



Elizabeth "Betty" A. Vanselow

December 23, 1922 - October 6, 2023

Elizabeth (Betty) Ann Vanselow, 100, died Friday, October 6, 2023, from pneumonia at Country Manor in Sartell, MN. A Mass of Christian burial will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 11:00 A.M. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Swanville, MN, with Father Ron Dockendorf officiating. Visitation will be from 9:00-11:00 A.M., on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at St. John The Baptist Catholic Church in Swanville. Lunch will be served after the Mass. Burial will take place in the Parish Cemetery. Caring for Elizabeth and her family is the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Swanville.

Betty was born December 23, 1922, in Forest Lake, MN to Catherine (Hauble) and John Thurnbeck. She was the youngest of their seven children who all grew up working on the family turkey farm. She graduated from Forest Lake High School and attended Miller Vocational School, a sewing school. She only attended a few days of sewing school because of how advanced she was and was sent to work at Jean Lang Originals, an exclusive shop in the Twin Cities. On May 1, 1943, she married Edwin Vanselow. They met when Ed worked on the

Thurnbeck turkey farm. They moved to Swanville where they were among the first turkey farmers in the area. They raised five children (JoAnn, Dennis, Gary, Leann, and Gene). Betty spent many, many, many hours sewing. She sewed her own wedding dress and the bridesmaids' and flower girl dresses along with dresses for other peoples' weddings. In addition to sewing clothes, she made hundreds of quilts for fundraisers, weddings, and baby gifts. She was also employed to sew for Larson Boats in Little Falls, MN. She enjoyed many other crafts like knitting, crocheting, ceramics, making Christmas stockings and ornaments, cross stitching, and more. Betty's kitchen was always full of her homemade cookies, breads, and pastries and anyone who visited always went home with treats. She made and decorated cakes for weddings, birthdays, graduations, showers, and other special events, including her own wedding cake. In 2008 she moved to Country Manor at Sartell, MN living first in an apartment and eventually transferring to nursing care. Even though she was busy she always enjoyed family time with her 13 grandchildren and 23 Great-grandchildren. While at Country Manor she took part in all their activities, especially looking forward to playing cards and bingo. Betty knew she was blessed and above everything, she looked forward to daily Mass and the rosary.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, John and Catherine Thurnbeck;

brothers, Frank,
George, Clem, Lawrence, sisters Amelia (Milly), Mary, all her siblings'
spouses; husband, Edwin
Vanselow; daughter-in-law, Eileen Vanselow; son, Gary Vanselow; son-in-law,
David Olson, grandson, Adam Lentz, and great-granddaughter, Elizabeth
Vanselow.

Betty is survived by her children, JoAnn Olson, Dennis (Mary) Vanselow,
Teresa Vanselow, Leann (Ken) Lentz, Gene (Kathy) Vanselow; 13
grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Jean Vanselow, and
several nieces and nephews.

Betty's family would like to thank the Country Manor staff for their service over
the past 15
years and St. Croix Hospice for their compassionate care during her final
days.

Cemetery Details

St. John the Baptist Cemetery - Swanville, MN

Swanville, MN

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **10**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John's Catholic Church - Swanville
12 First Street
Swanville, MN

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **10**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John's Catholic Church - Swanville
12 First Street
Swanville, MN

Tribute Wall

HP

“ My sincere sympathies to the Vanselow family. I may not have seen Betty for many years, but I remember their farm and the green house by the school. May she have many stories to share with old friends in Heaven from her 100 years on earth. God bless you all 🙏
🙏

Helen Pfeffer - October 11, 2023 at 11:03 PM

SK

“ Betty's Family, I'm so sorry to hear about Betty. Besides her being so talented, (sewing and baking) she was a very witty with some of her conversations. I enjoyed working with her at Larsons. She once sewed me a purse made out of scrap boat material. Her Christmas cards always summed up what she was up to the whole year, a very busy busy lady. She was very kind and always had time to visit with you. We will all miss her. My sympathy goes out to you.

Sandie Klimmek - October 09, 2023 at 08:27 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Elizabeth "Betty" A. Vanselow.



October 09, 2023 at 11:35 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Elizabeth "Betty" A. Vanselow.

October 09, 2023 at 11:35 AM

SJ

“ Betty was a joy to be around and will be deeply missed. The memories each of us has of Betty will bring a smile to many faces.



Scott Jackson - October 09, 2023 at 08:56 AM



“ I also have fond memories of Betty, Ed plus their family members. She was an amazing, awesome cook/provider, etc. At times Leann had us over for birthday parties and slumber parties. Betty never let anyone go home without their tummies full. The Vanselow's also welcomed many Families and Friends at t to their home. It wasn't dull. Lots of fun, laughs, always card games etc. So glad we grew up knowing them. May Betty RIP. Thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Mary Pfeffer Friese - October 08, 2023 at 10:12 PM

JH

“ Deepest sympathy to all of Betty's family.



Jerry & Julie Hollermann - October 08, 2023 at 07:32 PM

MH

“ *Mark And Cathy Hebig lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth "Betty" A. Vanselow*



Mark and Cathy Hebig - October 07, 2023 at 06:29 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Elizabeth "Betty" A. Vanselow.*



October 07, 2023 at 10:49 AM

BK

“ *Betty and her husband Ed were lifetime best of friends with my folks over the last 80 years or so. at least once a week or more they had a card game . Both of our family's all got along well and enjoyed the visits. Betty always had a lunch before we left their home. My condolences to all the family.*

Bob Koetter - October 07, 2023 at 09:39 AM

KG

“ *What a beautiful tribute to a beautiful, always smiling lady. There was nothing Aunt Betty couldn't do. I have special memories of her on the farm, always busy while we young ones waited for treats to come from the oven. My girls each have one of her many quilts. My sympathy to her special family.*

Karen Griffin - October 06, 2023 at 11:56 PM

NO

“ *My deepest sympathy to all of Betty's family! It was an honor to know her! A visit with Betty meant getting a tasty treat and to see her latest creations.*



Nona - October 06, 2023 at 07:55 PM

JK

“ *Judi Kosbau lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth "Betty" A. Vanselow*



Judi Kosbau - October 06, 2023 at 07:32 PM