



LeAnn Evans

January 19, 1943 - March 4, 2024

The Mass of Christian Burial for LeAnn Evans of Wadena will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 11, at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Wadena. Visitation will be held on Sunday, from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m. at the Johnson-Schuller Chapel in Wadena with a Christian Mother's Rosary at 5:00 and Prayers at 6:00 p.m. Visitation will resume at the church on Monday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the Mass.

Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery in Wadena, MN.

LeAnn Marie (Fink) Evans (81) passed away on March 4, 2024, after a long battle with cancer. She was born on January 19, 1943, in Sisseton, South Dakota, to Ben and Esther (Dinger) Fink. LeAnn grew up in Cooperstown, ND, graduating in 1961. She attended NDSU majoring in Vocational Home Economics for three years, but was sidetracked for a few years getting married, having two children, living in both Oregon and Virginia before returning to NDSU to finish and graduate with her teaching degree. She enjoyed teaching and learning, and in 1993, she earned an M.S. in Adult Education from Bemidji State University.

In 1971, LeAnn returned with her two daughters (Paige and Valerie Shreeve) to Cooperstown, ND, where she taught High School Home Economics. LeAnn was innovative as an educator, starting the first sewing class for boys in that community, where the boys could create outdoor equipment, such as tents,

sleeping bags and parkas from kits ordered from Frostline Kits in Colorado. Some would think that boys might be difficult to teach in a sewing course, but LeAnn found them to be delightfully mischievous, such as the time the boys baked one young man's wallet in the oven for an entire class period, announcing when the bell rang, that wallet was "done". Another time, during a severe blizzard, LeAnn, the teacher living closest to the school, was enlisted to brave the elements and cross the street, tied by a rope to check to make sure the furnace was working. She thought that was an excellent adventure. Other career endeavors included teaching in Elbow Lake/Barrett, MN and managing Northwest Fabric Stores throughout the Midwest. In 1982, LeAnn and her girls moved to Wadena, MN, where LeAnn took an educator/4-H position with the University of Minnesota Extension Office. She enjoyed this job immensely until retirement in 2003. Highlights of her career in Extension involved the yearly chaperoning of the Wadena 4-H kids to the State Fair, where she insisted on staying on the 3rd Floor of the 4H building with 300 kids, because "if it was good enough for the kids, it was good enough for the chaperones." When it came to Homemakers Groups, she devised innovative lessons, including a memorable lesson on how to use beans to make fudge. She was always available to help any member of the community with gardening, canning, cooking, and sewing dilemmas.

While living in Wadena, LeAnn met Elroy Evans, and in 1992, they were united in marriage. They lived for many years on County Road 4, before moving into town. They were very happily married for 32 years. In retirement, she and Elroy spent 3 months every winter in Texas, where she was active in several groups, including the Quilting Club and the Red Hats Group. In Texas, she loved eating at Dirty Al's, visiting Mexico, but most of all, she loved spending time with her Texas friends, especially Elaine. LeAnn also loved to travel and went on several trips to Europe, and one trip to Japan.

LeAnn was active in Wadena with Partners for a Healthy Wadena/Depot, Extension Study Groups, Quilt Clubs and St. Ann's Catholic Church. She was the first woman invited to join the Wadena Rotary Club, and the first woman to

serve as its president.

LeAnn is survived by her husband, Elroy; daughters Paige Shreeve (Mike Zender), San Antonio, TX and Valerie (Jeff) Westerholm, Billings, MT; grandchildren Taylor Welle, St. Peter, MN, and Chandler Welle, Maple Grove, MN; step-children Deb Brauch, Verndale, MN, Dean (Christy) Evans, Corcan, MN; DeAnn Evans (Robin Rautio), Menahga, MN, and David (Missy) Evans, Wadena, MN; step-grandchildren David and Dan Brauch, and Sarah Packard, Holden and Tanner Rautio, Chase and McKenna Evans, Mason and Kendra Evans and several great-grandchildren; brother, Ben (Linda) Fink, Wahpeton, ND; and four nieces and two nephews.

Preceding LeAnn in death are her parents, Ben and Esther Fink, and sister Lois Mae Curtis.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

Franklin Dr. & 6th St SW
Wadena, MN 56482

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 10. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Rosary

MAR 10. 5:00 PM (CT)

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

Prayers

MAR 10. 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

MAR 11. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st St. SE
Wadena, MN

Service

MAR 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st St. SE
Wadena, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - March 09, 2024 at 11:47 AM

AH

“ *Sorry to hear of LeAnn's passing. My thoughts are with Elroy and the family*
Andy Huhta
Sebeka

Andy Huhta - March 13, 2024 at 02:40 PM

LB

“ *She was an awesome role model! So glad I was able to visit with her Elroy when I was at the clinic and they called Leanne and we both answered. She will be missed in the Wadena community!*

Leanne Buettner - March 11, 2024 at 08:24 PM

DG

“ *Dee Goerge lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Dee Goerge - March 10, 2024 at 06:42 PM



“ *My condolences to LeAnn's family. LeAnn was a classmate of mine and we worked on many class reunions.*

Joanne White

Joanne White - March 09, 2024 at 07:15 PM

LP

“ *My condolences to all of LeAnn's family in this time of sorrow. LeAnn was a classmate of mine in Cooperstown and a friend. May she rest in peace.*

Larry Pratt

Larry Pratt - March 09, 2024 at 05:20 PM

DM

“ *Dixie Murray lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Dixie Murray - March 08, 2024 at 11:10 PM



“ 55 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - March 08, 2024 at 09:29 PM

TA

“ *The Langeraks, Sullivans, & Andersons purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of LeAnn Evans.*



The Langeraks, Sullivans, & Andersons - March 08, 2024 at 06:55 PM

TN

“ *The Nelsons & The Nervigs purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of LeAnn Evans.*



The Nelsons & The Nervigs - March 08, 2024 at 01:09 PM

HA

“ *Helen Allee lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Helen Allee - March 08, 2024 at 11:30 AM

TK

“ *Terri & George Kramer lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Terri & George Kramer - March 07, 2024 at 03:24 PM

TL

“ *Our deepest sympathy to the family of LeAnn. She was a wonderful, gracious lady! May she rest in peace. Tom & Mary Ludovissie*



Tom & Mary Ludovissie - March 07, 2024 at 12:04 PM

GK

“ *Gary & Barbara Kane lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Gary Barbara Kane - March 07, 2024 at 11:22 AM

WE

“ *Westerholms planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of LeAnn Evans.*

Westerholms - March 07, 2024 at 09:50 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of LeAnn Evans.*



March 07, 2024 at 09:50 AM

DA

“ *Our earth is less bright with the passing of LeAnn. She was a Beautiful human being, inside & out. May we honor her by carrying on her legacy' of goodness & kindness. God bless & bring comfort to her loved ones.*



Di Schiller Anderson - March 06, 2024 at 11:29 PM

IB

“ *Irene Baron lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Irene Baron - March 06, 2024 at 05:35 PM

JC

“ *LeAnn was my favorite Home Ec teacher in high school. She groomed me to be a District President for FHA as a senior. My senior year, she was very committed to planning the district meeting in a very concise, organized, efficient way (as normally they weren't planned well and they dragged on and on and on). She later became an aunt-in-law as I married her nephew Greg. GREAT lady !!! She made a big impact on VERY many people in the lifetime that she lived. Blessings to all the family!!*

Judy Hagen Curtis - March 06, 2024 at 05:11 PM



“ *Nancy Peterson lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Nancy Peterson - March 06, 2024 at 05:10 PM

LK

“ *Lee & Patty Kicker lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Lwe & Patty Kicker - March 06, 2024 at 04:50 PM

LB

“ *Lucille Belch lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Lucille Belch - March 06, 2024 at 03:13 PM

BG

“ *Bob & Donna Grendahl lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*

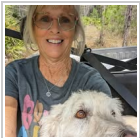


Bob and Donna Grendahl - March 06, 2024 at 03:11 PM



“ *I'm very sorry to hear of LeAnn's passing. We wish you hope and peace as you go through these days of sadness. Paul and Elaine L.*

Elaine Lorentz - March 06, 2024 at 02:50 PM



“ *Elaine Lorentz lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Elaine Lorentz - March 06, 2024 at 02:45 PM

JK

“ Jessica Keddy lit a candle in memory of
LeAnn Evans



Jessica Keddy - March 06, 2024 at 02:17 PM

LS

“ Lois Stelflug lit a candle in memory of LeAnn
Evans



Lois Stelflug - March 06, 2024 at 01:01 PM

LK

“ Lee & Patty Kicker lit a candle in memory of
LeAnn Evans



Lee & Patty Kicker - March 06, 2024 at 12:21 PM

RJ

“ This was a shock to me as I remember her looking so good the last time I saw her in church. I knew she had some health problems, but just did not think she could pass so soon. She was an active extension agent when my kids were in 4-H and later worked with me at St. Ann's church kitchen. She was every thing the tribute comments described--such an active person in every thing she became a part of. Elroy and Leann's family, my deepest sympathy to you.

Rose Johnson - March 06, 2024 at 12:14 PM

TH

“ Sending love, hugs and prayers



Tammie K Hamlin - March 06, 2024 at 12:03 PM

RF

“ Rick Fisher lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans



Rick Fisher - March 06, 2024 at 11:41 AM

BB

“ *Lifting the family in prayer!!*



Barb Brown - March 06, 2024 at 11:25 AM

SB

“ *Sharon Boline lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Sharon I Boline - March 06, 2024 at 11:11 AM

PL

“ *To Elroy and all of LeAnn's family: grace and peace to you in this time of incredible loss. The people of Immanuel are holding you all in prayer, that God's promises would hold you and bless you with strength and courage.*

Pastor Nate Loer - March 06, 2024 at 10:14 AM

JJ

“ *Jon & Patty Johnson lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Jon & Patty Johnson - March 06, 2024 at 08:05 AM

DK

“ *Dan Kern lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Dan Kern - March 06, 2024 at 06:18 AM

DM

“ *Dixie Murray lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Dixie Murray - March 05, 2024 at 10:56 PM



“ *Rocky Reese lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Rocky Reese - March 05, 2024 at 10:52 PM

GW

“ *Glen & Donna Wood lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans*



Glen Donna Wood - March 05, 2024 at 10:43 PM

CG

“ My condolences to all her family and to the larger Wadena community she loved. Leann’s passion to enjoy every minute of life was a bright spot in the ways our lives intersected- primarily as a quilter but also from the wonderful ways she influenced and inspired others in her extension work. She was a trailblazer in so many ways. Superb seamstress, creative quilter, exceptional organizer she touched the lives of many. I’m so grateful I had the opportunity to meet her, sew alongside her and create for others. Peace, Rev. Cheryl Goode (nee Williams), retired clergywoman.



Cheryl Goode - March 05, 2024 at 09:33 PM

MS

“ Mike & Lea Snyder lit a candle in memory of LeAnn Evans



Mike and Lea Snyder - March 05, 2024 at 08:51 PM

GD

“ Sending our deepest condolences, LeAnn was a special person.



George Julie Deiss - March 05, 2024 at 08:36 PM



“ *To Leann's family: Leann was one of the most beautiful, sharing, loving womn I have known. My heart hurts, as I know your's do.*

Carol Osborn - March 05, 2024 at 07:12 PM