



SWANSON – Ruth Elizabeth Bertha was born on August 31, 1924 to Emil and Catherine (nee Lowenberger) Kaeding and was raised on the family farm south of Churchbridge. Ruth and her brothers helped on the family farm and when Ruth was old enough, she drove the only grain truck in the area, hauling both the neighbours and their grain to the elevator. Ruth met the love of her life and after a while she was united in Holy Matrimony to Clifford Swanson in November of 1946. After they were married they purchased a farm just south of Churchbridge. She loved her yard and planted a huge shelterbelt, of which she was very proud of and it still stands to this day. She also had a love of fruit trees and worked with the University of Saskatchewan Horticultural Division, getting fruit trees to grow in our area. Her many interests included a flower garden for which she won multiple prizes at all the local and provincial fairs for her beautiful flowers. Ruth and Cliff were blessed with four sons, Brian, Linton, Terry, and Calvin. And as they grew up, she had more time to volunteer to the many organizations in the area. Some, she started like the band program in the local school, and the band days.

Ruth was also a leader in 4-H groups. She was instrumental in getting the first swimming pool for Churchbridge. She was never one to sit back and say it was “good enough”. Ruth would make sure it was good through her hard work and dedication to whatever she took part in doing. Ruth loved for her community to aspire and would never back down if she knew it was in the community’s best interests. She spent many years compiling information on the area’s history, from which she published “*The First Hundred Years*” history book which was her biggest joy. Cliff, passed away in 1980, which was the same year that the book was published, and Ruth continued to live on the family farm until 1988. At which time she moved into town and continued to volunteer her time on every committee she could to make the town a better place. She was presented the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal in 1997 by the Lieutenant Governor for all her efforts in making her province a better place to live in. Ruth loved travelling all over the world and would always try to convince another lady friend to travel with her. She always had very unique travels including going on freighter trips to see the real people in the countries she had visited. She even spent time in Mexico teaching students English, which she loved to do. In her later years, Ruth enjoyed watching her family travel when she could not anymore. She moved to the town Manor when it was time to move out of her own home, and when her legs failed her, she moved to the Centennial Special Care Home in Langenburg. Ruth loved doing the activities and crafts the care home provided to keep her brain sharp she would say, and she resided there until her passing. Ruth is predeceased by her husband, Cliff; her brothers, Edgar, Alvin, Arthur, and Erwin. She is survived by her four sons, Brian (Candice), Linton (Anita), Terry (Dianne), and Cal (Rita); her grandchildren, Jenilee (Darren), Clint, Marcy (Brandon), Jordan, Amanda, Sadie (Dan), and Ashley (Austen); and by her great-granddaughter, Madeline. A Celebration of Life was held on Tuesday August 31, 2021 at 2:00 PM from Trinity Lutheran Church in Churchbridge with Pastor Todd Guggenmos officiating. Vallery Putland led the congregation in the singing of the hymns, “Come To The Saviour, make No Delay”, “Just As I Am”, and “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”. Marcy Eskra and Ashley Swanson shared the obituary with Terry Swanson delivering a heartfelt eulogy. Jenilee Melnyk read Psalm 23. The interment of cremated remains followed in the Churchbridge Town Cemetery with Clint Swanson and Sadie Swanson serving as the Urn bearers. Those so wishing to make a charitable contribution in memory of the Late Ruth Swanson may do so with a gift to The Lutheran Hour or to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Saskatchewan. Kopan’s Funeral Service, Yorkton was entrusted with funeral arrangements. 306-783-0099 www.kopans.ca