

Lois Eleanor Winegarden



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Nov. 20, 1937-Sept. 26, 2024

Lois Winegarden, 86, of Deep River, passed away Thursday morning, Sept. 26, 2024, at the English Valley Care Center in North English. Funeral services were Tuesday, Oct. 1, at the Calvary Lutheran Church in Deep River. Burial was held in the Golden Rod Cemetery in Deep River. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Calvary Lutheran Church, the Deep River Legion Auxiliary or the Deep River Fire Department. Holland-Coble Funeral Home of Montezuma is in charge of arrangements.

Lois Eleanor Wiedemeier Widmer Winegarden, the daughter of Harvey and Martha (Schultz) Wiedemeier, was born on the Schultz farm south of Victor on Nov. 20, 1937, in Victor. She attended St. John's Lutheran Church School before graduating from Deep River High School in 1956. Lois attended Iowa State Teacher's College in Cedar Falls a short time before working for Northwest Bell Telephone Company in Des Moines. On May 5, 1957, Lois was united in marriage to Richard Widmer at the St. John's Lutheran Church. They lived and farmed in the Deep River area. Following Richard's death in 1977, Lois continued to farm until she was married to Leland Winegarden on Aug. 18, 1978, at the United Church of Deep River. She then worked for Winegarden Hardware, doing the book work and helping with the day-to-day operations, retiring in 2015. Lois loved to garden, tend to her flowers, attend all sporting activities of her children and

grandchildren, enjoyed horse shows, rodeos, and especially loved to travel, having been to every state but Hawaii, and parts of Europe. She also spent time doing puzzles, sewing, cross-words, and sitting on her front porch counting the traffic and her daily five-mile trips. Lois was well known for her famous Red Waldorf cake and was a member of the Calvary Lutheran Church, Ladies Aid, American Legion Auxiliary, Poweshiek County Extension Council, former Deep River Mayor, Poweshiek County Fair Board, among her other activities. She enjoyed her Friday lunches with her widow friends. She was a pillar of the community.

Her legacy will be honored by her children: Teresa (Carl Fenner) Huedepohl of Conroy, Neil (Sharon) Widmer of Deep River, Myron (Tina) Widmer of Deep River, Philip (Angie) Widmer of North English, Curtis Widmer (Rosa Sondag) of Van Wert, Jennifer (Merle "JR") Rugg of North English, Marsha (James) Reitzler of North English, David (Maggie) Winegarden of Arizona, John (Sue) Winegarden of Fairfax and Stephen (Brandee) Rauch of Wilton; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren along with many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Lois was preceded in death by her parents, Harvey and Martha Wiedemeier; her husbands, Richard Widmer and Leland Winegarden; a son, Mark Widmer; a son-in-law, Neal Huedepohl, her brother, Gerald Wiedemeier and her sisters, Norma McGuire and Beverly Schrader.