



## Vera Westra

September 6, 1919 - December 14, 2017

The funeral service for Vera Westra, formerly of rural Verndale, will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 20, at the Hope Chapel in rural Verndale with Reverend Neal Malcore presiding. Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Johnson-Schuller Chapel in Wadena. Visitation will resume at the church on Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the service.

With family at her side, Vera, age 98, quietly passed away on December 14, 2017, at the Fair Oaks Lodge, Wadena, MN.

Vera was born to George Elmer and Stella Ramona (Porter) Collison on September 6, 1919 in Sturgis, SD. She attended country school through the eighth grade.

She served in the US Air Force until her honorable discharge as a Corporal, in February of 1946 at San Francisco, CA. Over the years she found employment in housekeeping, as a waitress at four restaurants and at a sandwich shop in Washington on a field they made with an atomic bomb.

Vera was united in marriage with Irvin George Westra on June 1, 1948 in Brainerd, MN. They resided north of Verndale. Here, Vera enjoyed the outdoors when working in her yard and tending to her flowers. She also

enjoyed putting puzzles together. In earlier years, Vera was a member of the Nimrod Garden Club.

Vera was preceded in death by her husband Irvin on January 28, 1994; parents George and Stella; daughter Janet Westra; brothers Elmer, Orville, George, Cecile and Harold Collison; sisters Lela "Beth" Johnson, Margaret Gelvin, and Esther Johnson; and parents-in-law Henry and Elizabeth Westra.

Vera is survived by her devoted daughters Jill (John Uselman) Westra of Wadena and Jean Biggs of North Royalton, OH; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Jean Biggs, Jill Westra, John Uselman Stefan Biggs, Danielle Biggs and Ruth Willie.

Active pallbearers will be Joshua Biggs, Nathan Umland, Jacob Umland, Bob Collison, Larry Collison and Darrel Johnson.

Military honors will be provided by the MNAGHG.

Burial will be in Poplar Cemetery, near Leader , MN.

# Cemetery Details

## Poplar Cemetery

north of Motley on Hwy 64  
Cass County, MN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 19. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Visitation

DEC 20. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Hope Chapel  
18142 Co Rd 7  
Verndale, MN 56481

## Service

DEC 20. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Hope Chapel  
18142 Co Rd 7  
Verndale, MN 56481



# Tribute Wall



“ *Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Vera Westra*



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**Schuller Family Funeral Homes** - December 18, 2017 at 08:46 PM

JW

“ *Jill Westra lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



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**Jill Westra** - October 30, 2022 at 02:16 AM

JU

“ *John Uselman lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



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**john uselman** - December 25, 2019 at 03:20 PM

JU

“ *John Uselman lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



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**john uselman** - December 24, 2018 at 09:09 PM

JW

“ *Jill Westra lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



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**jill westra** - December 24, 2017 at 08:03 PM

JU

“ *John Uselman lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



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**john uselman** - December 24, 2017 at 08:03 PM

HA

“ *Jill, So sorry to hear about your mother. I have not seen her for many years now, but she was always so pleasant to talk to when she came in The Uptown to eat. She was very nice lady. We would go by her place once in awhile to put up hay over in that area. Will be praying for you . God bless all of you. Helen and Art Allee*



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**Helen Allee** - December 21, 2017 at 01:47 PM

DJ

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Darrel E Johnson** - December 19, 2017 at 09:28 PM

SB

“ *Vera was my Grandmother. She was an amazing woman. She was resilient, energetic, and dedicated. I will always admire her strength. The greatest lesson I will take from her life is to never give up. I am so sad that she is gone, but thankful for the many years I was in her life. I love her and miss her with all my heart.*

*Most Sincerely & Lovingly,*

*Stefan Biggs*

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**Stefan Biggs** - December 19, 2017 at 12:41 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Vera Westra.



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December 19, 2017 at 11:23 AM

BG

“ Vera and Irv were neighbors to my parents, Ray and Evelyn Goepferd, for many years out on the Leaf River and they would visit back and forth and play cards. My favorite story that my parents shared with us is that they took a trip to somewhere in North Dakota with Vera and Irv. Irv drove and they stopped in Fargo to fill with gas. Then took off on I-94 heading west and drove 10 miles and pulled over on the shoulder and they got out to switch drivers. Dad asked why they were stopping. Irv or Vera said that in 55- Alive class they said you should switch drivers every 100 miles and since it was only 90 miles to where they stopped for gas they had to go another 10 miles before switching drivers. They continued to switch every 100 miles no matter where that 100 mile mark left them. At least they were listening at that class.  
Good neighbors to my parents who are both gone now.  
Bill Goepferd

Bill Goepferd - December 19, 2017 at 10:58 AM



“ 43 files added to the album Life Tributes



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - December 18, 2017 at 07:37 PM

Kelly Olson

“ Kelly Olson lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra



Kelly Olson - December 18, 2017 at 03:06 AM

TK

“ Tammie Klawitter sent a virtual gift in memory of Vera Westra



Tammie Klawitter - December 17, 2017 at 09:11 PM

LN

“ Lila Notch lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra



Lila Notch - December 17, 2017 at 09:10 PM

RB

“ Rita Boehland lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra



Rita Boehland - December 17, 2017 at 08:57 PM

BL

“ *Brenda Lorentz lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



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**Brenda Lorentz** - December 17, 2017 at 11:32 AM

DL

“ *Dale And Marlene Campbell Lifesadance@wc lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



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**Dale and Marlene Campbell lifesadance@wc** - December 17, 2017 at 07:14 AM

 Lee Hallett

“ *Lee Hallett lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



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**Lee Hallett** - December 16, 2017 at 09:30 PM

 Lee Hallett

*Vera was my neighbor for years.. Loved this lady.. she will be missed.. lots of laughs and talks about everything expecially about cats..*

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**Lee Hallett** - December 16, 2017 at 09:33 PM

Lee  
Hallett

“ *Lee Hallett lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



Lee Hallett - December 16, 2017 at 09:29 PM

AA

“ *Arles Andrews lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



Arles Andrews - December 16, 2017 at 08:45 PM



“ *Julie Hinman Lucken lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



Julie Hinman Lucken - December 16, 2017 at 12:22 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Darrel Johnson - December 15, 2017 at 06:53 PM

DJ

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Darrel E Johnson** - December 15, 2017 at 05:48 PM

DA

“ I met Vera at FOL & shared some heartwarming visits with her. God bless your memories of this dear lady 🙏



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**Di Schiller Anderson** - December 15, 2017 at 05:42 PM

LH

“ Leo Haisman lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra



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**Leo Haisman** - December 15, 2017 at 04:55 PM

AB

“ Amber Block lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra



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**Amber Block** - December 15, 2017 at 10:23 AM

JU

“ *John Uselman lit a candle in memory of Vera Westra*



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**john uselman** - December 15, 2017 at 10:15 AM