



Gloria J. Birchem

June 8, 1931 - March 3, 2026

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Gloria (Swanson) Birchem, our beloved mother. Gloria left this world on March 3, 2026, at the age of 94, at St. Otto's Care Center in Little Falls, MN. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, June 8, 2026, at 11:00 A.M. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Flensburg, MN. Visitation will be one hour before the service. A luncheon will follow the service. Interment will be at Sacred Heart Parish Cemetery next to her beloved husband, ElRoy. Caring for Gloria and her family is the LeMieur Funeral Home in Little Falls, MN.

Gloria was born in Cushing, MN, on June 8, 1931. She married the love of her life, ElRoy Birchem, on June 12, 1951 and their marriage was a true partnership built on love, respect, laughter and commitment. They lived in Flensburg, where they owned Tuffy's Tavern and raised their four children, Mary, Jeff, Susan and Barb. Gloria enjoyed spending time with her family and friends and had a quick wit, hearty laugh and great sense of humor. Her love of playing cards was passed down to her children, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren. She was a good cook and baker and always enjoyed preparing her favorite recipes with family. She also enjoyed fishing, shopping at Bon Jo's and reading.

Gloria is survived by her four children: Mary Prozinski and husband Brad, Jeff Birchem and wife Gretchen Mehmel, Susan Welinski and husband Doug and

Barb Birchem and husband Ted Rice. She is also survived by seven grandchildren, Michael Prozinski, Crystal Di Fiore, Samantha Olson, Hunter Welinski, Seth Rice, Claire Rice, Johanna Birchem; 5 great-grandchildren, Jack, Ella, Reed, Addie and Alaya.

Gloria was preceded in death by her wonderful husband, ElRoy of 49 years; grandson, Joshua Birchem; parents, George and Ella Swanson; ; sisters, Irene Anderson and Arlene Meachum; and brothers, Harry Swanson and George Swanson.

Gloria's family extends heartfelt gratitude to the 3rd floor staff at St. Otto Care Center for their exceptional care, friendship, laughter and compassion shown to Gloria in her last seven years of life.

Cemetery Details

Sacred Heart Parish Cemetery

Flensburg, MN 56328

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Flensburg
18 Pine Street
Flensburg, MN 56328

Mass of Christian Burial

JUN 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Flensburg
18 Pine Street
Flensburg, MN 56328

Tribute Wall



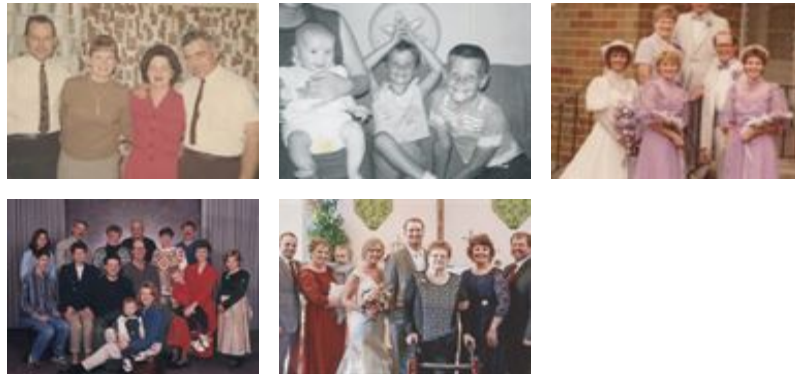
“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Gloria J. Birchem*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - May 07 at 10:54 AM



“ *12 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - May 14 at 10:24 AM



“ 12 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - May 07 at 10:41 AM



“ 19 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - May 06 at 03:38 PM



“ 44 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - May 06 at 12:27 PM

CM

“ *Gentle hugs, prayers, and condolences go out to you and your family, and Barb in particular. May your mom and grandma rest in the peace of Christ, and May God hold all of you in the palm of his hand. Blessed be her memory.*



Claudette M Moran - March 11 at 06:06 PM

NK

“ *My deepest sympathies to the family.*



Nona Koester - March 11 at 03:01 PM

TD

“ Tammy Dalen lit a candle in memory of Gloria J. Birchem



Tammy Dalen - March 10 at 02:21 PM

GC

“ Gregg & Leone Chirhart lit a candle in memory of Gloria J. Birchem



Gregg & Leone Chirhart - March 10 at 01:23 PM

AW

“ Dennis and Anna Mae Woltman have many good and fun memories of Gloria and Elroy. May they enjoy this next journey in peace and love together. Rest in peace!!



AnnaMae Woltman - March 09 at 10:51 AM

RS

“ To the Gloria Birchem family with deepest sympathy, condolences, thoughts and prayers in the loss of you mother a grandmother. May your mother rest in the arms of her Heavenly Father in heaven with eternal peace, comfort, Love. God bless her soul. May God continue to bless her loving family a friends . May she rest in eternal peace.



Richard R. Schneider - March 09 at 10:13 AM



“ *Laurie Venske Koll lit a candle in memory of Gloria J. Birchem*



Laurie Venske Koll - March 08 at 10:49 AM



so sorry for your loss I have many memories of playing bartender in the old bar when I was just a kid. My prayers and thoughts are with the family.

Laurie Venske Koll - March 08 at 10:52 AM