

### Noeline Esponda Sun



Former Buffalo native, Noeline Esponda Sun passed away at Shepherd of the Valley Care Center in Casper Tuesday, December 23rd, on her 87th birthday. Fr. Kevin Koch at St. Anthony's Church

in Casper will celebrate the Mass of Christian Burial at 12 noon Monday, December 29th. The Vigil Service will be held Sunday, December 28th at 7:00 p.m. Burial will be on the Sun Ranch next to her husband at a later date.

A daughter of Basque immigrants, Dominica (Etchemendy) and John Esponda, Noeline was born near Buffalo on December 23, 1921. She grew up in Buffalo and attended local schools with the exception of the year her family moved to the Pyrenees Mountains, allowing her to study in the Basque County. After graduating from high school in 1938, Noeline attended The University of Wyoming, then Saint Joseph's School of Nursing and graduated with an RN Degree. She joined the Army Air Corps shortly thereafter where she was proud to travel the U. S. as a flight nurse toward the end of WW II. In 1957 she was honorably discharged from the Air Force Reserve. After finishing her tour of duty, Noeline joined medical forces with Dr. John Knebel and opened and ran the first hospita in Buffalo. She later moved to Denver to continue her nursing career. Noeline quickly became the entertainment director and bed and breakfast provider for everybody from Wyoming. She also found time to obtain her pilots license in 1950, a fact that she was very proud of.

Noeline married Bernard Sun on October 22, 1955. They lived on the Sun Ranch where they raised their three children, plus numerous nieces, nephews, and friends because everybody loved to work on the ranch during the summers. Noeline was actively involved in the Catholic Church, the Wyoming Cowbells, and The Sweetwater Homemakers Club.

She is survived by her daughter, Tena Sun-Wingert and husband Toby, and two sons, Thomas and Joseph Sun. She is preceded in death by her husband, Bernard Sun; parents, John and Dominica Esponda; brothers, Mitchell and Arthur Esponda; and sisters, Grayce Miller and Jeanette Maxwell.

Memorials contributions may be made to The Family Crisis Center, Newcomer Funeral Home, 710 E. Second Street, Casper WY, in charge of arrangements.

Clipped By:



**m\_gariador**

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