

Alvina Bennett
Sept. 2, 1932 - Aug. 19, 2022

Alvina (Kautz) Bennett, 89, passed away on Friday, August 19, 2022 at the Platte County Hospital in Wheatland, Wyoming.

Alvina Bennett was born Friday, September 2, 1932 to Anna Margaret (Melcher) and William Kautz, a farming family, in Mitchell, Nebraska. She was the youngest of 24 half and stepbrothers and sisters including some Kamerzells, Melchers, Strickers, Werkeles, and another Kautz brother. Alvina met Billy E. Bennett at a dance in Gering, Nebraska and after marrying the World War II veteran, moved to a farm in Wheatland where she remained able to live independently until her death.

Over the years she enjoyed keeping in touch with her family. She and Billy went to as many polka dances in the region as they could. They liked to travel and purchased a winter residence in Bullhead City, Arizona to spend winters with friends and Billy's family.

Alvina loved visiting her friends and neighbors and playing cards and Yahtzee with her grandson. She loved sightseeing and halibut fishing with her son's family in Alaska, and always seemed to catch the big one! She even went river rafting down Eagle River in her 70s.

She was a good baker and often shared her skills to the benefit of family and friends. Alvina was good with her hands and made and sold crocheted or sewn afghans, cowboy hats, and various other crafts. She even made a large crocheted lace masterpiece, which she said was enough tiny stitches for her – she stuck with yarn after that. In her 60s, a niece showed her how to paint and she painted many sawblade masterpieces of birds, barns, and wildlife, and many wooden crafts made by her husband. There was always a special flair to her art that set her apart from many crafters. A box full of fair ribbons including many best-of-shows also attests to her skill.

Alvina is survived by two sons, Alan (Marjorie) Bennett of Wheatland and Wayne (Dena) Bennett of Eagle River, Alaska; three grandchildren, Stacy (Josh) Worby of Alaska, Alan (Alena) Bennett, Jr. of Grand Junction, Colorado, and Lisa (Timothy) Phelps of Wheatland; and 11 great grandchildren, Austin Bennett, Ethan, Annabelle, Kendall, Jeremiah and Robert Phelps of Wheatland, and Broderic Brant, and Collin, Caysha, Benjamin, and Lilyonna Bennett of Grand Junction.

She is preceded in death by all her siblings, one young son, Raymond, her beloved husband, and one treasured grandson, Joel Bennett.

An interment will be scheduled for a later date. Memorials may be sent to 53 Ringneck Road, Wheatland, Wyoming 82201.

