



Donna Mae Henkels

May 3, 1932 - July 29, 2023

Donna M. Henkels, the daughter of Nester and Minnie Leach, grew up on the family farm just east of Heron Lake, Minnesota. Donna graduated from Heron Lake High School in 1950 and married Franklin Henkels on September 18, 1956, at Sacred Heart Church in Heron Lake.

Donna's God-given talent was organizing. She took pride in using that talent to revamp the Pilot Wives' Group, start their Neighborhood Watch as well as the Henkels' family reunion, an annual event she and Frank spearheaded over 25 years ago.

Her faith was a big part of her life. She was a long-time member of Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

Donna was a devoted caregiver to her parents and Aunt.

Gardening was Donna's passion, especially flowers. She shared her bountiful blooms with friends and neighbors, even hanging May baskets on her friend's doors. For many years she took great pride in caring for the community flower bed. She loved to walk, bake and do crafts. She especially enjoyed interior decorating and her and Frank's lovely home reflects that to this day.

Over the years Donna enjoyed their Labrador companions Brook, Pepper and especially Jill. She was entertained for a few seasons by an albino squirrel she named Snoflake.

Donna passed away on July 29, 2023.

Donna is survived by her devoted husband, Franklin who she cherished. She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews as well as numerous and

beloved great and great-great nieces and nephews, friends, and neighbors.
Donna was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Rodney; and sister-in-law Jolene (Rogers) Leach.

Mass of Christian Burial to be held Wednesday, August 9 at 11AM at Pax Christi Catholic Church, 12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55347, with visitation one hour prior. Interment at Dawn Valley Memorial Park.

Washburn-McReavy.com

Dawn Valley 952-941-7686

Previous Events

Visitation

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

Pax Christi Catholic Church
12100 Pioneer Trail
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Pax Christi Catholic Church
12100 Pioneer Trail
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Graveside Service

AUG 9. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Dawn Valley Memorial Park (Bloomington)
9940 Bush Lake Road
Bloomington, MN 55438

Tribute Wall

YF

“ Your Godson Roger and Susan Ferguson purchased the *Your Light Shines for the family of Donna Mae Henkels*.



Your Godson Roger and Susan Ferguson - August 08, 2023 at 04:03 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Donna Mae Henkels.



August 07, 2023 at 02:36 PM

JC

“ *Jan and Cory* purchased the *Fairest of All* for the family of Donna Mae Henkels.



Jan and Cory - August 07, 2023 at 12:58 PM

JC

“ *Jan and Cory* planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donna Mae Henkels.

Jan and Cory - August 07, 2023 at 12:58 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Donna Mae Henkels.*



August 07, 2023 at 12:12 PM



“ *Aunt Donna,
If you told me once, you told me a hundred times, "Do the best you can, everyday!" It was something your priest told you. We know that you did that. I will always admire your strength, determination and fierce independence.*

I will miss talking to you and visiting you each August. I know you will be on the minds and in the hearts of those attending the Henkels' family reunion this Saturday. I don't know of anyone who looked forward to that more than you.

Rest now in His loving arms.

Jan

Jan Wernstrum - August 05, 2023 at 05:34 PM