



Donna Eisenschenk

May 11, 1930 - June 8, 2025

Donna Eisenschenk, age 95, passed away peacefully at home on the family farm near Cold Spring on June 8, 2025. Visitation will take place from 4 to 7 PM on Friday, June 13 at the Wenner Funeral Home in Cold Spring, and from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM on Saturday, June 14 at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Cold Spring. Mass of Christian Burial follows at 11:00 AM. Burial will be in the parish cemetery. The service will be livestreamed at www.christcatholic.com.

Donna was born in Luxemburg, MN to Joseph and Hedwig (Kiess) Feneis. She married Elmer Eisenschenk on June 6, 1951, in Luxemburg. Donna was an outgoing, talented farmwife and loving mother of nine. She received statewide recognition for her baking skills. It was with much joy that at age 60 and for the next 15 years she provided executive and guest food preparation services at Cold Spring Granite (now Coldspring), baking and cooking to her heart's delight. Retiring from Coldspring as Manager of Catering, she continued baking, cooking, and caring for her grandchildren. She also loved taking numerous road trips and traveling long distances with Elmer and grandkids. All her life Donna was an active and dedicated sports enthusiast. She attended hundreds of competitive sports games and was particularly excited to cheer on K-12 and college sports teams on which her children and grandchildren played. And whether from her living room or at the stadium, she was an avid Minnesota Twins and Vikings Fan. Donna was a member of St. Boniface Parish, Christian Women, and Catholic Aid Association.

Survivors include her children, Mike (Sue), Tom (Marilyn), Mark (Jan Hommerding), Paul, John (Mary), Doris, Kevin (Chris), and Julie; 22 grandchildren; and 31 great grandchildren. Donna was preceded in death by her parents; husband Elmer; daughter Mari (Louis); sisters Jeanette Feneis, Hattie Feneis, Hildegard Bechtold, Mary Ann Marx, Loretta Jungles, Evelyn Klein and Lavern Scheeler; and brothers Oscar Feneis, Leo Feneis, Wendell Feneis, and Joseph Feneis, Jr.

Memorials are preferred to St. Boniface Catholic School. A special thank you to CentraCare Hospice whose love and caring could not have been better.

Cemetery Details

St. Boniface Parish Cemetery

Cold Spring, MN 56320

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 13. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wenner Funeral Home - Cold Spring
600 Red River Ave. So.
Cold Spring, MN 56320

Visitation

JUN 14. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Boniface Church Narthex
501 Main Street
Cold Spring, MN 56320

Mass

JUN 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Boniface Catholic Church
501 Main Street
Cold Spring, MN 56320

Tribute Wall

TD

“ *The Girls..... Carol and Delores purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White for the family of Donna Eisenschenk.*



The Girls..... Carol and Delores - June 12, 2025 at 11:41 AM

TD

“ *The Girls..... Carol and Delores planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donna Eisenschenk.*

The Girls..... Carol and Delores - June 12, 2025 at 11:41 AM

SF

“ *Sue Anderson & family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donna Eisenschenk.*

Sue Anderson & family - June 12, 2025 at 10:16 AM

SF

“ *Sue Anderson & family purchased the Classic Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Donna Eisenschenk.*



Sue Anderson & family - June 12, 2025 at 10:16 AM

CM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Carol McGuire - June 11, 2025 at 01:42 PM

CM

Thoughts of My Big Sister, Dear Donna:

Dear Family,

Our hearts are joined in feeling the loss of Dear Donna, my 'Big Sister.' I will always cherish the wonderful memories I have of her.

I am so grateful to have made the trip for Donna's 95th birthday a little over a month ago when she was alert and enjoying visiting. However, I have decided not to attend the funeral. Know that at this time of loss, the whole family is in my thoughts and in my heart.

Ten years ago, I wrote her the letter which follows. It reflects just a little of my love and admiration for your mother/grandmother Donna and her life fully lived.

*Peace and Love,
Carol*

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(Originally written in 2015)

Dear Donna,

When we first met, I was about ten years old. You were about to marry my big brother, Elmer. That was about sixty-five years ago, and Elmer still claims that, though he was young when you married, he had to snatch you up before some other fellow did and boasts of his smarts to have chosen so well. I recall how wonderfully you treated Delores and me, Elmer's adoring but bothersome little sisters, as if you loved having us around and teaching us how the world worked. You became my big sister, Donna.

You included us baking cookies, sewing clothes, planting the garden, and canning and preserving yummy pickles and jams and tomato sauce. You seemed to have every skill needed. You knew how to drive a car, unlike our mother, but also the farm tractor! You had your own family of nine, helped with barn chores, tended chickens, sewed, and mended, planted a huge garden, cooked, baked, washed, and laundered, volunteered at church for weddings and funerals, painted, upholstered, and could be counted on to provide decorated wedding cakes for all. Yet when the day ended, and all was quiet, I can still see you serenely sitting in your rocker with a book.

Goodness knows, you have faced many challenges together over the years, but there just is not anything you can't do, Donna. Whenever I have faced a problem, I want you to know that more times than not, I

would think, "What would Donna do?"

Thank you for sharing your good common sense and wisdom with me back then and over these many years. You are an inspiration to look up to, the embodiment of a strong woman, and a moral compass for me.

And I love you most dearly as my Big Sister.

Carol (and Mike)

Carol McGuire - June 11, 2025 at 01:47 PM

JA

“ Joe A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donna Eisenschenk.

Joe A. - June 10, 2025 at 09:23 PM

BW

“ Donna and Elmer welcomed me to their farm on several occasions, during the time of my sisters' (Mary and Susanne Reker) deaths. I was thirteen years old. This had a profound and positive impact on my mental health and grieving. It was wonderful to be included in normal family day to day life and to get away from drama and chaos. They accepted me like their own child. Thank you, Donna for being there for me. ~Betsy

Betsy M Westerhoff - June 09, 2025 at 10:07 PM

NS

“ Our sympathies to Donna's family, Donna was always so welcoming and kind. I cannot remember her ever saying an unkind word about anyone. She will be missed. Heaven has gained another angel.

Norb & Joan Schramel - June 09, 2025 at 04:59 PM