



IONA MAE NOVAK

September 14, 1938 - November 24, 2021

Iona Mae Novak, 83, of Caledonia, MN, passed away peacefully in her sleep Wednesday, November 24, 2021, at Valley View Nursing Home, Houston, MN. Iona Mae (Beneke) was born September 14, 1938, at home in Winnebago Valley to William and Sarah (Wuennecke) Beneke.

She was a graduate of New Albin High School and was retired from owning a software business, accounting, and finally worked for ABC in Caledonia as a direct care person where she was part of Tonnie's world. She married Ivan Joel Bjorge September 7, 1957, they later divorced; she married Harry Kruse on October 20, 1972, and they later divorced. On January 25, 1985, she married Lou Novak and he preceded her in death.

She loved golfing, cooking & baking, attending church functions, gardening, music and plays – she loved life!

She is survived by her sisters, Arlene Gade of Eitzen and Kathryn (Wayne) Bailey of Caledonia; daughters, Denise Duss of Caledonia, Karen Bultinck (Bruce) of Wauconda, IL; grandchildren, Jonathan (Samantha Steele) Kruse, Adam Kruse, Kelsey (Wes) Burroughs, Astrid Bjorge, Jessie (John) Kuschel, Brandon Bultinck, Trevor Bultinck; great grandchildren, Collyn Kruse, Kaleb Kruse, Juliana Kruse, Mariah Burroughs, Aubrey Burroughs. She is preceded in death by her parents, William and Sarah (Wuennecke) Beneke; husband, Louis Novak; and daughter, Latanja "Tonnie" Iona Novak.

A graveside service for Iona and Tonnie will be held at 9 am on Friday, December 3, at St. Peter's Memorial Cemetery in New Albin, IA. A visitation

will follow from 10 to 11 am at the United Methodist Church, Caledonia, with a Memorial service at 11 am Friday at the church. Rev. Debbie King Quale will officiate. A luncheon will follow at the MaCal Golf Course.

Cemetery Details

St. Peter's Cemetery

2894 Hwy 26
New Albin, IA 52160

Previous Events

Gravesite Service

DEC 3. 9:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter's Cemetery
2894 Hwy 26
New Albin, IA 52160

Visitation

DEC 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

United Methodist Church
308 N. Kingston Street
Caledonia, MN 55921

Memorial Service

DEC 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

United Methodist Church
308 N. Kingston Street
Caledonia, MN 55921

Tribute Wall



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of IONA MAE NOVAK.*



December 01, 2021 at 07:44 PM



“ *Carly Steele lit a candle in memory of IONA MAE NOVAK*



Carly Steele - November 29, 2021 at 02:16 PM



“ *I will miss Iona so much, she was a special Lady. A heart of gold. Our Friendship will never be forgotten, the laughs, the dancing in her kitchen with Tonnie and the stories she told about Tonnie. The best part is knowing how much Love they both had in their hearts. Especially when I walked in and Tonnie got so excited, she laughed herself right down the front of her chair. I will forever hold these memories in my heart. Kelsey, Denise and Families I Love you all and It was my true pleasure to have been a part of Iona and Tonnie's world. My thoughts and Prayers are with you all.*

Cathy Staggemeyer - November 29, 2021 at 09:30 AM

RE

“ Prayers and hugs to Iona's family. She was a great coworker! She was one special lady!

Reenie - November 27, 2021 at 07:35 AM

LG

“ Thoughts and prayers are with the entire family Iona was a special lady!!! She will be missed

Leigh Goetzinger - November 25, 2021 at 03:01 PM