Devin, Marlo, Lily, Evie, James, Isaac, Ryleigh, Logan, Amelia, Lauren, and Russell (with two more on the way); and two great-great-grandchildren: Lana and Casey and her sisters, Helen and Betty, along with many loved nieces and nephews.

Margaret was preceded in death by her parents, John and Mary Kinzer (Boeckmann); her brothers, Jack, Peter, Francis, Joseph, Adolf, Al, Arthur; her sisters, Ardelle, Catherine, Mary, and Rose; and her great-grandson, Dominic.

The Johnson Funeral Home in Dassel is in charge of the Mass of Christian Burial.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Sharing and Caring Hands in Minneapolis at <https://sharingandcaringhands.org> or Birthright of Hutchinson at 218 Main St. South, Suite 132, Hutchinson, Minnesota, 55350; <https://birthright.org/hutchinsonmn>

\*Please be advised that Highway 12 (including the Highway 15 intersection) from Dassel to Litchfield is closed for construction. Please allow for additional travel time for detours to the church.

# Cemetery Details

## St. John's Catholic Cemetery

Darwin, MN 55324

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 9. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St John's Catholic Church  
106 N 4th St  
Darwin, MN 55324-6016  
(320) 275-2915

## Mass Of Christian Burial

JUL 9. 11:00 AM.

St. John'S Catholic Church

# Tribute Wall

GN

“ *My Deepest Sympathy in the Loss of Margaret. What a kind and caring person she was. The best bus driver for all. She always had a smile. Bless her Memory always.* ”



Gail Nelson - September 01, 2024 at 11:55 AM



“ *Our prayers are with the Backes family. Margaret drove bus for my kids and they really liked her a lot. She was always a happy person and smiling. I am sure she will be missed by many. Cathy Osness* ”

Cathy Osness - July 09, 2024 at 11:00 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Margaret Barbara Backes.* ”



July 03, 2024 at 11:53 AM

MT

“ My memories of my Mother's sister Margaret are mostly from my childhood. I also have many stories shared from my other siblings and Margaret's sister, Helen. I have great respect and appreciation for Margaret and Helen, because when they moved to Bozeman, MT, they were there in great support of my parents when they had their first two children; 2 of 13! As I was named after her, she has always held a special place in my heart. When the Backes family came to Bozeman or we to Minnesota, those were always fun times. I distinctly remember making a bed with Margaret at the Backes household and having one of the sweetest and most loving conversations with her; it gave me such a gift of self assurance that rings true today. Blessings to all the Backes family as this lovely woman is now where she truly belongs; most completely in the hands of God. Margaret Theisen

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**Margaret Theisen** - June 30, 2024 at 03:14 PM

GN

“ My Deepest Sympathy to Margaret's family. I especially remember her kindness when transporting our preschoolers to school. She always had a smile and a kind word to each one. She had a caring heart. Keep her Memory alive always.



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**Gail Nelson** - June 29, 2024 at 10:53 PM

KK

“ I remember Aunt Margaret as having an indomitable spirit. She had often debilitating arthritis but she didn't let it slow her down. In fact, I remember her scrubbing her kitchen floor on her hands and knees because she could get it cleaner.

Boy, she did love to shop. She would often times drive to Minneapolis to buy clothes for her kids, more clothes than they could ever wear. And she was very pleased when she could get them on sale.

I have to think she left this earth with a twinkle in her eye.

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**Kathy Theisen Keil** - June 29, 2024 at 03:40 PM

MF

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**Mary Fisher** - June 29, 2024 at 12:33 PM

MF

“ So what to say about Aunt Margaret-you gave me beauty, grace, kindness, and love. Thank you. I am sure you were greeted with open arms, by so many, as you entered the gates of heaven.

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**Mary Fisher** - June 29, 2024 at 12:31 PM