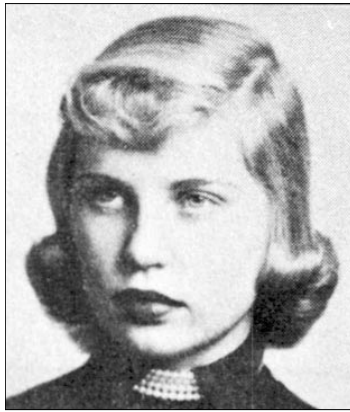


## OBITUARIES



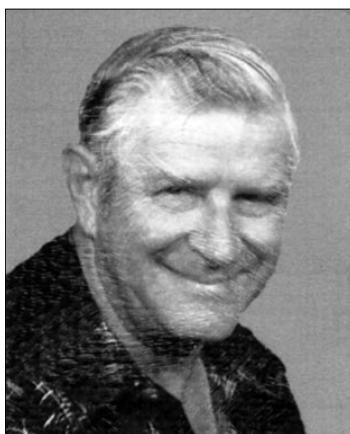
Jean G. Anderson

**Jean G. Anderson**

Jean G. Anderson, 76, of Vermillion, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009 at the Sanford Vermillion Hospital. Jean Gilbert was born Feb. 16, 1933 in Sioux City, IA to Ted and Ardis (Bergeson) Gilbert. She attended schools in Ludlow, and Omaha, NE; graduating from Sioux City

East High School in 1954. She graduated from the University of South Dakota with a bachelors degree in education, and married the late Dean Anderson on Dec. 29, 1954.

Jean began her teaching career in Evanston, IL, and continued teaching/working in the education field until her retirement in 2008. Jean loved and was passionate about the things she did including being the house mother for the Delta Tau Delta fraternity and the Pi Beta Phi sorority houses in Vermillion for over 17 years. She was also a member of the United Church of Christ in Vermillion, the Daughters of the American Revolution, Kappa Alpha Theta sorority, The Buffalo South Dakota Museum, the Pi Beta Phi scholarship program, and several USD related organizations and efforts.



Marlyn L. Hays

**Marlyn L. Hays**

Funeral services for Marlyn L. Hays, age 74 of Brookings, were held 11

a.m., Monday, Oct. 5, 2009, at Rude's Funeral Home in Brookings. Visitation was from 9 to 11 a.m. on Monday at the funeral home. Burial was in First Lutheran Cemetery at Brookings.

Marlyn L. Hays, son of Clarence and Helen (Phillips) Hays, was born Nov. 29, 1934, in Brookings. He grew up and received his education in Brookings and worked as a lineman for the R.E.A. Marlyn was united in marriage to Donna Rae Clark on April 4, 1953, in Ivanhoe, MN. In 1969 they moved to Vermillion, where he continued to work for R.E.A. and when they retired

**Norma C. George Hays**

On Sept. 30, 2009, Norma Hays passed from life. The daughter of Ted George, a druggist, and his wife, Grace, a registered nurse, Norma was the eldest of four children born and raised in northwestern Iowa. The two brothers, Aubrey and Homer, followed their father and his brother into pharmacy; Norma and her sister, Janice, followed their mother into nursing.

Sister trained in Iowa, but Norma traveled from tiny, rural Sioux Rapids, IA, to Baltimore, MD, and attended Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. During her training, she met and married John Hays, a chief petty officer in the Navy, and, after his discharge, returned to Iowa where their daughter, Mary, was born. In 1952, they relocated to Vermillion to

start Hays Radio-TV Service.

Both John and Norma worked at the shop and were active in the community. Norma was a PEO, Sunday School teacher, violinist in the USD orchestra, student of creative writing, private nurse for terminal patients and cared for her parents, husband and a number of other relatives and friends during their final illnesses.

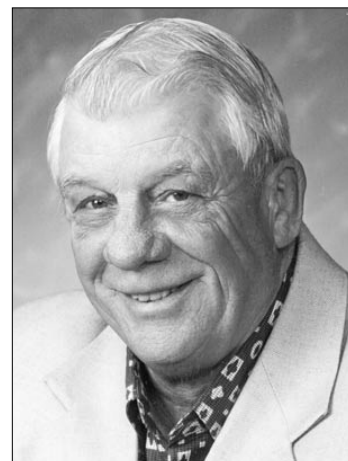
She was an involved mother, student of the Bible and an Angel: confidant, correspondent and moral and practical support for an amazing number of people in Vermillion and across the country. She raised gardens, bees and flowers, giving, selling, canning, and preserving their produce for her family and anyone else she could help.

After John's death to her death at 91, she lived independently in a 100-plus-year-old renovated farm home at

In addition to many beloved friends, cousins and extended family, Jean is survived by her son Dean (Laura) Anderson of Franklin, TN; and three daughters, Callie (Murphy) Mitchell of Tulsa, OK, Erin (John) Beyers of Santa Monica, CA and Shawn Anderson of Vermillion. She is also survived by her brother Frank (Marge) Gilbert of Sioux City, IA; and five grandchildren, Lauren, Kathryn, Paige, Dean and Forrest.

A family memorial service will be at a later date, for online condolences and obituary please visit [hansenfuneralhome.com](http://hansenfuneralhome.com).

For those who wish to donate in celebration of Jean's life, the family ask that you consider; The Buffalo South Dakota Museum in memory of Jean Gilbert; Box 391, Buffalo, SD 57720, c/o Nora Boyer.



Thomas H. Walker

**Thomas H. Walker**

Thomas H. "TW" Walker, 80, of Vermillion passed away Thursday, Oct. 1, 2009, of natural causes.

TW was born June 2, 1929, in St. Joseph, MO, to Ward and Jane Glen (Hutton) Walker. TW graduated from Vermillion High School

in 1947, and attended South Dakota State University, Brookings. He married Josephine "Jo" Heath on Aug. 17, 1952 in Vermillion. Jo passed away in 1998.

TW is survived by a daughter, Sara Melstad of Elkhorn, NE; and two sons, Richard (Brenda) Walker and John (Glenda) Walker, Vermillion. TW had seven grandchildren, Jenny (Jason) Cary, NE, Dani (Jayme) Schaaf, stationed in Germany, Brittany, Washington State and McKinsey Weydert, Minnesota, Amber, Thomas and Noah Walker, Vermillion. Also, TW and special friend, Geri Turner, Vermillion, enjoyed each other's companionship and friendship.

Tom farmed and raised cattle early in life. He was street superintendent for the city of Vermillion for 10 years. Tom owned and operated Walker's Asphalt with his son John for six years. As a young

boy growing up, John was part of TW's business ventures. Later TW and John formed together Walker's Construction. TW and John were always seen working together and "making deals." Later in life TW thoroughly enjoyed driving school bus for many sporting events for the Vermillion School District.

He was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church, the Eagles, the Vermillion Volunteer Fire Dept., and a past member of the Odd Fellows Lodge in Vermillion.

Funeral services, open to the community were at Trinity Lutheran Church in Vermillion, 10:30 am Tuesday, Oct. 6, with Pastor Edward Anderson officiating. Burial followed in the BluffView Cemetery in Vermillion. Visitation was 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5 with a prayer service at 7 p.m., all at the church. For online condolences and obituary please visit [hansenfuneralhome.com](http://hansenfuneralhome.com).

**Norman Odeen**

Norman Ardel Odeen, 64, passed away after his courageous battle with muscular dystrophy on Oct. 4, 2009 in Vermillion.

Norman was born on Feb. 1, 1945 to Oscar and Ida (Nelson) Odeen in Geddes. Norman lived with family until 1982. He moved from Beresford to Vermillion where he lived until his passing.

Norman had two siblings, Morris Odeen and Lillian Carlson and was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings.

Norman was a man of faith and loved to laugh and be around people. He enjoyed music of all kinds, animals and children, writing letters to pen pals and contributing to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

He also enjoyed dancing, dressing up, bringing smiles to people's faces, sports, hearty meals, his cat Rocky, all of his friends, any kind of new adventure, writing to Nell's Day Care, flowers, well wishes, vinyl records, warm weather and being warm and cozy.

Norman always brought sunshine and warmth to anyone he encountered through his smiles and giving heart. If there was ever a person who expressed appreciation for everything in this world, it was Norman.

Funeral service was 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 8 at the United Church of Christ in Vermillion with burial following in the BluffView Cemetery in Vermillion. Hansen Funeral Home, Vermillion, was in charge of arrangements.

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### USD Law School grads raising the bar

Graduates of The University of South Dakota School of Law are raising the bar when it comes to taking the South Dakota Bar Examination.

According to a statistical report recently released, 96 percent of USD's Law School graduates who took the bar examination for the first time in July 2009 passed.

The American Bar Association, the Law School Admission Council, and other national organizations typically report a law school's pass rate for first-time bar exam takers as compared to the state's overall pass rate for first-time bar exam takers. Fifty-one of the 53 USD graduates taking the exam for the first time passed. USD's pass rate of 96 percent for first-time testers bettered the overall average (94 percent).

In all, including repeat takers, there were 76 graduates from 13 different law schools who took South Dakota's bar exam in July. Fifty-five were from USD (with 53 passing) while 16 of 21 taking the test from other law schools passed.

For more information about the USD School of Law, please visit the school's Web site at [www.usd.edu/law](http://www.usd.edu/law) or contact the Law School at (605) 677-5443.

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