



Yvonne Joyce Staubus

June 16, 1930 - October 10, 2025

Yvonne Joyce "Bonnie" (Hoffmann) Staubus, born June 16, 1930 in Sleepy Eye, MN, passed peacefully surrounded by family, on Oct. 10, 2025 at age 95. She leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and ingenuity.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband Jim (John Sr); her parents, Arleen Marie (Bertrand) and Roman Edward Hoffmann; and her stepmother, Arvesta Ogren Hoffmann.

She is survived by her children: Iris Staubus (Ron Steelman), John Staubus Jr. (Donna Fosland), Thomas Staubus, and David Staubus (Dana);

Grandchildren: Kristen (Justin), Cari (Greg), Jim (Brandi), Stephanie, Mike, and Cassie;

Great-grandchildren: Sienna, Kensi, Ariana, Christopher, Cameron, Tristan, Mason, and Olivia.

Bonnie was a woman of boundless love, creativity, and generosity. As a proud mother of four, she poured her heart into raising her children-nurturing them, cheering them on, and helping them build their lives and homes. She was a master wallpaper hanger and a fearless decorator, always ready with a paintbrush and a plan. Her flair for beautifying spaces-often with thrift, boldness, and charm-was unmatched.

Known as a "Collector Extraordinaire," Bonnie had a gift for noticing the little things people loved. If someone casually mentioned an interest-"I love trolls," or "I'm into comics"-Bonnie would remember. Soon, that person would receive a thoughtful gift, and a collection would be born. Her attentiveness and joy in

giving made others feel truly seen.

Bonnie shared her talents freely, and her caring spirit touched every corner of her world-family, friends, church, library, schools, and the wider community.

Her energy and warmth were contagious, and her legacy will live on in the stories, homes, and hearts she helped shape.

She will be deeply missed by all whose lives she touched.

Services:

- October 24 - Visitation, 4-7pm

Washburn-McReavy, 5000 W 50th St, Edina (intersection of West 50th Street and Highway 100)

- October 25 -

Visitation, 9-10am

Memorial Service, 10am

Graveside Prayers, 11am

Lakewood Cemetery Memorial Chapel, 3600 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis

- Reception - 12pm

Washburn-McReavy Edina

Eulogy "Words of Remembrance"

Celebrating the extraordinary life of a woman who brought color, warmth, and joy to everyone she touched. Born on June 16, 1930, in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, to Roman and Arleen (Bertrand) Hoffmann, she lived a life that was anything but sleepy. She passed away peacefully on October 10, 2025, in Edina, Minnesota, leaving behind a legacy of love, laughter, and unforgettable memories.

She was preceded in death by her beloved parents, her devoted husband Jim-whom she met at a malt shop in Worthington and never dated anyone else-and her cherished sister Donna Kuhl. She is survived by her four children: Iris, John, Tom, and David, who each carry forward her spirit in their

own unique ways.

Educated in art and design, she had an eye for beauty and a knack for creativity. Her talents found a home at the public library, where she was affectionately known as "The Tornado"-a whirlwind of energy, ideas, and action. She also poured her heart into volunteering at St. John's Church, serving on the altar guild, organizing children's activities, and transforming the sanctuary with her Christmas decorations.

She was a Cub Scout Den Mother for Lake Harriet Elementary School Boys, giving her time and talent to create, organize, and facilitate projects that helped her son and his friends learn life skills and earn Cub Scout badges. Her leadership and creativity made those formative years unforgettable for many young boys.

Bonnie had a collector's soul. She was a collector of treasures and stories. Rolling pins, baseball memorabilia, nutcrackers, antique kitchen items-each piece had a tale, and she believed everyone should have a collection. If her grandchildren didn't have one, she'd start it for them.

She lived next door to her son John, and their relationship was a beautiful example of mutual support. They helped each other in ways big and small-proof that love doesn't always need grand gestures; sometimes it's just being there.

Bonnie had a gift for finding treasure in the most unexpected places and her legend lives on in the tale of the mysterious "Garage Sale Santa," who found fabulous gifts, wrapped them in newspaper and placed them under the tree. She was the master of home transformation-painting, decorating, and wallpapering with precision and flair. Her creativity knew no bounds, whether it was crafting paper roses for Iris's prom party or building gingerbread houses with her grandchildren. She was frugal, yes, but never at the expense of beauty or joy.

Long before genealogy websites existed, she was tracing family roots through church records, family bibles, and heartfelt interviews. She was a historian, a

storyteller, and a keeper of legacy. She has inspired her daughter Iris to continue the quest.

She and Jim ran an onion and pepper ring stand at the Minnesota State Fair, where she perfected her recipe and served up crispy joy to fairgoers. Her love for baseball was legendary-especially her bobblehead adventures with Tom. Rain or shine, they never missed a Twins Bobblehead giveaway game. She always enjoyed conversing with other people from all over the state. And who could forget the 3-foot-tall, 20-pound Kirby Puckett nutcracker, lovingly crafted by her son-in-law and proudly carried to a signing event?

Music filled her home-Big Band and Polka, especially. David remembers coming home from school to the sound of joyful tunes and dancing with Mom be it swing or polka, as soon as he got in the door. Her love for celebration was unmatched. Birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, reunions-she made every gathering feel like the most important day of the year.

She was honored by both the Minneapolis Public Schools (30 + years of service) and the Hennepin County Library for her dedication. She used her creativity, ingenuity and teaching skills to help children from overseas, often students from the Hmong community, learn and thrive in a new country. She was organized, resourceful, and always thinking of others.

Her cooking was legendary-varied, delicious, and made with love. Her children and grandchildren inherited her culinary passion, and she even held cooking classes for her great-grandchildren, teaching them how to make Spam burgers, a family favorite.

Her grandchildren remember riding in the back of the old station wagon, waving to everyone they passed, feeling like royalty. That's how she made people feel-seen, special, and loved.

She was a force of nature, a beacon of creativity, and the heart of her family. Her legacy lives on in every painted wall, every collected treasure, every joyful dance, and every bite of a Spam burger.

We will miss her deeply, but we carry her with us-in our stories, our traditions, and our hearts.

Cemetery Details

Lakewood Cemetery (Minneapolis)

3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Previous Events

Public Viewing

OCT **24**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Public Viewing

OCT **25**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Lakewood Memorial Chapel
3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Funeral Service

OCT **25**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Lakewood Memorial Chapel
3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Graveside Service

OCT **25**. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Lakewood Cemetery (Minneapolis)
3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Reception

OCT **25**. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Tribute Wall

BP

“ *Bonnie was a charismatic Force of Nature in the most caring, loving, good-hearted sense of those words. She was, first and foremost, passionately devoted to her family. She was witty and fearless, always looking on The Bright Side of Life. She was a culinary artist, ably assisted by her sous chef daughter Iris, and enjoyed multiple interests and hobbies. Bonnie was unique, and will always be dearly loved. With Sympathy, Bob & Verle*

Bob Pratt - October 28, 2025 at 04:06 PM

CC

“ *Carole Schumann, Kristen, Heidi & Carey purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Yvonne Joyce Staubus.*



Carole Schumann, Kristen, Heidi & Carey - October 23, 2025 at 02:12 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Yvonne Joyce Staubus.*



October 22, 2025 at 11:31 AM

MC

“ *Bonnie helped me in the St. John's kitchen for many years, especially during large events. She was an amazing, beautiful person, always helping where and when she could. St. Johns will miss her. Mary Corlett*

Mary Corlett - October 22, 2025 at 10:30 AM

SP

“ *Bonnie was my cub scout leader when I was in elementary school. Her son David and I have been life long friends. Her sons Tom and John have also kept in touch over the years. What a gentle soul, God bless. Scottk Peterson*

Scott Kent Peterson - October 21, 2025 at 12:05 PM

DJ

“ Dear Tom and David,

I just wanted to reach out to let you both know how deeply sorry I am for the loss of your mom. Though so many years have passed since those days when Tom and I graduated and headed off to the Coast Guard in July of 1972, I still remember your mom so clearly — gracious, kind, and always there for her family. She was the kind of mother whose quiet strength you could sense even as a young person visiting your home.

After reading her eulogy, I found myself nodding along — nothing there surprised me. It only reminded me of what I already knew: she was a woman devoted to her husband, her children, and the many people who crossed her path. Looking back, I only wish I had been more thoughtful and mature in those days. I would have loved to know her better, because she and my own mom would have been of the same heart — steady, selfless, and full of love for their families. Please know that Susie and I are praying for you both as you say goodbye to your mom and celebrate her life. I can only imagine how deeply she will be missed, but I hope the many memories of her kindness and care bring you comfort in the days ahead.

I truly wish I could be there in person to honor her life and to see you both again. Until that day, please know I'm thinking of you and thanking God for the memory of your mom — and for the friendship that began all those years ago.

*With heartfelt sympathy,
Dave & Susie Johnson*

David Johnson - October 20, 2025 at 02:37 PM

CF

“ Charlie, Sandy, Mike and family purchased the A Full Life for the family of Yvonne Joyce Staubus.



Charlie, Sandy, Mike and family - October 18, 2025 at 05:21 PM

CF

“ Charlie, Sandy, Mike and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Yvonne Joyce Staubus.

Charlie, Sandy, Mike and family - October 18, 2025 at 05:21 PM