

On September 18, 1956, Carolyn was united in marriage to Richard at St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church. To this union the couple was blessed with six children. The couple had a dairy farm together where she enjoyed gardening, raising ducks, turkeys and chickens in the Lake Mary Township. She was given the nickname “flower lady” because of the beautiful flowers she grew and enjoyed bringing them to the Douglas County Fair. Carolyn helped found the Lake Mary Trooper 4-H Club, which is still going strong today. In the fall of 1990, the couple moved into Alexandria, when their sons took over the family farm. Carolyn worked at Knute Nelson and Kmart. She loved helping people and was happy to take anyone in need to their appointments. Carolyn enjoyed coffee with the Hoffman Group and going to the casino and playing bingo. Carolyn always had a pot of coffee going and a good meal for anyone. Carolyn was a member of St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church, the Ladies Auxiliary, Lowry American Legion Auxiliary Post 253, Douglas County 4-H Club, Master Gardeners, and Forada Senior Citizens. They were blessed with sixteen grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren. Her passion was being with and enjoying her grandchildren. She loved to play cards, make candy and goodies with them. The best times were making lefsa with as many grandchildren as could fit in the kitchen. Carolyn was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She will be greatly missed.

Carolyn died on Tuesday, July 17, 2018, at Alomere Health in Alexandria. She is survived by her husband, Richard, children, Theresa (Doug) Tvrdik, Karen (Kevin) Tvrdik, Alan (MaryBeth) Koudela, Dale (Teresa) Koudela, Katherine (Tom) Wilkins, Debra Reinhart; 16 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; sister, Doris Maki; and many nieces and nephews. Carolyn is preceded in death by her parents, Marvin and Lorna; brother, Lyman (Bonnie) Winther; brother-in-law, Joe Maki; and nieces, Judy Shermak and Loralee Naab.

*God looked around His garden
and found an empty space.*

*He put his arms around you,
lifted you to rest.*

*God's garden must be beautiful,
for He only takes the best.*

He knew that you were suffering.
He knew you were in pain.

*He saw the road was getting rough,
and the hills were hard to climb.*

*So He closed your weary eyes,
and whispered, "Peace be thine".*

*It broke our hearts to lose you,
but you did not go alone.*

*For part of us went with you,
the day God called you home.*

Carolyn E. Koudela

June 13, 1936



July 17, 2018

Mass of Christian Burial

St. John Nepomuk
Catholic Church
Lake Reno Township, MN
Saturday, July 21, 2018
1:00 PM



Officiant ~ Father Peter Kirchner

Organist ~ Lynn Bruss

Soloist ~ Ashley Lardy

Violinist ~ Emily Streitz

Readers

Allison Wilkins

Josie Koudela

Jeremy Tvrđik

Gift Bearers

Cody Koudela

Matthew Meyers

Urn Bearer ~ Amanda Reinhart

Honorary Urn Bearers

Carolyn's Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren
and the Lowry American Legion Auxiliary Post 253

Interment

St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church Cemetery
Lake Reno Township, Minnesota