



## Loretta Eileen Knutson

January 19, 1938 - January 7, 2026

Dateline; Caledonia, Mn

Loretta Eileen Knutson, 87, of Caledonia, Minnesota, passed away peacefully on January 7, 2026, surrounded by her loved ones.

Loretta was born on January 19, 1938, in Spring Grove, Minnesota, to James and Edith (Haugstad) Nerstad. She graduated from Spring Grove High School in 1955 and attended Luther College. On August 3, 1957, she was united in marriage to Lawrence Knutson at Trinity Lutheran Church in Spring Grove, Minnesota.

Loretta is survived by her loving husband, Lawrence Knutson; her sons, Alan (Deb) Knutson and Mark Knutson; five grandchildren, Jesse (Sam) Knutson, Emma (Andy) Fort, Amber (Richie) Meiners, Taylor (Caroleena) Knutson, and Miranda (Dallas) Terry; and seven great-grandchildren, Aiden and Garrett Fort; Kinley, Makenna, and Kalan Meiners; Owen Knutson; and Dottie Knutson. She is also survived by her sisters, Diane Nerstad and Elizabeth (Neil) Rowley; her brother-in-law, Trygve (Janet) Knutson; and her sisters-in-law, Carol Nerstad, Marion Nerstad, and Ruth Knutson.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her grandson, Casey Knutson; her daughter-in-law, Molly Knutson; her parents-in-law, Anton and Helma Knutson; her brothers, Ronald and John Nerstad; her sister, Linda Nerstad Kemp; and her brothers-in-law, Steve Kemp and Stanley Knutson.

Loretta was employed by the USDA–ASCS for 31 years, with the final 25 years of her career serving as manager of the Houston County ASCS office.

After her retirement, she and her husband operated a landscaping business for ten years. She had a deep love for the outdoors and the plants God provided. Loretta and Lawrence also raised Shetland Sheepdogs and sold purebred puppies.

Loretta was active at Immanuel Lutheran Church, where she served on the church council, including one year as council president, and participated in the church quilting group. She was a founding member of the Houston County Master Gardeners, served six years on the Houston County Fair Board, and was involved with the Thrivent for Lutherans board. She and Lawrence owned a hobby farm, where Loretta especially enjoyed working in her garden and caring for the Shetland Sheepdogs they raised.

In lieu of flowers the family respectfully requests, memorials be given.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 10, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Caledonia, Minnesota, with visitation at the church from 9:00 a.m. until the time of service.

Pastor Steve Meyer officiated.

Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery in Caledonia.

Roble Funeral Home of Spring Grove assisted the family with arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Evergreen Cemetery

Caledonia, MN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 10. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
419 E. Grove St.  
Caledonia, MN 55921

## Service

JAN 10. 11:00 AM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
419 E. Grove St.  
Caledonia, MN 55921

# Tribute Wall

LC

“ Loretta was a good friend of my mother, Martha Lager. Through the years we got together with Loretta and Lawrence and had many good laughs, and good times together. After mom passed, I contacted Loretta about lefse recipes. We compared the differences between Loretta's recipe and moms and now I have started enjoying making lefse anytime of the year. (I use Loretta's recipe) Everyone loves the lefse. May God bless her memory and all of the surviving family. Thanks for your friendship and memories. Rest in peace my dear friend. Linda Calkins

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Linda Calkins - January 07 at 07:16 PM