



## Jeanne Mae Colla

August 4, 1925 - July 29, 2023

Jeanne Mae (Wendels) Colla, 97, passed away peacefully on July 29, 2023, less than a week before her 98th birthday. The youngest of six children, Jeanne was born in August of 1925 to Joseph and Anna (Ballwanz) Wendels in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. She attended St. Peter's Lutheran School until her family moved to Milwaukee, where she attended Lincoln High School before graduating from Fond du Lac High in 1943. After finishing her education, Jeanne held various jobs in Milwaukee. She loved the big bands and enjoyed going out dancing. Jeanne met her husband, Myron "Mike" Colla, in Milwaukee when she and her friends stopped into his family's bar/grill/hotel for a "Texas" hamburger. They married in 1952, moved to Fond du Lac, and were blessed with 3 children.

Jeanne persevered through the difficulty of losing her husband to cancer in 1971 while her children were still in school. She anchored her family, providing a good home for her children while going back to work. An accomplished typist and excellent speller, she worked at Sabish Junior High School as a secretary, and later for Pier School as a librarian. She retired in 1987. Jeanne had many good friends and loved to travel. Jeanne was a strong person known for her clear-eyed convictions and resilient faith. She would never hesitate to tell it like it was. Jeanne took great care of herself, attending the Joint Efforts class at the Aquatic Center three times a week for many years. She enjoyed going to lunch with the "Lunch Bunch" and met many good

friends there. She always had her hair done, even as she neared the end of her life.

Jeanne was a deeply religious person and a devout, lifelong member of St Peter's Lutheran Church where she was very engaged in the church community. She volunteered for the hot lunch program when her children were in school, and later joined the Evening Circle, the Gleaners at St. Peter's and was on the Evangelism Committee.

Jeanne is survived by her son Jeffrey of Glenwood, MN, daughter Jill (Terry) Reynolds of Malone, daughter-in-law Jennifer Colla of Fond du Lac, and grandchildren: Amy Colla (Douglas Leonhardt) of Los Angeles, CA, Benjamin Colla of Minneapolis, MN and Christopher Colla of Fond du Lac; along with many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband on September 29, 1971 and her son Michael on October 18, 2014. She was also preceded in death by her sisters Marion (Clair) Engleman, Mildred (Gordon) Cox, Marcella "Sally" (William) Doetze, and brothers Harold (Luann) Wendels and Ralph (Betty) Wendels, and several nieces and nephews.

VISITATION: The family will greet friends from 9:00 – 11:00 AM, on Thursday, August 3, 2023, at St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church, 1600 South Main Street, Fond du Lac.

SERVICE: Funeral services will be held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, August 3, 2023, at St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church, with Rev. Fred Toppe officiating. Burial to follow at Calvary Cemetery.

The family would like to thank Sage Meadow and St. Croix Hospice for their compassionate care of our mother and grandmother.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery

686 Fond du Lac Avenue  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 3. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church  
1600 S. Main Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54937

## Funeral Service

AUG 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church  
1600 S. Main Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54937

# Tribute Wall

CM

“ *What privilege it was to spend time with a woman of faith like Jeanne. Our moments together whether it was in a church service, private devotion or prayer and singing hymns emboldened my faith. How you loved to sing "Rock of Ages!" I know that now you are smiling and singing for joy before your Rock and Savior, Jesus! The Lord's peace and comfort to you Jill, Terry and Jeff, Jenifer and to all Jeanne's family and friends.  
God is with you always,  
Chaplain Jim  
Sage Meadows*

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**Chaplain Jim Mallmann** - August 02, 2023 at 09:48 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Jeanne Mae Colla.*



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August 02, 2023 at 12:23 PM

JB

“ *We would like to express our sincerest sympathy in the loss of your precious mother. Jean was a special friend to my mom, Lucy Block. They shared many good times together. May she Rest In Peace and may you always have the fondest memories of her.*

*Jeanne and Chuck Bloedorn*

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**Jeanne Bloedorn** - August 02, 2023 at 07:47 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Jeanne Mae Colla.*



August 01, 2023 at 09:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jeanne Mae Colla.*



August 01, 2023 at 08:23 AM



“ *Jill, I will miss seeing your smiling face at Sage Meadow, and also your moms! I was blessed to get to know her during her time there. Unfortunately I will be out of town Thursday and unable to attend her service, but my thoughts and prayers will be with you. She is forever resting in peace now, which she longed for! May God give you comfort in knowing this!*  
*Mary O (and Louise)*

**Mary Otterstatter** - July 31, 2023 at 04:39 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to the Colla family. May she rest in peace.*

**Cynthia Parman** - July 31, 2023 at 03:52 PM