



## Cleola Ferne Knoblauch

May 24, 1939 - July 29, 2025

In the peace of God's embrace, Cleola Ferne Knoblauch, age 86, went home to be with her Lord on July 29, 2025, knowing the immense love of her family and friends. Cleola was loved, cherished, and an example of strength until her last breath. Born May 24, 1939, at her Grandma Johnson's farm in Boyceville, WI, to Clifford Johnson and Inez (Stene) Johnson. As a child, they moved between WI, AZ, and MT, settling in Minneapolis, MN. Cleola entered nursing school and led a successful career, retiring as a surgical nurse. Married for almost 65 years, Larry and Cleo traveled abundantly, exploring nearly every state. In 1972, they welcomed their daughter Laurel, followed in 1977 by their daughter Cheryl. Active wife, mother, and friend, Cleola participated faithfully in her community on numerous committees and boards; nursing, soccer, Girl Scouts, Coon Rapids United Methodist Church, school, bowling, cards, and travel. Closer to home, Cleola enjoyed the company of friends and family; always open to visiting. One could say her telephone/coffee skills outdo current social media outreach. Marrying into a large family, Cleola became close friends with her mother-in-law (Fern Knoblauch), and she embraced family gatherings. Cleola always loved a good laugh, enjoying life to its fullest. A longtime resident of Coon Rapids, she was preceded in death by her parents, Clifford and Inez. She is survived by her loving husband Lawrence Knoblauch, daughters Laurel Lien (Scott) of IL, Cheryl Knoblauch of MN; endearing sister, Danita Draisey of WI; grandchildren Joseph, Laura, Daphne, and Bay; countless nieces, nephews, sisters and brothers-in-law, beloved

friends, and numerous extended family members. A memorial service will be held at TIME and DATE, Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapel at 1827 Coon Rapids Blvd, Coon Rapids, MN 55433, (763) 767-1000. A celebration of life will follow at Coon Rapids VFW in Cleola's honor. We welcome friends and family to join us in celebrating a life well-lived. Cleola will be interred at Fort Snelling in the future.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Coon Rapids Chapel  
1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.  
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

## Memorial Service

AUG **16**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Coon Rapids Chapel  
1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.  
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

# Tribute Wall

AW

“ and Lisa, Annette, Tara Wirkus purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Cleola Ferne Knoblauch.



and Lisa, Annette, Tara Wirkus - August 14, 2025 at 07:13 PM

TF

“ The Nozzarella Family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Cleola Ferne Knoblauch.



The Nozzarella Family - August 13, 2025 at 09:47 PM

TF

“ The Nozzarella Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cleola Ferne Knoblauch.

The Nozzarella Family - August 13, 2025 at 09:47 PM

JF

“ Janie Knoblauch family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Cleola Ferne Knoblauch.



Janie Knoblauch family - August 13, 2025 at 09:18 AM

SH

“ Shannon purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Cleola Ferne Knoblauch.



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**Shannon** - July 31, 2025 at 05:13 PM