

Elaine Staab, age 100, of Remsen, IA, passed away April 7, 2026, at Happy Siesta Health Care Center in Remsen, IA.

Elaine was born on October 6, 1925, in Le Mars, the daughter of Peter and Mary (Ludwig) Tentinger. She grew up in rural Oyens, Iowa, attending country school and St. Catherine's for a couple of years. She was a junior at Le Mars Community School when her family moved to Slayton, MN, in 1941. She graduated from Slayton Public High School in 1943. She followed her childhood dream of becoming a nurse and graduated from the nursing program at McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls in 1947. She worked at the VA Hospital in Sioux Falls for a couple of years before moving back to Slayton, where she continued working at the hospital until her marriage.

On May 29, 1951, she married Richard Staab at St. Mary's Church in Remsen. The couple lived on the Staab family farm north of Remsen, where they raised crops, animals, and their seven children: Roger, Sue, Mark, Jane, Mary, John and Philip. Elaine later returned to nursing and worked at Dr. George's office in Remsen, Sacred Heart/ Floyd Valley Hospital in Le Mars, and later at Happy Siesta in Remsen. In November 2000, Elaine and Richard moved into Remsen. She continued working as a registered nurse well into her 80s, earning the title of "Siouxland's Best Nurse" by the Sioux City Journal at age 83.

She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and an active member of the church guild. She enjoyed crocheting and knitting in her younger years, as well as playing pinochle and bowling with family. In 1992, she got her first computer and enjoyed research and keeping up with technology. In her later years, she liked to play Scrabble and solitaire on her phone. Most of all, she cherished spending time with her family.

Survivors include her children: Roger (Renee) of Rapid City, SD; Sue Hoelsing of Apache Junction, AZ; Mary (Dave) Plathe of Remsen, IA; John (Kathy) of Le Mars, IA; and Philip (Diane) of Remsen, IA; 9 grandchildren; 5 step-grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; 10 step great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Richard, in 2004; a son, Mark, in 1972; a daughter, Jane, in 2005; siblings, Emmert (Bernice) (Norma) Tentinger, Evelyn (Victor) Heuertz, Melvin (Alvira) Tentinger, Mildred (Carl) Kestel, Ralph (Marge) Tentinger, and Richard in infancy; son-in-law, Gary Hoelsing; parents-in-law, Frank and Minnie Staab; and siblings-in-law, Ralph (Rosemary) Staab, Milo (Marion) Staab, Thelma (John) Brown, and Olga (Bill) Stoffel.

A Century of Love and Care



*Elaine
Staab*

October 6, 1925 — April 7, 2026