



Elsie Josephine Shaffer

August 14, 1923 - December 4, 2019

Elsie J. Shaffer, age 96 of Dongola, passed away Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at Integrity Healthcare in Anna.

She was born on August 14, 1923 at home in Olmsted, the second oldest daughter of Werner Wilhelm and Anna Josepha (Holhubner) Schnaare. She married Russell Shaffer on September 22, 1944 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Olmsted. He preceded her in death on October 20, 1999.

A graduate of Grand Chain High School Elsie enjoyed attending numerous class reunions. During World War II, she worked as a detonator inspector at the Edison Plant in Cairo. She then worked at the Woodard Box Factory in Dongola assembling bands used for garden plants. Next, she completed nutrition, food preparation, meal planning and management classes at Southern Illinois University leading the way to becoming cafeteria supervisor and head cook for the Dongola School District where she worked for 21 years. To this day, former students remember the fresh, homemade rolls and other items that were served.

She and her sister in law, Wanda Gulley, prepared "spoon burgers" for many years for the Dongola Homecoming. She also served her community for many years as a volunteer for the Red Cross as well as an election judge.

She was a faithful member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Anna and was a member of the Over 50 Lutheran group.

Elsie always loved family gatherings and spending time with those she loved. She enjoyed gardening, traveling and playing games, especially dominoes. She was a loving and kind person not only to her family but to everyone. Although she only had 3 grandsons, she was affectionately known by many as "Granny".

Elsie is survived by her daughter Deborah Pass of Herrin; her son and daughter in law, Larry and Pat Shaffer of Dongola; her grandson Jon Shaffer and his wife Tricia of Anna; 2 great grandsons, Drew and Brandon Shaffer, both of Dongola; 1 sister, Agnes Thurston of Pulaski; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Russell Shaffer; her parents, Werner and Josie Schnaare; 1 son in law, Michael Pass; 3 brothers, John, Kenneth and James Schnaare and 4 sisters, Bert Curry, Irene Florreich, Mildred Helig and Margaret Thompson.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Friday, December 6, 2019 at Crain Funeral Home in Dongola.

Funeral services for Elsie Shaffer will be held at 11:00 am Saturday at the funeral home with Pastor Tim Weiser officiating. Interment will follow at St. Johns Cemetery in Dongola.

Memorial contributions can be made to Trinity Lutheran Church in Anna and will be accepted at the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

St. John's

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 6. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home - Dongola
106 NW Front St.
Dongola, IL 62926
866-592-7246
crain@crainsonline.com

Service

DEC 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home - Dongola
106 NW Front St.
Dongola, IL 62926
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crain@crainsonline.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Elsie Josephine Shaffer*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *13 files added to the album Family*



Jon Shaffer - December 06, 2019 at 01:38 PM



“ *I just love this lady! Always stopped by to see her whenever I visited mother..always got a kiss and a “how are you, honey” from her! My deepest sympathy to Debbie and Larry and Pat!!*

Janie Peterson - December 05, 2019 at 06:49 PM



“ *Elsie was always so sweet and kind to me as a child. What a beautiful lady!*

Cheri Honey - December 05, 2019 at 08:33 AM

JF

“ Aunt Elsie will be missed by so many! Always smiling, always loving, and just a beautiful person. She lived an amazing life! Condolences to Deb and the family. Jeff & Kathy Florreich

Jeff Florreich - December 05, 2019 at 07:08 AM

PS

“ What a beautiful person inside and out. I loved the many times we played dominos, which she liked to play. RIP my sweet Elsie...love you.

Phyllis Schnaare - December 05, 2019 at 06:40 AM

CG

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Carol and Randy George - December 04, 2019 at 11:40 PM

MF

“ Such a beautiful soul. I'm so sorry for your loss.

Missie "Cooley" Freburg - December 04, 2019 at 11:34 PM

DH

“ Will always remember her being in the cafeteria. Could always expect a smiling face and a helpful hand if you ever needed anything from her area.

Duane Hoffner - December 04, 2019 at 07:12 PM