



Cora Steffens

November 5, 1934 - January 11, 2026

The funeral service celebrating the life of Cora Steffens of Wadena will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, January 19, at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wadena with Pastor Nate Loer presiding. Visitation will be held at the church on Monday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the service. Burial will be in Wadena Cemetery, Wadena, MN.

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You are invited to watch the service via live-stream by going to:  
[www.youtube.com/@ILCWadena](http://www.youtube.com/@ILCWadena)

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With her daughters by her side Cora, 91, passed away on January 11, 2026, in Sauk Centre, MN. Compassionate care was provided by the CURA Care Center staff.

Cora was born to Philip and Elizabeth (Tebben) Berends on November 5, 1934, near Clara City in Chippawa County, MN. She attended Clara City School and graduated in 1952.

Cora was united in marriage with Clarence Steffens on November 28, 1954, in Clara City. Her days were busy with keeping books for her family's business, Ambassador Meats, and cooking in the school kitchen for many years. She enjoyed time at Rush Lake and especially valuable time spent with her family members. Cora devoted numerous hours to the activities at Immanuel

Lutheran Church. She also gave of her time to Tri-County Health and delivering Meals on Wheels. The community will remember her as a sweet “little” lady who always had treats and the coffee pot on.

Preceding Cora in death were her husband, Clarence (2004); sons, Duane (2021) and Al (2025); parents, Philip and Elizabeth; siblings: infant sister, Phyllis, Martin Berends, Johanna Ilaug, Ann Peterson and Mike Berends.

Forever remembering Cora will be her daughters Lois (Gary) Lawson of Wadena and Beverly (Tim) Soule of Sauk Centre; 11 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; daughters-in-law, Shelly Steffens and Lori Steffens; siblings, Betty Erickson and Elaine Weiss; sister-in-law, Carol Berends; brother-in-law, Ronnie (Diane) Steffens; along with extended family and a host of friends.

Honorary pallbearers will be Mitchell Steffens, Bobbi Jo Wegscheid, Nikki Sartori, Jill Steffens, Jenny Day and Andrea Fitzgerald.

Serving as pallbearers will be Brad Soule, Cory Soule, Brent Lawson, Kenny Steffens, Mike Steffens and Jake Day.

Cemetery Details

Wadena Cemetery

Franklin Drive & 5th St. SW
Wadena, MN 56482

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 19. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church - Wadena
403 2nd St. SE
Wadena, MN 56482

Service

JAN 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church - Wadena
403 2nd St. SE
Wadena, MN 56482

Burial

JAN 19. 12:00 PM (CT)

Wadena Cemetery
Franklin Drive & 5th St. SW
Wadena, MN 56482

Tribute Wall



“ Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Cora Steffens



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - January 14 at 05:45 PM

RL

Hi, we knew Cora through her daughter Bev. Knew the whole family. Loved them all. Loved Cora so much. My deasead Sister (Rox) ,and (Mother Trix) did love her as well. We always called her Ma. She did always have the coffee pot on,and if she knew you were coming, always has her delicious caramel rolls ready too. She,and my Mom, loved to play bingo,while waiting for us girls to go shopping, and we all loved the craft sales during opening day of hunting. Followed by going out for pizza. We had lots of visiting time in Sauk Centre, too. She will be deeply missed, along with Clarence, Duane, and Allan. Such a wonderful family. ❤️
Our Sympathy, and Love, to Lois, Gary, and Family, Bev, Tim , and Family. 💔😭
Gary and Renée Leinonen.

Renée Leinonen - January 15 at 02:41 PM

SP

“ Sandi & Barry Pratt lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens



Sandi & Barry Pratt - February 16 at 01:15 AM

AN

“ Alice (Davison) Nelson lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens



Alice (Davison) Nelson - January 27 at 11:50 AM

CU

“ To Cora’s family, I have many memories of your mom from going to school and seeing her as one of the lunch ladies and of course all the coffee parties she and the other Tuesday ladies had. She was a wonderful lady and I’m sure she is in heaven planning and baking something for tomorrow morning for Tuesday coffee with my mom and some of the other coffee club that were there to greet her.



Cindy Umland - January 26 at 11:00 AM

JM

“ I just viewed the funeral service at Immanuel Lutheran Church online and it was so heartwarming. The memories that the grandchildren mentioned were so cute. She was a good woman and great friend of my m,om Lorraine Gallagher for many years. That Tuesday Coffee Group was awesome. Now they can start it up again. Most of the group is up there already. Thinking of you, Steffens family. Judy Gallagher Mora OKC, OK.

Judy Gallagher Mora - January 19 at 01:54 PM

MS

“ Mike and Lea Snyder lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens



Mike and Lea Snyder - January 19 at 09:15 AM

RB

“ Ray and Dorothy Beyer lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens



Ray and Dorothy Beyer - January 18 at 11:31 AM

CA

“ Cindy Anderson lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens



Cindy Anderson - January 17 at 08:16 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cora Steffens.



January 17 at 12:09 PM

MV

“ Myrtle Vierkant planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cora Steffens.

Myrtle Vierkant - January 17 at 12:09 PM

DV

“ The Vierkant family would like to offer our sincere condolences on the loss of your mom Cora. Our mom Myrtle and Cora were best of friends. They spent hours on the phone planning there next outing or the next coffee party. They were there for each other when they needed help or assistance with any issue one might be having. They drove each other all over town to make appointments, volunteering and dining. Myrtle sends her prayers and will not be able to attend the funeral service do to heath reasons. She said she will see her another day and they will have a big coffee party. God Bless everyone and many prayers your mom was a very special person



Dale Vierkant - January 17 at 11:52 AM

MP

“ Thinking of you. You have my sympathy. Marie Pexsa

marie pexsa - January 16 at 11:50 PM

BN

“ *Cora was like a second mom for me growing up. I spent so much time with Al and Duane in my early years and Cora was always there to make sure we had everything we needed. She and Clarence were an important part of our entire family and such dear friends of my mom and dad. So many good memories. My condolences to the entire Steffens family.*
Bob & Cindy Nyberg



Bob Nyberg - January 16 at 03:25 PM



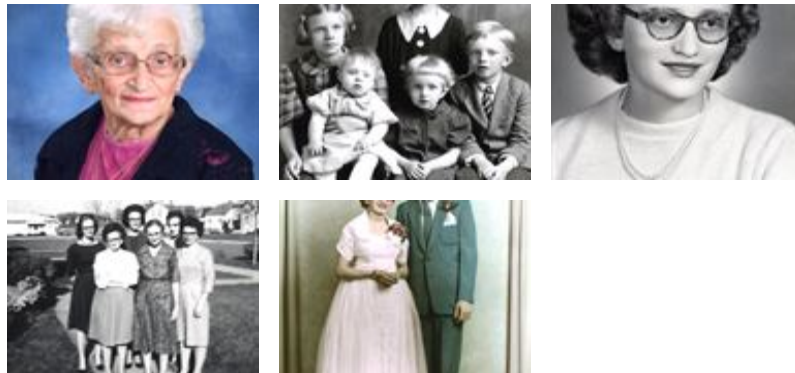
“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Cora Steffens.*



January 16 at 03:12 PM



“ *43 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - January 14 at 05:44 PM

JA

“ *Jonell & Duane Asfeld lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Jonell & Duane Asfeld - January 13 at 11:29 PM

JB

“ *Cora, How I enjoyed working with you at WDC (Wadena Public School as we knew it back then). You seemed to enjoy retirement as you stayed involved in the community. Now may you rest in peace, dear Cora.*



Joyce Boyne - January 13 at 03:06 PM

JE

“ *Jane Erckenbrack lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Jane Erckenbrack - January 13 at 02:38 PM

SL

“ *We are so sorry to hear about Cora. She was a wonderful friend to our family. She shared her home with us when we were selling Rita and Art's home. We will miss our visits with her.*
Wesley and Sheila Lund

Sheila Lund - January 13 at 12:15 PM

TF

“ *Trey and Jenny VanOrsdel and Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Cora Steffens.*



Trey and Jenny VanOrsdel and Family - January 13 at 09:09 AM

LH

“ *Linda Hendrickson lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Linda Hendrickson - January 13 at 07:34 AM

DA

“ *I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of Cora. She was always so involved in high school sports, it was fun watching her! God bless her and the entire family!*



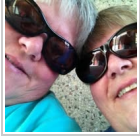
Debbie Anderson - January 13 at 01:54 AM

DS

“ *Dan and Deb Sweere lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Dan and Deb Sweere - January 12 at 11:38 PM



“ Rocky Reese lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens



Rocky Reese - January 12 at 09:14 PM

JR

“ Jenny Roeder lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens



Jenny Roeder - January 12 at 09:06 PM

RK

“ Rich & Mavis Kendall lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens



Rich & Mavis Kendall - January 12 at 08:43 PM

IB

“ I am sorry to hear of Cora's passing. She was a wonderful caring lady. She was also a great friend and I loved working with her at the hospital and going to visit her at her home. She will dearly be missed.

Irene Baron - January 12 at 05:47 PM

KH

“ *My heartfelt condolences. Cora was such a sweet woman. She will be so missed.* ”



Karen Hunnicutt - January 12 at 05:37 PM

LY

“ *Londa Youngbauer lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens* ”



Londa Youngbauer - January 12 at 05:28 PM

KL

“ *Ken and Nancy Lawson lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens* ”



Ken and Nancy Lawson - January 12 at 04:51 PM

DT

“ *Diane Teigland lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens* ”



Diane Teigland - January 12 at 04:40 PM

JE

“ *Judy Erdahl lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Judy Erdahl - January 12 at 03:13 PM

GM

“ *Cora and I graduated together in high school way back in 1952 in Clara City, MN. We both ended up in Wadena and lived only a block apart!!!! So many wonderful memories from over the years. She loved her family and close friends and will be missed. Gwen Macklem*

Gwen Macklem - January 12 at 02:53 PM

CP

“ *Sweet little "old grandma". Thinking of you Lois, Bobbi, and Nikki, and your families.*

Cheryl Pickar - January 12 at 02:22 PM

LM

“ *Liz Miller lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Liz Miller - January 12 at 02:02 PM

JK

“ *Jim and Victoria Klinnert lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Jim and Victoria Klinnert - January 12 at 02:00 PM

ST

“ *Sue Theisen lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Sue Theisen - January 12 at 01:39 PM

KP

“ *Karen Priebe lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Karen Priebe - January 12 at 12:07 PM

MS

“ *Mike and Lea Snyder lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Mike and Lea Snyder - January 12 at 10:17 AM

KM

“ I've known Cora for several years. Such a lovely, pleasant lady, always enjoyable to chat with. My heartfelt sympathy to the whole family. Karen Thomson Munson



Karen Munson - January 12 at 09:05 AM

SB

“ My sympathy to the Steffens family. Cora was a friend that I worked with at church many times.



Sharon Boline - January 12 at 08:36 AM

GC

“ Gladys Hansen Chase lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens



Gladys Hansen Chase - January 12 at 08:25 AM

BT

“ Barb & Terry Tumberg lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens



Barb & Terry Tumberg - January 12 at 08:05 AM

DK

“ *Dan Kern lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Dan Kern - January 12 at 06:20 AM

DG

“ *Donna Grendahl lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Donna Grendahl - January 11 at 10:33 PM

SL

“ *Lois, Gary and kids!! Very sorry to see this. Cora was a great person and a better grandma. We will all miss her , God Bless*

Steve and Linda - January 11 at 09:43 PM

TS

“ *Tony and Rhonda Snyder lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Tony and Rhonda Snyder - January 11 at 08:43 PM

GW

“ *Glen Donna Wood lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Glen Donna Wood - January 11 at 08:42 PM

EW

“ *May Cora rest in peace.
With our sincere sympathy-
Ellen and Steve Wallgren*



Ellen and Steve Wallgren - January 11 at 08:28 PM

JJ

“ *Jon and Patty Johnson lit a candle in memory of Cora Steffens*



Jon and Patty Johnson - January 11 at 06:18 PM