



Kay Thelen

August 5, 1939 - January 4, 2026

Kay Frances Thelen, age 87, of Templeton, died Sunday, January 4, 2026, Accura Healthcare in Lake City.

A Private Family Burial will be held at a later date in Sacred Heart Cemetery in Templeton.

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.

Kay Frances, daughter of Wilbur and Ella (Jentzen) Fuchs, was born August 5, 1939, in Halbur, Iowa. She grew up near Halbur and northeast of Maple River, graduating from Carroll High School.

On February 15, 1958, Kay was united in marriage with Sylvester Thelen at St. Francis Church in Maple River by the Rev. P.M. Mattes. Two sons were born to this couple. Kay and Sylvester made their home in the Templeton area for their entire life.

Kay helped Sylvester with his livestock feed business as well as feeding livestock. Kay was a member of Sacred Heart Church in Templeton and the Guild. She enjoyed tending to her flower garden, being outdoors, cooking, baking, reading, solving crossword puzzles, and spending time with friends.

Kay is survived by two sons: Michael Sylvester of Rochester, MN, and Cletus John Thelen of Templeton; and by several in-laws: Cecelia Thelen of Carroll; Mary Ann Ludwig of Carroll; Lynette Schaffer of Omaha; Virginia Thelen of Anita; Ralph Thelen of Davenport; and by several cousins, and nieces and nephews.

Kay was preceded in death by her parents, husband Sylvester, and the following in-laws: Michael Schaffer, Florence Thelen, Gerald Thelen, Eugene Thelen, Norman and Marlene Thelen, Norbert Thelen, Lawrence Thelen, Linda and John Hoffmann; Marcile and Alfred Hoffman; Donna Thelen, Allan Ludwig, and Dorothy, Victor, and Melvin Thelen in infancy.

Tribute Wall

WJ

“ Kay was my first cousin who always stayed in touch with my parents living in Carroll County Iowa. I remember when we attended her wedding to Syl in Maple River when I was only 6 years old. I moved to the Western U.S.A. in 1974. Kay continued to visit my parents regularly at the Manning Regional Healthcare Center until their passing in 2006 and 2008. Kay was very caring.

William Jentzen - January 12 at 08:35 PM

JJ

Kay was my first cousin also! My Mom, Kay's son Cletus, and myself would often go to Pizza Ranch for lunch! That was one of Kay's favorite places to dine! She was a very kind and caring person! She would check on my Mom also! I will miss Kay! Kind and caring was words that described her!

Jeanne Jentzen - January 13 at 03:48 PM

WJ

“ William Jentzen lit a candle in memory of Kay Thelen



William Jentzen - January 12 at 08:16 PM

NB

“*Kay was a great cousin (almost like a sister) to our Mom, Darlene Kruse Anderson. She was fun, kind, and smart in many ways. She and Mom were close for a long time. She will be missed, but I'm sure she and our Mom are having a ball in heaven being together again.*

Darlene Kruse Anderson's family - Bruce and Judy Anderson, Brian Anderson, Nancy Anderson Bowers and Tom Bowers, Ellen Anderson Petty and Kevin Petty, and Cindy Anderson Williams and Jonathan Williams.

Nancy Bowers - January 11 at 01:21 PM