



## Rita Carew

September 1, 1935 - May 13, 2023

The memorial service celebrating the life of Rita Carew of Park Rapids and formerly of Wadena, will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 9, 2023, at the United Methodist Church in Hubbard, MN with Pastor Lauren Hauger presiding. A gathering of family and friends will be held at the church from 12:30 p.m. until the time of the service.

Rita, age 87, died on May 13, 2023, at her home on Long Lake being cared for by her daughters and Knute Nelson Hospice and Homecare.

Rita Belle Lewis was born on September 1, 1935, to Howard and Hazel (Guthrie) Lewis in Dickinson, ND. Her early years were spent in several different states, but Rita considered Wahpeton, ND home. After graduating from Wahpeton High School in 1953, she attended Hamline University in St. Paul, MN. Rita earned her bachelor's degree in psychology in 1957. She graduated as valedictorian in both high school and college.

During her junior year at Hamline, Rita met a handsome young man who was returning to college after two years in the army. That young man became Rita's husband. Tom Carew and Rita were married on December 27, 1957, in Wahpeton, ND. After living in various cities in Minnesota, they moved to Wadena. In 1965 they purchased Wadena Floral and together built a successful business.

Rita was not simply a homemaker, wife, and mother. She was an active community volunteer. In 1993 she was recognized with the Today's Woman Award from Wadena Women of Today. She was involved with Kids on the Block, a puppet program that made elementary students aware of those with disabilities. Rita was active on the boards of the Wadena County ARC and Pembina Trails group home. She also delivered Meals on Wheels. Rita was a proud member of P.E.O., an organization that assists young women in going to college. She was a "golden girl", a member for 65 years.

Rita also enjoyed music. She began playing the clarinet in elementary school and continued through her adult years by playing in both the Wadena and Park Rapids community bands. Rita was also blessed with a rich alto voice. She sang in the high school choir and in many church choirs. Along with choir, Rita was a faithful member of the United Methodist Women. Together, Tom and Rita received the Methodist Mission Award.

In 1999, Tom and Rita built a home on Long Lake near Park Rapids directly across the lake from the family's original cabin where they had spent summers for 30 years. Rita enjoyed feeding the birds and going for walks. She was also a seamstress and liked to read. Most of all she loved family time! Whether it was playing games, telling stories around the fire pit, or going for boat rides, just being together was her favorite time. Rita dearly loved her family.

Rita was steadfast in her faith. She was a wonderful example of a true, kind, Christian woman. She loved the Lord above all else.

She will be lovingly remembered by her three girls Julie (Paul) Mutch of Larimore, ND; Martha (Daniel) Holzer of Bismarck, ND; and Cynthia Jo of St. Cloud, MN. Deeply missing Grandma Rita are grandchildren: Nathan (Ellen) Borgen, Mackenzie (Christopher) Neamonitis; Nicholas (Shadai) Holzer;

Meredith (Christian) Prevost; Alexander Mutch; and great grandsons Charlie and Finn Borgen.

Rita was preceded in death by her husband Tom (June 3, 2022); parents, Howard and Hazel; and sister, Kathleen.

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Family & Friends

JUN 9. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

United Methodist Church - Hubbard  
12150 Broadway Road  
Hubbard, MN 56470

## Celebration of Life

JUN 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

United Methodist Church - Hubbard  
12150 Broadway Road  
Hubbard, MN 56470

# Tribute Wall



“ *Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Rita Carew*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - May 24, 2023 at 02:19 PM

DG

“ *I was from Wahpeton. N.D. but moved with my parents to So.Ca. in 1952. Rita and I were neighbors and used to walk to school together. I just happened to see this today of all days. I'm 87 now and live in Oregon. I knew Rita's mother and her sister. This is unreal. Dianne Noble now Dianne Gilmour 87629 Woodmere East Florence, Oregon 97439*

Dianne Noble Gilmour - June 09, 2023 at 10:37 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Rita Carew.*



June 06, 2023 at 11:20 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rita Carew.*



June 06, 2023 at 11:49 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Rita Carew.*



June 05, 2023 at 12:54 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rita Carew.*



June 03, 2023 at 04:31 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rita Carew.*



May 31, 2023 at 10:18 PM

CH

“ Beautiful memories with Aunt Rita ❤️



CC Hays - May 31, 2023 at 09:48 PM



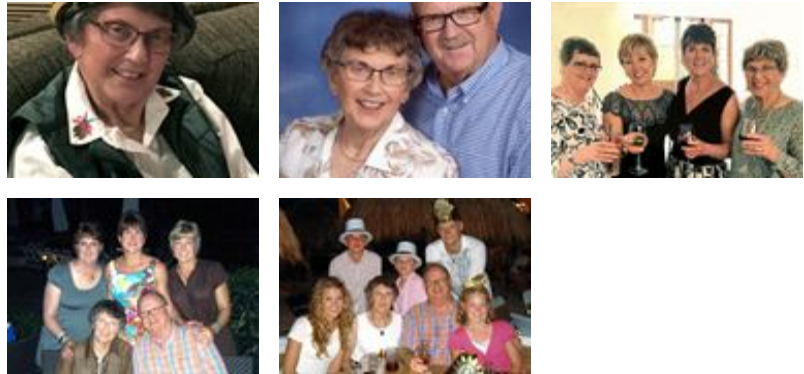
“ 2 files added to the album Life Tributes



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - May 30, 2023 at 06:23 PM



“ 48 files added to the album Life Tributes



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - May 24, 2023 at 02:16 PM

DK

*Cindy, I express my sympathy to you and your family at your loss and difficult time.*

*DeVonne Koppenberg, Rockford, MN*

DeVonne Koppenberg - May 25, 2023 at 02:50 PM

CP

“ *Rita was such a sweet lady. I'm glad I got to meet her. My thoughts and prayers are with all the family.* ”

Carol Pinnell - May 21, 2023 at 09:53 AM

K.

“ *RED And BLACK FLANNEL SHIRT DAY. Lov u RITA* ”

K.T. - May 21, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rita Carew.* ”

May 20, 2023 at 10:26 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Rita Carew.* ”



May 20, 2023 at 10:26 PM

H.

“ Please accept our deepest condolences. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Rest in peace Rita. We miss you.  
Matharu Family



H.Matharu - May 20, 2023 at 09:53 PM

VF

“ Thinking of you and your family during this time. Wishing eternal rest to Rita, let perpetual light shine upon her, and may she rest in peace!

Veronica and Heath Lunde family - May 20, 2023 at 09:52 PM

JA

“ Jerry Di Anderson lit a candle in memory of Rita Carew



Jerry & Di Anderson - May 20, 2023 at 11:59 AM

OA

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.



Onni Sharp Anderson - May 17, 2023 at 01:39 PM

BG

“ *Bob & Donna Grendahl lit a candle in memory of Rita Carew*



**Bob and Donna Grendahl** - May 16, 2023 at 01:44 PM



“ *Jane Erckenbrack lit a candle in memory of Rita Carew*



**Jane Erckenbrack** - May 15, 2023 at 10:45 PM

BG

“ *Bonnie Gustafson lit a candle in memory of Rita Carew*



**bonnie gustafson** - May 15, 2023 at 12:46 PM

JJ

“ *Jon Johnson lit a candle in memory of Rita Carew*



**Jon Johnson** - May 15, 2023 at 08:58 AM

DA

“ *Di & Jerry Anderson lit a candle in memory of  
Rita Carew*



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**Di & Jerry Anderson** - May 15, 2023 at 08:57 AM