



Gladys Putikka

July 18, 1921 - July 25, 2018

The funeral service for Gladys Putikka will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 1, at the St John Lutheran Church in Wadena, with Pastor Stephen Meltzer presiding. Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m. at the Johnson-Schuller Chapel in Wadena, and will resume at the church on Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the service.

With family at her side, Gladys passed away one week after her 97th birthday, on July 25, 2018, at Fair Oaks Lodge, Wadena, MN, with the compassionate attention of Knute Nelson Hospice Care.

Gladys was born the youngest of seven children to John Henry and Electa Maria (Smith) VanWinkle on July 18, 1921, in Courtenay, ND. She attended country school and Courtenay High School. Gladys and George Henry Pitcher were married on December 9, 1937. They made their home in Courtenay and later Jamestown, where George worked for Jamestown Plumbing and Heating. By November of 1951, they moved with their five children to a farm south of Bluffton, MN. George continued working as a plumber until his health failed. The fall of 1963 they moved to nearby Wadena. They were active as 4-H leaders for five years, with Gladys as the Sewing Leader. George passed away on December 16, 1972. Gladys was employed at Homecrest, Ind. from March 1962 through September 1982.

Gladys Pitcher was united in marriage with Oliver Putikka on August 14, 1982 in Wadena. Both were retired and enjoyed exploring numerous states and countries together. At home they were active in the VFW as officers, Color Guard, and volunteers. She proudly served three years as VFW Auxiliary President, and was the chairperson for sewing at the Fargo and St. Cloud VA Medical Centers, making many lap robes for the VA and local veterans and their families, and the needy. Locally, Gladys volunteered as a Pink Lady at Tri-County Healthcare crocheting cozy baby caps for the newborns. She was a member of St. John Lutheran Church, and Wadena TOPS Chapter having maintained KOPS status for 35 years.

Gladys was preceded in death by her husbands George and Oliver; parents John and Electa; daughter Sharon Taves; son Larry Pitcher; daughter-in-law Marge Pitcher; great-granddaughter Braelynn Johann-Crabb; brothers and sisters-in-law Clarence (Bessie), Henry (Zelda), and Allen (Nina) VanWinkle; sisters and brothers-in-law Gracie (Orville) Price, May (Otto) Kracht and Ora (Ross) Morris; brother-in-law Milan (Elsie) Pitcher; sister-in-law Janie Simanik and Pearl Quasney; brothers-in-law Rudy (Doris) Putikka and John Putikka; and sister-in-law Anita (Arne) Kol.

Survivors include her children Ken Pitcher of Glenwood; daughters Edna (Vern) Van Orsdel of Wadena; daughter Diane (Jerry) Crabb of Sebeka; 16 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and 9 great-great-grandchildren; and numerous friends.

Honorary pallbearers will be Gladys' great-grandchildren. Active pallbearers will be her grandchildren. Burial will be at the Wadena Cemetery, Wadena, MN.

Cemetery Details

Wadena Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 31. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Johnson-Schuller Chapel
205 4th Street Southwest
Wadena, MN 56482
(218) 631-3632

Visitation

AUG 1. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John Lutheran Church
710 Franklin Ave. SW
Wadena, MN 56482

Service

AUG 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John Lutheran Church
710 Franklin Ave. SW
Wadena, MN 56482

Tribute Wall



“ *Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Gladys Putikka*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - July 31, 2018 at 10:05 AM

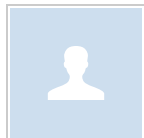
AS

“ *My condolences to the family of Gladys Putikka. It was an honor to be able to get to know Gladys; she was always such a joy to visit with.*

My thoughts and prayers to you at this difficult time.

-Ashley Syvertson

Ashley - August 01, 2018 at 11:59 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gladys Putikka.*



July 31, 2018 at 08:16 PM



“ 49 files added to the album Life Tributes



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - July 30, 2018 at 05:30 PM

CH

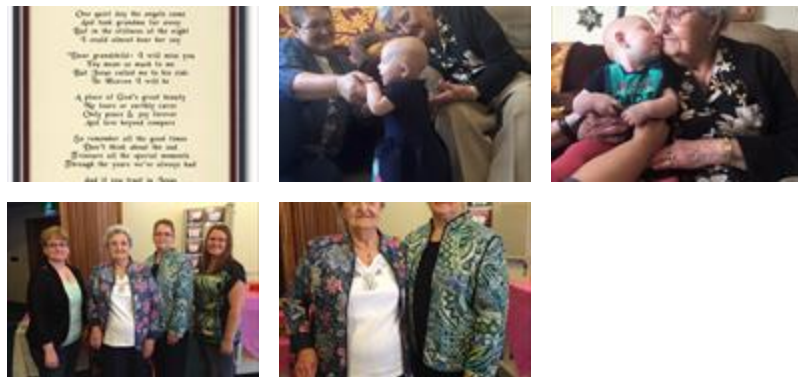
“ 1 file added to the album Tribute Wall



Christie Hennagir - July 30, 2018 at 12:07 PM

CH

“ 6 files added to the album New Album Name



Christie Hennagir - July 30, 2018 at 11:59 AM

JB

“ *Joan Brauch lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka*



Joan Brauch - July 29, 2018 at 10:29 PM

KM

“ *Karen Munson lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka*



Karen Munson - July 29, 2018 at 07:58 AM

FT

“ *From Glenn, Ginger, Bob Van Winkle and Janice Tate purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Gladys Putikka.*



From Glenn, Ginger, Bob Van Winkle and Janice Tate - July 28, 2018 at 10:06 PM

CS

“ *Charlotte Stemson lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka*



Charlotte Stemson - July 28, 2018 at 09:53 PM

ME

“ Margaret & Peter Van Erp lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka



Margaret & Peter Van Erp - July 27, 2018 at 09:49 AM

LM

“ Gladys was a great lady who will be truly missed. Sympathy to her family.



Linda Macklanburg - July 27, 2018 at 09:25 AM

JB

“ Jim And Lorie Baron lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka



Jim and Lorie Baron - July 27, 2018 at 08:51 AM

LC

“ Larry And Ruth Clark lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka



Larry and Ruth Clark - July 26, 2018 at 10:15 PM

DO

“*Doug And Joan Ostlund lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka*



Doug and Joan Ostlund - July 26, 2018 at 09:35 PM

MV

“*Myrtle Vierkant lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka*



Myrtle Vierkant - July 26, 2018 at 09:01 PM

KH

“*thinking of you kathy heltemes*

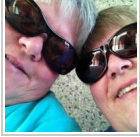


kathy heltemes - July 26, 2018 at 08:22 PM

RL

“*My sympathies to the family. It was an honor to have been part of her life.*

Rose Lorentz - July 26, 2018 at 07:51 PM



“ Rocky Reese sent a virtual gift in memory of Gladys Putikka



Rocky Reese - July 26, 2018 at 03:21 PM



“ David And Tina Irish lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka



David and Tina Irish - July 26, 2018 at 01:39 PM



“ Christie & Kevin Hennagir lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka



Christie & Kevin Hennagir - July 26, 2018 at 01:32 PM



I will miss you Grandma. At least you are at peace and no longer in pain. Rest in the arms of Jesus.

Christie - July 26, 2018 at 01:34 PM

JF

“ Joe McIntire Family lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka



Joe McIntire Family - July 26, 2018 at 12:35 PM

LS

“ Lea And Mike Snyder lit a candle in memory of Gladys Putikka



Lea and Mike Snyder - July 26, 2018 at 12:17 PM