

CITY OF LEAD
PROCLAMATION
Olga M. Nelson Day
July 10, 2024

WHEREAS Olga Marie Ghirardini was born on Saturday, October 2, 1920, in Sanzeno, Italy, and,

WHEREAS at the age of thirteen months, Olga and her parents left their ancestral home and boarded the liner “President Wilson” for their oceanic journey to the United States, and

WHEREAS on November 26, 1921, Olga entered New York Harbor under the watchful eye of the Statue of Liberty and immigrated at Ellis Island where the family name was shortened to Girardi, and

WHEREAS after searching for a home in Colorado and Montana, her family...which now included a younger brother, Charlie...settled in the Black Hills mining community of Lead, South Dakota, and

WHEREAS after graduating from Lead High School in 1940, Olga worked for a time as a telephone operator before marrying John Edward Nelson, on April 22, 1943, in Broadus, Montana, and

WHEREAS Olga and John were blessed with three children...Judith Ann, Gerald Charles and Thomas Roy...along with in-laws and many, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and

WHEREAS in April of 2018, at the age of 97, Olga decided to move out of her home of 68 years to join the caring community of Edgewood Vista in Spearfish, and

WHEREAS even though John passed away on May 21, 1981, Olga continued to live her life to the fullest giving tirelessly of herself to family, church, friends and community in the years that followed, and

WHEREAS Olga passed away on Saturday, December 23, 2023, in Spearfish at the age of 103, with her Mass of Christian Burial held at Saint Patrick’s Catholic Church in Lead on January 16, 2024, after which she was taken to her final resting place at Black Hills National Cemetery, and

WHEREAS the family and friends of Olga will gather at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at the Historic Homestake Opera House in Lead to honor Olga with a CELEBRATION OF LIFE!

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Ronald Everett, Mayor of the City of Lead do hereby declare and proclaim that Wednesday , July 10, 2024, is

OLGA M. NELSON REMEMBRANCE DAY

in the City of Lead, and encourage all our citizens to fondly remember Olga...and well as the many other departed members of our community who, by making their living and living their lives in Lead, helped to weave the wonderful fabric of our hometown!