



Kathleen "Kay" Simons

December 16, 1927 - November 29, 2025

Kathleen "Kay" Simons, 97, of Carroll, passed away on Saturday, November 29, 2025, at St. Anthony Regional Hospital in Carroll.

Mass of the Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, December 13, 2025, at St. Lawrence Church – St. John Paul II Parish in Carroll. The Celebrant will be Fr. Timothy Schott. Music will be by Kathy Halbur and Sherry Loughran. Lector for the Funeral Mass will be Jeffrey G. Reed. Gift Bearers are Henry F. Reed and Sarah C. Fennell. Honorary Casket Bearers are Sarah C. Fennell, Dr. Claire Simons, Elyse Simons and Olivia Simons. Casket Bearers will be Henry F. Reed, John S. Reed, Brian Vea, Edgar Vea, Ben Simons and Adam Simons. The Carroll Catholic Daughters of the Americas will form an Honor Guard for the Funeral Mass. Burial will be in Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Carroll.

Visitation will be held from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. prior to the Funeral Mass at St. Lawrence Church.

Memorials may be left for Kuemper Catholic Schools Foundation or St. John Paul II Parish.

Funeral arrangements are under the guidance of the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll and online condolences may be left for Kay's family at www.sharpfuneral.com.

Kathleen “Kay” Theresa Simons was born on December 16, 1927, in Carroll, Iowa, the daughter of Clem and Leona Tigges (nee Liewer). She grew up on a farmstead near Willey during the great depression and then on a farmstead just south of Maple River. She was a graduate of St. Angela Academy (1945) and later graduated from the St. Anthony School of Nursing (1948) as a registered nurse.

On January 8, 1951, Kathleen was united in marriage to Marvin J. Simons by Reverend Peter Mattes at St. Francis Church, Maple River, Iowa. Following their honeymoon in Chicago, they made their home in the red brick house on the family farm where Marvin grew up, in Carroll. They were blessed with nine children and raised them in the Catholic tradition with Kay managing the household and Marvin managing the grain and livestock businesses.

Kay’s greatest joys arose from her family, faith, music, and reading. She led by example and instilled strong conservative values and a strong work ethic in all of her children. She loved to listen to music and to sing, she loved “bridge club” and playing euchre. She was an amateur meteorologist and would not miss the “weather report” on the radio or fail to report the weather when you called for a chat. She loved flowers, and watching the horse races with Marvin, in Hot Springs, AR every spring. Kay never forgot a family birthday or wedding anniversary as those cards arrived every year.

Kay’s Catholic faith was a vital part of her life. She always had a rosary in her hands and the TV tuned to the daily mass. Through the years she was active in The St. Lawrence Ladies Guild making sure each funeral had flowers and “prayers.” She loved singing in the choir at St. Lawrence. The legacy she leaves is grounded in selflessness and faith in God. Kay was an active member of St. Anthony Nurses Alumnae Association, St. Lawrence Parish and Ladies Guild and The Catholic Daughters of America.

Kay is survived by her sister, Sister Mildred Tigges FSPA of Lacrosse, WI; her sister-in-law, Ruth Tigges of Carroll, IA; her brother-in-law, Dr. Richard Pitner, of Omaha, NE; her children, Sarah (Jeffrey) Reed of Chicago, IL, Mary Ann (Lynn) Vea of Mokena, IL, Peter (Dr. Marcia Whited) Simons of Carroll, IA, John Simons of Glidden, IA, Paul (Margaret) Simons of Chicago, IL, Matthew (Trista) Simons of West Des Moines, IA; her son-in-law, Dan Fennell of Orono, MN and Palm Beach, FL; her grandchildren, Sarah Colleen Fennell of Minneapolis, MN, Henry F. Reed of Cleveland, OH, John (Amy Zumbahlen) Reed of Chicago, IL, Brian Vea of Mokena, IL, Edgar Vea of Mankato, MN, Dr. Claire Simons of Royal Oak, MI, Elyse Simons of Chicago, IL, Olivia Simons of Chicago, IL, Adam Simons of Iowa City, IA, and Benjamin Simons of West Des Moines, IA; her great-grandchildren, Colette S. Reed of Chicago, IL and Fremont W. Reed of Chicago, IL; and many nieces and nephews.

Kay was preceded in death by her parents, Clem and Leona Tigges; her father and mother-in-law, Henry and Clara Simons; her husband, Marvin J. Simons; her sisters, Delores Sullivan and Joan Pitner; her brothers, Edwin Tigges and Leon Tigges; her sister-in-law, Helen Jane Hannasch (nee Loew); her brother-in-law, Tom Sullivan; her brother and sister-in-law, Ned and Helen Collison; her brother and sister-in-law, Elmer and Leola Simons; her three children, Henry J. Simons, James C. Simons and Ramona Fennell; her niece, Julie Ann Tigges; her nephew, Douglas Gerard Tigges; her niece, Monica Simons; and her grandson, Andrew Fennell.

“Whatsoever you ask for in prayer, believe.” (Mark 11:24)

Tribute Wall

RF

“ My condolences to the Simon family. Kay and Marv were such dear friends of our mom and dad, and they cherished their friendship. Her obituary brought back many fond memories of Kay coming to our house for coffee and bridge! Kay was always endearing and kind and a friend to Dad to his last days. We always made it a point to visit her when we'd see Dad at assisted living. We will miss her! May she rest in the Lord's peace. With Love, Rae Ann (Kloser) Frank and family

Rae Ann Frank - December 13, 2025 at 09:17 AM

RF

“ Rae Ann Frank lit a candle in memory of Kathleen "Kay" Simons



Rae Ann Frank - December 13, 2025 at 09:09 AM

M(

“ Melanie McNulty (Huelsmann) purchased the Fair rest of All for the family of Kathleen "Kay" Simons.



Melanie McNulty (Huelsmann) - December 12, 2025 at 03:55 PM

M(

“Melanie McNulty (Huelsmann) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen "Kay" Simons.

Melanie McNulty (Huelsmann) - December 12, 2025 at 03:55 PM

ME

“Kaye always made us feel at home during our visits to Iowa from Minnesota. She is the pillar of a great family. I cherish memories of time with her and her family in their welcoming home. Thank you for caring for us, Aunt Kay.

Melanie McNulty (Huelsmann)

Melanie - December 12, 2025 at 03:51 PM

FO

“Our sincere sympathy to all the Simons family. I knew Kay for many years as a nurse and Legion of Mary member. Prayers for all. Leon and Florence Oswald

Florence Oswald - December 12, 2025 at 12:43 PM

KJ

“Pete & all of the Simon's Family....Out sincere sympathy on the passing of your Mother...I was a 1975 classmate of Mona's @ Kuemper Catholic High School....Keep you Mom's memories close to your heart.....She will always be with be with you....Blessings to you....



Kristi Schuler Jorgensen& husband John - December 12, 2025 at 12:27 PM

AH

“ Arnold H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen "Kay" Simons.

Arnold H. - December 11, 2025 at 04:38 PM

PS

“ Patrick S. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Kathleen "Kay" Simons.



Patrick S. - December 10, 2025 at 05:05 PM

LS

“ Love, Mary K. Sullivan purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Kathleen "Kay" Simons.



Love, Mary K. Sullivan - December 09, 2025 at 09:13 PM

MJ

“ Marilyn Jeschke lit a candle in memory of Kathleen "Kay" Simons



marilyn jeschke - December 07, 2025 at 07:09 PM

.M

“*.marilynjeschke lit a candle in memory of
Kathleen "Kay" Simons*



.marilynjeschke - December 02, 2025 at 04:20 PM