

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Kathy Johnson

Saturday, September 19, 2026 at 10:30 AM

Saint Olaf Lutheran Church

rural Odin

CLERGY

PIANIST

Rosine Hermodson-Olsen S.A.M.

Karen Laingen

VOCAL SOLO

"In The Garden"

by Jordan Bussa

VOCAL TRIO

"Go Rest High On That Mountain"

by Heath, Hunter, & Laura Quiring

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

"Borning Cry"

"Jesus Loves Me"

"Just A Closer Walk with Thee"

CASKET BEARERS

David Thorn

Mike Thorn

Heath Quiring

Tommy Thorn

Mitch Johnson

Hunter Quiring

FINAL RESTING PLACE

Zion Lutheran Cemetery ~ Odin

Please join the Johnson Family for lunch and fellowship following the graveside service.



In Loving Memory of

Kathy Johnson

July 20, 1964 - September 11, 2026

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M E M O R Y

Kathleen “Kathy” Jo Johnson was born July 20, 1964, in Mankato, Minnesota, to Larry and Sharon Thorn. She grew up primarily in Algona, Iowa, graduating from Algona High School in 1982. She attended Iowa State University before transferring to Mankato State University, where she earned a Bachelor’s degree in Education, followed by a Master’s degree in Education from Southwest Minnesota State University.

Kathy married Kevin Johnson on June 13, 1987, and they made their home in Mt. Lake, Minnesota, sharing 39 years together. Kathy was a devoted wife, loving mother and grandmother, cherished sister and aunt, dear friend, and compassionate advocate for others.

Family was at the center of Kathy’s life. She treasured every opportunity to cheer on her children and grandchildren at their activities, from sports and music to Sunday school programs and special milestones. She especially loved sleepovers with her grandchildren, making memories together, and spoiling them with ice cream. Kathy and Kevin also shared a love of travel, motorcycle rides with family and friends, and their ongoing quest to find the best breaded pork tenderloin sandwich in Iowa.

Kathy dedicated her career to teaching special education in Estherville, Iowa, Fairmont, Minnesota, and at Jackson County Central Middle School in Lakefield, Minnesota. She had a gift for making children feel valued, supported, and believed in.

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Kathy dedicated her career to teaching special education in Estherville, Iowa, Fairmont, Minnesota, and at Jackson County Central Middle School in Lakefield, Minnesota. She had a gift for making children feel valued, supported, and believed in.

Her love of children and faith also led her to teach Sunday school and open her home through foster care, providing children with a safe and loving place when they needed it most.

Kathy expressed her love through countless acts of kindness, thoughtful gifts, homemade baked goods, heartfelt cards and letters, and Christmas stockings she lovingly sewed for family and friends. She had a special way of making people feel remembered and cared for. She treasured her friendships, especially lunches and time spent laughing with her favorite girlfriends. Kathy also had a special love for her pugs and took great joy in raising pug puppies.

Kathy passed away peacefully on Friday, September 11, 2026, at her home in Mountain Lake, surrounded by the people she loved, following a courageous 15-year battle with cancer.

Kathy is survived by her husband, Kevin Johnson of Mt. Lake; her children, Jake (Elisabeth) Johnson of Windom, their daughter Lorelei and expected daughter due October 2026; and Megan (Ike) Pohlman of Windom and their children Amelia, Archer, and Reese; her siblings, Linda Oddo, John (Brenda) Thorn, and Ellie (John) Seaton; siblings-in-law Steve (Marcia) Johnson, Jim (Deb) Johnson, Cindy (Tom) Quiring, and Julie (Larry) Falk; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Larry and Sharon Thorn, and her parents-in-law, Leland and Barbara Johnson.

Kathy will be remembered for her unwavering love for her family, her generous heart, her compassion for others, and the countless lives she touched through her kindness, faith, and willingness to always show up for those who needed her.

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