

Vernelda M. Vaness

January 7, 1931 – October 19, 2026

Vernelda M. Vaness, 95, passed away peacefully on Monday morning, October 19, 2026, at Renaissance Assisted Living in De Pere, where she had made her home for the past six and a half years.

Vernelda was born on January 7, 1931, in the Township of Red River, the daughter of the late Louis and Irene (Rogers) Jonet. On November 4, 1950, she married the love of her life, Alvin V. Vaness. Together, they shared more than 65 years of marriage. Alvin preceded her in death on January 19, 2016.

Vernelda was an excellent gardener with a wonderful green thumb, she found great pleasure in tending to her flowers and plants. She also enjoyed birdwatching, taking time to appreciate the sights and sounds of nature.

A longtime member of Holy Cross Parish in Bay Settlement, Vernelda believed in giving of herself to others. She and Alvin were actively involved in the parish's annual picnic for many years and generously volunteered their time serving funeral dinners. Their dedication to their church and community was a meaningful part of their lives. During her working years, Vernelda was employed at H.C. Prange Co. and Younkers Department Store, where she worked for many years before retiring.

While Vernelda enjoyed many things throughout her 95 years, nothing brought her greater happiness than her family. She was a devoted wife, loving mother, and proud grandmother and great-grandmother. Her grandson Eric held a particularly special place in her heart, and she treasured the relationship they shared. Her great-granddaughters were another source of tremendous joy, and their special hugs never failed to bring a smile to her face. Those precious moments, filled with love and affection, were among the gifts she cherished most.

Vernelda is survived by her son, David (Bonnie) Vaness; her grandson, Eric Vaness; her great-granddaughters, Ellyssa and Evaya Vaness, and their mother, Venessa Vaness; her sister, Rosella Vanden Houten of Casco; and many nieces, nephews, and special godchildren.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Alvin; her parents, Louis and Irene Jonet; her brothers, Wilfred (Virgil) Jonet and Marvin (Caroline) Jonet; and her brother-in-law, Wilfred Vanden Houten.

In accordance with Vernelda's wishes, no public funeral service will be held. A private celebration of her life will take place for her immediate family. Entombment will be at the Shrine of the Good Shepherd Mausoleum.

The family wishes to extend their heartfelt appreciation to the wonderful staff of Renaissance Assisted Living, Rennes, and Unity Hospice for the compassionate care, kindness, and comfort they provided to Vernelda.

McMahon Funeral Home, Luxemburg, is assisting the Vaness Family, online condolence messages may be shared at McMahonFH.com



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