



## Elsie Kephart

January 17, 1934 - October 6, 2025

Per her request, a private graveside service celebrating the life of Elsie Kephart of Bertha will be held at the Moran Cemetery in Germana Township, Todd County, MN.

Elsie Marie Purucker was born the youngest of six children to Carl and Gertrude (Henseling) Purucker on January 17, 1934, at their home in Galva, IA. She was baptized and confirmed at St. John Lutheran Church in Galva and graduated as the salutatorian with the class of 1952. After high school she worked as a telephone switchboard operator.

On November 21, 1954, Elsie was united in marriage with Arnold Rae Kephart in Galva, IA. Throughout her journey she lived in Galva, and Anoka, MN, before making the Bertha area their home. Elsie participated in running the family farm, gardening, canning, and all the things a homemaker would do while raising their five children. In quieter hours she liked playing cards, working jigsaw puzzles and reading. She always enjoyed a fish fry and steak on the grill! After the cows were sold, Elsie and Arnold chose to travel, seeing much of Wisconsin and the South Dakota Badlands area. Even with failing health she was still able to stay in her home of 52 years.

At the age of 91, Elsie's health struggles ended on October 6, 2025, with family by her side at the Lakewood Health System in Staples, MN, and she is

now at peace.

Preceding Elsie in death were her husband, Arnold (2012); parents, Carl and Gertrude; daughter Karla Rasmusson; granddaughter, Alecia Reinolt; sons-in-law, Keith Reinolt, Curtis Lamberson and Mike Stumbris; siblings: Ernest Purucker, Lloyd Purucker, Sadie Loop, Maxine Wandrey and Harriet Johnson; and parents in-law, Earl and Florence (Clouse) Kephart.

Surviving Elsie are her children: Kim Kephart of Atwater, Wayde Kephart, Arnette (Mike) Kneisl both of Bertha and Ranae Stumbris of Wausaukee, WI; 16 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great grandchildren; along with numerous extended family, friends and neighbors.

# Cemetery Details

## **Moran - Germania Cemetery**

22477 430th St. & 225th Ave.  
Staples, MN 56479

# Tribute Wall

KB

“ *Kathy & Loren Buchholz lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



**kathy &loren buchholz** - October 14, 2025 at 08:11 PM

NK

“ *Norman & Julie Krause lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



**Norman & Julie Krause** - October 14, 2025 at 03:16 PM

VJ

“ *My deepest Sympathy to family.*



**Vicki Scott Jahnke** - October 14, 2025 at 09:38 AM

TF

“ *The Greenwaldt Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Elsie Kephart.*



**The Greenwaldt Family** - October 10, 2025 at 01:07 PM

DG

“ *Dennis Gorghuber lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



Dennis Gorghuber - October 09, 2025 at 03:03 PM

KA

“ *Kim Anderson lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



Kim Anderson - October 08, 2025 at 09:51 PM

LD

“ ❤️❤️



Laura DeLage - October 08, 2025 at 07:56 PM

JB

“ *Janice Bastian lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



Janice Bastian - October 08, 2025 at 04:34 PM

GW

“ *Glen Donna Wood lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



Glen Donna Wood - October 08, 2025 at 07:54 AM

JJ

“ *Jon & Patty Johnson lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



Jon & Patty Johnson - October 07, 2025 at 07:47 PM

DT

“ *Diane Teigland lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



Diane Teigland - October 07, 2025 at 06:45 PM

NB

“ *Sincerest Sympathy. From Brad and Nancy Braaten*



Nancy and Brad Braaten - October 07, 2025 at 05:23 PM

LO

“ *Lorraine lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



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**Lorraine** - October 07, 2025 at 05:22 PM

LH

“ *Thoughts and prayers to all who knew and loved dear Elsie!*



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**Lisa Hoemberg** - October 07, 2025 at 02:51 PM

AK

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**arnette kneisl** - October 07, 2025 at 02:14 PM

AK

*Elsie and Elsie.*

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**arnette kneisl** - October 07, 2025 at 08:13 PM

KT

“ *Karen Treangen lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



Karen Treangen - October 07, 2025 at 12:14 PM



“ *Grandma with Maximus* ❤️



Lindsay George - October 07, 2025 at 11:03 AM

RA

“ *Rita Anderson lit a candle in memory of Elsie Kephart*



Rita Anderson - October 07, 2025 at 09:23 AM

IB

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family. She was a wonderful lady and will be missed.*



Irene Baron - October 06, 2025 at 09:45 PM