



## WILFRED "WILLIE" KARELS

July 3, 1942 - April 12, 2023

Wilfred "Willie" Karels, age 80, from Caledonia, Minnesota; formerly of Osakis, MN, Blaine, Minnesota, Cuba City, Wisconsin and Cresco, Iowa, passed away on April 12, 2023, after a short struggle with leukemia. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Suzanne Frank Karels and his children: Tim (Denise) Karels of Oak Grove, MN, Connie (Michael) Deans of East Bethel, MN, Tom (Kari) Karels of Isanti, MN, and Chris (Tara) Karels of Cambridge, MN, along with ten grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Willie was the son of Lawrence and Leocadia (Becker) Karels of Caledonia, MN and the fifth of fourteen children: Muriel, Joanne, Donald, Leland, Vernon, Virginia, Gerald, Terry, Kathy, George, Mary, Nathalie, and Julie. He became a valued member of the Ray and RoseMary Frank family as brother (in-law) to their six boys: Gerald, Allen, Richard, Dean, Donald, and Nicholas.

Willie was a meat cutter for over forty years starting at Albert's Grocery in Caledonia, MN in 1961. He owned his own grocery store – Willie's IGA in Cuba City, WI and Metro Meats in Oakdale, MN.

Willie purchased land on Lake Osakis in 1988 and built his retirement home to be able to fish. He made his own seasoning called "Willie's Best Seasoning" which he made 100 pounds at a time and gave it all away. He was active in his church and community servicing as a 3rd and 4th degree Knight of Columbus, Communion Distributor, JC and volunteer fireman.

His funeral will take place at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Caledonia, MN on Friday, April 21, 2023, at 11:00 am. Visitation will take place 90 minutes prior to the service and burial will be at Calvary Cemetery. Lunch will be served in Holy Family Hall immediately following the service.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 21. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

## Mass of Christian Burial

APR 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ Thinking of you Suzanne and family Love and prayers

Marlene Meiners eitzen Mn - April 26, 2023 at 10:53 AM

DF

“ Danielle Hermes-Trauffler and family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of WILFRED "WILLIE" KARELS.



Danielle Hermes-Trauffler and family - April 20, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of WILFRED "WILLIE" KARELS.



April 20, 2023 at 07:54 AM

CL

“ Just heard to news today and my love goes out to all. Be assured that his all loving smile and memories will stay with us who where honored to know him ALWAYS! PLease know that my family will be there in spirit and showering you with love and prayers to help you through till we see him again!!! Cathy,Gage and Nicole Loomis

Cathy Loomis - April 20, 2023 at 07:05 AM



“ *Your Light Shines* was purchased for the family of **WILFRED "WILLIE" KARELS**.



April 19, 2023 at 08:43 AM



“ *Your County Market Family* purchased the *Sweet Tranquility Basket* for the family of **WILFRED "WILLIE" KARELS**.



**Your County Market Family** - April 17, 2023 at 03:47 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket* was purchased for the family of **WILFRED "WILLIE" KARELS**.



April 17, 2023 at 03:16 PM



“ *Judith Anderson "June"* purchased the *Small Garden Dish* for the family of **WILFRED "WILLIE" KARELS**.



**Judith Anderson "June"** - April 17, 2023 at 02:06 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of WILFRED "WILLIE" KARELS.*



April 14, 2023 at 03:03 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Photos*



**Lindsay Marie** - April 14, 2023 at 02:24 PM

SF

*We are so very sorry for your loss and that of our "brother" Willie! There will be tons of memories to share of this beautiful soul, may you RIP and our sincere Condolences to all the family!*

**SUSAN L FRANK** - April 14, 2023 at 03:11 PM

CH

*I am so sorry for your loss. May you family, friends and memories bring you comfort and peace.*

**Carol hagemann** - April 14, 2023 at 09:20 PM

RF

*Condolences to the family with lots of hugs and prayers. We have wonderful memories of Willie and will cherish them. Rest in peace and we love you.*

**Rick and Cindy Frank** - April 14, 2023 at 10:14 PM

LS

*I am glad to of known Willie for the short time I have at Mission West. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in this very sad time.*

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**Leslie Schaffner** - April 15, 2023 at 07:51 AM

RS

*Condolences to Suzie & Family Karels & Franks Families.*

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**Robert L. Snodgrass** - April 19, 2023 at 10:35 AM