



## LOLITA EVANGELINE ST. MARY

July 28, 1935 - August 2, 2023

Lolita St. Mary

Lolita St. Mary, age 88, of Caledonia, passed away on August 2, 2023, at Claddagh Senior Living, Caledonia.

Lolita was born to Oscar and Evelyn (Welch) Olson on July 28, 1935, in Mabel, MN. She graduated from Caledonia High School in 1954 and was united in marriage to Glenn St. Mary on July 30, 1955, in the grotto at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Caledonia, MN.

Lolita began work at Northwestern Bell Telephone Company in Caledonia as a telephone operator. She joined her husband in El Paso, TX where he was in military basic training. They then moved to Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, NY until 1957 when they returned to Caledonia and assumed ownership of St. Mary's Auto Body Shop. Lolita kept very busy with bookkeeping, trips to La Crosse for car parts, raising their five children, working as a Kindergarten aide, in addition to Girl Scout leader, sewing for her family and helping with church activities. She enjoyed her Friday ladies' golf league, hosting Euchre parties and shopping.

In 1972, the family moved to Grinnell, IA, where Lolita took a position with GTE Telephone Communications. She planned the equipment needed to

operate telephone exchanges and update switches throughout the Midwest. While employed at GTE, she earned her Associate of Arts degree from Marshalltown Community College. In 1992, Lolita's department was relocated to Wentzville, MO, and Glenn & Lolita moved to Lake St. Louis. In 1998, after 26 years of service, Lolita retired and they moved back to Caledonia. Many winters in Rockport, TX, were enjoyed with new and old friends touring the area.

Lolita was involved in church activities wherever they lived; CCW, CDA, funeral dinners, church decorating and convent cleaning, and mission sewing. She especially enjoyed her 20 years in the Marian Study group in Grinnell, the Page Turners and Monday coffee group in Caledonia, her work as a docent for the Laura Ingalls Wilder museum, Burr Oak, IA, and volunteer with the Houston County Historical Society. Lolita's sweet, caring personality made friendships blossom.

Lolita was preceded in death by her parents, brothers Reginald and David, sisters Frances Jean Olson, Maxine Tingesdal, Juanita Michelsen; sister-in-laws Elaine Olson, Yvonne Murphy; brother-in-laws Lorren Tingesdahl, Neut Michelsen, Chuck Pluhar, and John Almo.

She will be deeply missed by her family: husband Glenn; children Jacqueline (Harvey) Schweitzer, Michael (Jo) St. Mary, Laura St. Mary, Joan (Tom) Grawe, Lisa (Ted) Glickley; grandchildren Ben, Adam, Joseph, Callie, Anneliese and Mathias; great-grandchild Maleah; sister Cheryl Pluhar; brother Charles (Janet) Olson; in-laws Lyle (Linda Covey) St. Mary, Duane (Judy) St. Mary, Allan St. Mary, Bryan (Lori) St. Mary, Audrey Almo, and Marion Olson.

Mass of Christian burial will be at 11 am, Wednesday, August 9, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Caledonia. Burial will follow in Calvary Cemetery and a luncheon at Holy Family Hall. Visitation will be from 4 to 6 pm Tuesday in St.

Mary's Holy Family Hall, with a rosary at 3:30 pm.

Visitation will also be from 10 to 11 am Wednesday morning before the service at the church.

The family would like to thank St. Croix Hospice, Claddagh Assisted Living, St. Mary's Church staff, Fr Andrew Vogel, Sr. Michaeline Healy, and home healthcare aides Katie, Laurie Ann, and Carla.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum, Burr Oak, IA; St. Mary's Catholic School Library, Caledonia, MN; Houston County Historical Society, Caledonia, MN.

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# Previous Events

## Rosary

AUG 8. 3:30 PM (CT)

St. Mary's Holy Family Hall  
513 South Pine St.  
Caledonia, MN 55921

## Visitation

AUG 8. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

St. Mary's Holy Family Hall  
513 South Pine St.  
Caledonia, MN 55921

## Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 9. 11:00 AM (CT)

Saint Mary's Catholic Church  
513 S Pine St  
Caledonia, MN 55921  
(507) 725-3804

# Tribute Wall

LW

“Joan and family, I am so sorry to hear of Lolita’s passing. Always happy and such a good friend to my mom who has welcomed her into heaven. Hugs and extra prayers for you all!! LuAnn Reeves Ward

LuAnn Reeves Ward - August 21, 2023 at 05:46 AM

JC

“Jo, Lindsey, Laramie, Macy And Colton lit a candle in memory of LOLITA EVANGELINE ST. MARY



Jo, Lindsey, Laramie, Macy and Colton - August 11, 2023 at 09:07 AM

JC

“Lolita was the best Mother in Law any girl could ask for. She was one of the kindest, loving, giving, thoughtful and most humble woman I have ever known. She welcomed myself, my children and grandchildren into her family as if we were always a part of. We loved the birthday, Valentines Day, Anniversary, And Christmas cards that we all received each occasion from her. She never missed one! We will hold them dear to our hearts. Lollie left alot of footprints on many hearts and all the memories will live on forever. God definitely put an Angel in our lives and now he needed her in Heaven to continue his work. We love you Lollie and will miss you lots! God Bless!

Jo, Lindsey, Laramie, Macy and Colton - August 11, 2023 at 09:06 AM

DO

“ I got to know Lolita through Marian Study Club in Grinnell. I still think of her every time I pass their home on Hwy 6. How fitting that she passed to eternal life on Aug. 2, The Feast of St. Mary of the Angels...a beautiful day to enter Heaven!

Debi Olson - August 08, 2023 at 09:48 AM

CW

“ My deepest sympathy to the St. Mary family. I went to school with Lisa St. Mary in Grinnell, IA.  
Cathy Wise

Cathy Wise - August 07, 2023 at 09:38 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of LOLITA EVANGELINE ST. MARY.

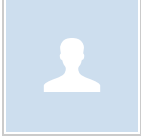


August 07, 2023 at 09:22 AM



“ Aunt Loli was the sweetest most caring woman who shared of herself with family and friends. She always made us feel part of her family when we came up for frequent visits from Illinois. She would prepare the most extensive breakfast spread, picnic lunch or dinner feast to always include a special dessert she just whipped up. As our hearts ache with the loss of our dear Aunt Loli, we are reminded by how much she loved us. My heart is with you all in Caledonia as you celebrate this beautiful family member!! Prayers for comfort from Florida.- Love your Cousin Lynette St.Mary McSorley

Lynette McSorley - August 05, 2023 at 09:48 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of LOLITA EVANGELINE ST. MARY.*



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August 05, 2023 at 03:35 PM



“ *Lisa & family: so sorry to hear about your mother/grandmother. I saw she & your dad out & about in Caledonia quite often since they moved back. We were good friends in elem sch & I remember walking home from school with you when you lived across from Immanuel. Darla & I remain good friends. Please know you are in my thoughts!*

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**Wilma (Nielsen) Schoh** - August 04, 2023 at 12:45 AM



*So sorry to here this .we had a great time with them in Texas. We became great friends over the last 9 years. Lolita will be greatly missed she was an awesome lady.*

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**David an Beverly Babcock.** - August 04, 2023 at 03:37 PM



*Prayers & sympathies to all the St Mary children. I remember when our parents got together for card parties, firemen events, etc. as they were fun. Both my parents passed in 2020 & 2022, & so often wish I could still talk & share things. Good that I have my sister, Joan. Hope you will all remain close, as family is IMP. God bless.  
Jane Koel-Schein*

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**Jane Koel-Schein** - August 04, 2023 at 10:01 PM



*My sincere sympathy to the St Mary family. Lolita and I were best friends in our high school years. We always walked home together and sometimes we would get a ride. Think about her often. Jean Goetzinger Zeimet*

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**Jean-Jim Goetzinger-Zeimet** - August 06, 2023 at 01:27 PM