



Gertrude "Gert" J. Walter

August 15, 1934 - March 9, 2020

Gertrude "Gert" J. Walter, age 85, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on Monday, March 9, 2020 in Richland Center. She was born August 15, 1934, in Rockbridge Township to Clifford and Hattie (Bryant) Tadder. She graduated from Richland Center High School in 1952 and later from Richland Center Teachers College in 1954 with an associate degree in elementary education. She married Austin Leroy Walter in 1955. Together they raised 6 children. She was a long time member of Peace United Methodist Church.

After taking the time to raise her family, she worked for the Richland Center Public Schools for 29 years as a food service worker, eventually working her way up to head cook, a position she held until her retirement in 2002. After retirement she volunteered selling tickets before high school events, at the Richland Hospital, and various other places to support the church and community. She was a great homemaker and hard worker, whether it be making a variety of pies, cookies, sweet treats, wonderful home cooked meals, and working meticulously around her yard and garden. Later in life she met and became best friends and soulmate with Don Kitsembel. She and Don worked hard on the farm up Willow Valley near Ithaca. When Don wasn't busy at the milk house and the barn, they both enjoyed the cabin and camping area that they had tucked away in the valley, something that they shared with friends and family. It got to be such a peaceful and wonderful place that they rented it out on a weekly basis. They also enjoyed the Richland Center

Farmer's Market selling their goodies from both the garden and the kitchen. She was a wonderful mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and friend to all.

She is survived by her children, Keven Walter of La Crosse, Kent (Shelly Pauls) Walter of Gotham, Kristi (Kevin) Pine of Richland Center, Kraig (Carla) Walter of Stoughton, Kelly Bess of Richland Center, 18 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren with 1 more on the way, and many other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by a son Kurt Walter, her husband Leroy Walter, her soulmate Don Kitsembel, granddaughter Jillian Walter, twin great granddaughters Kylie and Kloe Oman, a brother Clifford Jr, 4 sisters, Mary Alice, Harriet, Margaret, and Clara, and many relatives and friends.

A Celebration of Gert's Life will be held on Sunday, March 15, 2020, at 4:00 PM at the Clary Memorial Funeral Home in Richland Center. Burial will be held at a later date. Friends may call on Sunday, March 15, 2020, from Noon until the time of services. Memorials can be made to the family.

The family would like to thank the doctors and staff at the Richland Hospital, Meriter Hospital, UW Hospital and Clinics, and Upland Hills Hospice for their care and kindness over these last few months.

Cemetery Details

Willow Valley Cemetery

County Trunk BA
Richland Center,, WI 53581

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

MAR 15. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Clary Memorial Funeral & Cremation Service, LLC
26777 Jelland Drive
Richland Center, WI 53581
(608) 647-6390
josh@clarymemorial.com
<https://clarymemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Celebration of Life

MAR 15. 4:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ 84 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Clary Memorial Funeral Home - March 13, 2020 at 12:43 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket* was purchased for the family of Gertrude "Gert" J. Walter.



March 13, 2020 at 09:10 AM



“ 2 files added to the album *Memories Album*



leroy kitsembel - March 12, 2020 at 12:16 PM

 Ricki
Bishop

“ *Gert was such a help to me when I moved to Richland Center. I think of her often.*

Ricki Bishop - March 11, 2020 at 11:20 PM

DN

“ *When I was young, There was nothing like the fresh baked bread at high school every day. She was a great cook. In older life I realized the fairness and empathy she had being a Family Thrift Shop board member when I managed. She was a friend with a beautiful spirit.*
Deb Niemeyer

deb niemeyer - March 11, 2020 at 10:32 PM

JK

“ *John Keegan! purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Gertrude "Gert" J. Walter.*



John Keegan! - March 11, 2020 at 08:55 PM

CC

“ *Aunt Gert was very special to so many of us, but my Dad (her brother) was so proud of the person she was and loved spending time with her. She was always thinking of others and loved by any that knew her. She will be dearly missed until we get to see her again. Love to Kevin, Kurt, Kristi, Kraig and Kelly. Take one day at a time, Cindy (and Evelyn) Tadder*

Cindy Tadder Conti - March 11, 2020 at 07:44 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gertrude "Gert" J. Walter.*



March 11, 2020 at 03:01 PM



“ *Kristy and Family: My sincere sympathy for your loss.*



Cyndie Brown - March 11, 2020 at 02:30 PM



“ *I knew Gert from our days at Buck Creek UB church. Later, we got to have almost daily visits at the high school, when Walt and I would walk there in the morning. She was always smiling. Such a kind and gentle lady. Our sincere sympathy in your loss.*
Walt and Loretta McCarthy

LORETTA R MCCARTHY - March 11, 2020 at 08:54 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gertrude "Gert" J. Walter.*



March 11, 2020 at 07:58 AM

JK

“ Gert was a loving caring person! Always caring about her children, Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren, friends and neighbors. We will miss her!

Ken & Jean Kitsembel

Jean and Ken Kitsembel - March 10, 2020 at 08:53 PM

BW

“ What a wonderful lady she was! She always had time for a hug and a short visit no matter where I would see her, or what she was doing. I always told her she was one of those lucky ladies that never aged, that always made her laugh. My heart goes out to all her family, for your loss of this special lady. She will be missed 😭

Betsy Wiedenfeld - March 10, 2020 at 02:16 PM

TA

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Trena Alt - March 10, 2020 at 01:35 PM

GB

“ Where do I start? She was my mother in law for 10 years. I will never forget her cooking, especially her pancakes which filled the entire dinner plate! So glad I saw her at Brenden and Kourtney's wedding. Condolences to the families of Keven, Kent, Kristi, Kurt, Kraig and Kelly.

Ginger Briggs - March 10, 2020 at 01:28 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Gertrude "Gert" J. Walter.



March 10, 2020 at 01:27 PM