



## Retha Mae Berndt

June 16, 1929 - June 15, 2019

Age 89 of St. Paul, MN.

Retha Creech Berndt was born June 16th, 1929 on the family farm in York County, Nebraska. She was the third child of Clarence and Lottie Creech. She had 4 siblings, an infant boy who died shortly after birth, an older sister Elizabeth, a brother Wayne, and two sisters, Martha and Janice. Only Wayne and Martha survive, and they are unable to attend today due to health concerns. She has many nieces and nephews on the Creech side of the family.

Retha graduated from high school at 16, and became a teacher in rural Nebraska. While teaching, the community was visited by a group of students from Bethel College, and she decided she wanted to move to St. Paul to attend Bethel. She taught in the St Paul Schools for 28 years and got her Bachelors and Masters Degrees at the University of Minnesota.

At age 19 she accepted Christ as her Savior and had a strong Christian Faith. After joining Central Baptist Church in 1957 she was active in Christian Education, the library and Child and Adult Ministries. She was a faithful church member serving and giving for 62 years.

Fred Berndt, Sr lost his first wife, Ruth, to cancer in 1984. As fellow teachers, Fred thought he and Retha would have something in common. They married on January 1, 1985 shortly after midnight and had many wonderful years together. Retha acquired the whole Berndt family and we have continued to grow larger. She has been with us for 34 years celebrating births, weddings

and holidays. She was generous and caring to all of us and enjoyed having such a large family.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Clarence and Lottie Creech; sisters, Elizabeth Van Dyke and Janice Earnest; and husband, Fred Berndt, Sr. Survived by step-children, Fred Jr., (Sylvia Sekhon), Steven (Diana), Karl (Mary); 11 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; brother, Wayne Creech; sister, Martha (Marlin) Johnson; many nieces and nephews.

Visitation Friday (June 21) from 4-8 PM at HOLCOMB-HENRY-BOOM-PURCELL FUNERAL HOME, 515 Hwy 96 W., at Mackubin, Shoreview.

Funeral Service 11 AM Saturday, June 22nd (visitation 10-11 AM) at CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, Roy and Shields Aves., St. Paul. Interment Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Memorials preferred to Central Baptist Church Foundation.

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ To all the Berndts,  
I happened upon the obituary for Retha and loved reading about her past. I'm glad I was able to see Retha a few times in recent years, especially at my Dad's 90th birthday which she attended. I am sorry for the loss to you all and realize she was the last of that generation on the Berndt side of the family. I like to think of them all together in some way we don't yet understand.

*With Love and Sympathy,  
Julie Berndt*

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**Julie Berndt** - June 26, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ He will raise you up on eagle's wings - May you go in peace. Until we meet again God will hold you in the palm of his hand. I am so glad we got to visit last October. Love always,  
Debbie and Phil



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**Deborah and Phil Piepel** - June 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ My prayers are with all of you. Sincerely,  
Marla



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**Marla Chrisman** - June 18, 2019 at 12:00 AM