

Josephine “Joey” Marie Werder was born on February 11, 1929, at her grandparent’s home in the Raymond area to Louis and Rose (Card) DuHoux. She was baptized at the Willmar Methodist Church and was confirmed as an adult at Redeemer Lutheran Church. She attended grades 1-8 at District #45 Country School and graduated from Willmar High School in 1947.

Joey met her husband Donald Werder (when he returned from the Army Air Force) when a junior in high school. They were united in marriage on July 19, 1947, at Redeemer Lutheran Church. This union was blessed with three children, Larry, Peggy, and Thomas. They shared 53 years of marriage always living in Willmar until Don passed away on October 29, 2000. Prior to her residence at Bethesda Grand, Joey lived several years at Independence Place and Bethesda North Point, where she made many friends.

Joey was employed by the Willmar Public Schools at the senior high school nurse’s office and then as the attendance secretary. Following retirement, she continued to work part-time at various schools for a total of 41 years. Joey and Don spent over 15 winters at their “Snowbird” home in Arizona, where they met and made lifelong friendships.

Joey was a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church, was active as Past Altar Guild member, release class, bible school, greeter, kitchen committee and as a Brownie Leader. Joey also active with the American Legion Auxiliary since 1953, Rice Hospital volunteer in the gift shop and member of the Rice Hospital Auxiliary and served for many years as an election judge.

Joey enjoyed sewing, gardening, theatre, baking cookies (especially for her grandchildren), attending all their basketball games, gymnastics meets, dance recitals, playing with her great grandchildren and going out for lunch with her friends. The entire Werder family enjoyed many good times at Games Lake where they had a cabin for many years until the children purchased their own homes at a lake.

She is survived by two children, Peggy (and Luther) Dykema of Willmar and Tom (and Susan) Werder of Litchfield; a daughter-in-law, Christy Werder of Osakis; eleven grandchildren, Paul (and Nichole) Werder, Andrew (and Jen) Werder, Jeffrey Werder, Rebecca Olson, Merri Anne (and Nate) Croatt, Jill (and James) Arentson, Chelsey (and Joseph) Schammel, Matthew (and Andrea) Werder, Benjamin (and Mindy) Werder, Peter (and Sophie) Wittrock and Dr. Ashley (and Cody) Wittrock; twenty-one great grandchildren, Kaelee, Lauren, Jaxon, Laeken, Waverly, Grace, Jeffrey Jr., Anthony, Jaden, Allyson, Lilian, Elise, Dane, Silas, Meredith, Bruno, Luka, Zeke, Zion, Peter Jr. and Charlie and one great great grandson, Greyson.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald; one son, Larry in 2023; and seven siblings, Jean, Jeanette, Jake, Jimmie, Marion, Mae Rose and Wayne.

Celebrating the Life of



Joey Werder

1929 — 2026

Twenty-Third Psalm

*The Lord is my Shepherd: I shall not want...
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters...*

*He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for His name's sake...*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff,
they comfort me. Thou preparest a table
before me in the presence of mine
enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over...*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life: and I will dwell in
the house of the Lord forever.*



In Loving Memory Of

Joey Werder

February 11, 1929

Raymond, Minnesota

August 12, 2026

Willmar, Minnesota

Celebration of Life Service

Friday, August 28, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.

Peterson Brothers Funeral Home

Willmar, Minnesota

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Song *"Beautiful Savior"* Sharon Hopkins (cd)

Time of Remembrance

Scripture Passages

Psalm 23, Proverbs 3:5-6, 1 Peter 3:4 & John 11:17-27; 32-44

Song *"How Beautiful"* Dennis Chappell (cd)

Meditation Pastor Grant Hoekstra

Special Music *"The Lord's Prayer"* Lauren Werder

Commendation

Song *"Great Is The Lord"* Michael W. Smith (cd)

Prayer

Benediction

Interment

Cloverleaf Memorial Park Cemetery

Willmar, Minnesota