

A Mother's Hands

These hands have cradled, powdered bottoms,
applied band-aids to cuts and scrapes, wiped away
tears, tied laces, and tested bathwater.

These hands have picked up dirty clothes,
matched many socks, ironed clothes,
lovingly cooked many meals.

These hands have been involved in many
hours as a farm wife.

These hands have raised six children
and held grandkids.

These hands reach out to bless her children
and reach up to praise the Lord.

They are always loving, and often praying.

A mother's hands may tire but never expire
in their efforts to do good for those she loves.

A mother's hands may age but her
influence lasts forever.

These hands hold the wisdom of a lifetime.

Jo's family would like to thank the Courage Cottage Staff for the excellent care she received during her time there. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Courage Cottage.

The family will not be sending individual "thank you's" but will be making an additional donation to the Courage Cottage.

Celebrating THE *Life* OF *Josephine "Jo" Schneider*

MARCH 17, 1924 – JUNE 2, 2026

Services At:

St. Mary's Catholic Church - Chokio, Minnesota
Saturday, June 6, 2026 - 11:00 A.M.

Officiating Clergy:

Father Virgil Helmin
Father Todd Schneider

Musician:

Ken & Linda Hodgson

Lectors:

Heidi Clasemann & Katie Dols

Servers:

Lincoln Schneider & Allie Staples

Pallbearers:

All of Jo's Grandsons:

Mike Schneider, Tom Schneider, Matt Schneider, Brian Just
Steven Just, Kevin Just, Josh Trutwin, Mark Staples
Paul Staples, John Schneider, Peter Schneider

Honorary Pallbearers:

The Courage Cottage Staff

Interment:

Calvary Cemetery
Morris, Minnesota

Josephine “Jo” Patricia Schwientek was born on March 17, 1924 in Two Rivers Township, Morrison County, Minnesota the oldest of 10 children to Joseph and Frances (Gallus) Schwientek. She grew up on a farm in Two Rivers Township. She graduated from St. Francis High School in Little Falls in 1942.

While in high school, she went to work in the home of a local family who was expecting a baby. Through that family she met her husband, Bernard “Ben” Schneider. After Ben completed his 51 missions, the couple was married on September 18, 1944, at St. Edward’s Catholic Church in Elmdale, Minnesota. They lived in Biloxi, Mississippi while Ben was stationed at Keesler Field. Following Ben’s military service, they moved to Bowlus, Minnesota where Ben operated a blacksmith shop. In 1949, they moved to Stevens County to a farm north of Morris and in 1958 purchased a farm in Synnes Township South of Alberta. The couple moved to Morris in 1988.

Jo was a devoted wife and mother. Ben always said she was his business manager as she farmed along side of him. She planted a large garden every year and canned much of the produce she raised. She sewed many quilts over the years making one for each of her children and grandchildren. Jo also sewed many wedding dresses and bridesmaid dresses for weddings in her family. She was well known for her coffee cakes that made it to all of the family gatherings.

Jo was a “behind-the-scene” type of person. She never expected her deeds to be recognized whether it was working in her church or in the community. She enjoyed daily walks on the Green River Bike Path and was an inspiration to a lot of people at the Regional Fitness Center after it was built.

Josephine died on Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at the Courage Cottage in Morris, MN; she was 102 years old.

She is survived by six children: Jim (Dorothy) Schneider of Alberta, Sue Just of Montevideo, Naomi “Amy” Trutwin of Bowlus, Jenell (Scott) Staples of Morris, Bob (Lois) Schneider of Alberta and Pat (Cindy) Schneider of Morris; 19 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; siblings: Stella McGraw of Ft. Wayne, IN, Roger Schwientek of Monticello and Karlene (Bill) Herbrand of Parker, CO; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ben Schneider; two infant daughters; her parents; brothers: BJ Schwientek and Allen Schwientek; sisters: Mary Ann Cipala, Rita Atkinson, Elaine Rodseth and Lois West and two sons-in-law: David Trutwin and Gary Just.



Please use this QR Code to access
Jo's online guestbook and tribute video.

Pedersen
Funeral & Cremation Service

I N L O V I N G
Memory



Josephine “Jo” Schneider