



Dorothy Mae Van Der Pol

May 25, 1930 - May 20, 2026

Dorothy Van Der Pol, 95, passed away on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at Mahaska Health Hospice Serenity House in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Dorothy Mae Van Der Pol, daughter of Gerrit and Sara (Buwalda) Van Gorp, was born May 25, 1930, in Pella, Iowa.

Dorothy grew up on a farm north of Pella where her parents farmed. As a youngster, she attended country school and later attended Pella Christian High School, graduating with the class of 1948. As a young girl, Dorothy made her Profession of Faith at the Sully Christian Reformed Church.

Dorothy was united in marriage to Gerald Melvin Van Der Pol on February 22, 1951, at the Sully Christian Reformed Church in Sully, Iowa. To their union, seven children were born: five sons and two daughters.

The family moved to Newton, Iowa, for a few years before moving east of Oskaloosa, where they bought a farm. Dorothy cherished her faith and family and raised her children on the family farm. She also worked outside the home, driving a school bus and working in school food services for over 30 years. After moving to Oskaloosa, they became members of the Bethel Christian Reformed Church, where she remained a member. She was an avid baker, often baking multiple loaves at a time, freezing some and giving many to family and friends. She was a terrific gardener and canned many items for family and friends. She also refinished many pieces of furniture, always finding use for well-worn items. Dorothy and Melvin were blessed to visit Holland and other European countries throughout their life together.

She will be remembered as a servant to all. Loving people, baking, cooking, or simply lending a listening ear were some of her most wonderful traits. Her true love was her family, and Dorothy loved being with and watching her grandchildren.

Dorothy's family includes her children: Jerry (Sondra) Van Der Pol of Oskaloosa; Verle Van Der Pol of Leighton, Iowa; Peggy (Kevin) Van Wyk of Pella, Iowa; Ron (Vicki) Van Der Pol of Oskaloosa, Iowa; Sherry (Jeff) Auld of Marion, Iowa; Randy (Melissa) Van Der Pol of Maricopa, Arizona; and Michael (Angie) Van Der Pol of Ottumwa, Iowa; 20 grandchildren: Molly (Tim) Staroba, Mathew (Amy) Van Der Pol, Joshua Van Der Pol, Sarah (Derek) Ashman, Luke Van Der Pol, Leah (Joshua) Clark, Angie (Jonathan) Craig, Jenni (Adam) Nordaker, Kristi (Kriss) Brining, Jesse (Erica) Van Der Pol, Jacob (Lexi McGlothlen) Van Der Pol, Timothy (Haley) Van Der Pol, Bradley (Alyssa) Van Der Pol, Lauren Bushlack, Alexa (David) Kirby, Jackson Van Der Pol, Nathan Van Der Pol, Breanna (Codey Shepard) Bartlett, Tyler Bartlett; 26 great-grandchildren; and a brother, Eugene (Luana) Van Gorp of Oskaloosa, Iowa. Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Melvin, a grandson, Ben Van Der Pol, and grandson-in-law, Johnse Bushlack, a great-grandson, Samuel Bushlack, six sisters: Bernice Van Gorp (in infancy), Lucille Van Kooten, Wilma Monast, Leona De Ruiter, Ruth DePenning, Ila Joyce Van Gilst and three brothers: Marvin, Freeman, and Verlan Van Gorp.

Funeral service will be held on Friday, May 29, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., at the Bethel Christian Reformed Church in Oskaloosa, with Pastors Rick Baarda and Doug Van Der Pol officiating. Burial will take place at the Evergreen Cemetery near Leighton, Iowa. Visitation will begin at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, May 28, 2026, at Langkamp Funeral Chapel in Oskaloosa, with the family present from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. to greet relatives and friends. Memorials may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Mahaska Health Hospice Serenity House.

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Cemetery

Easton Ave. and 205th ST
Leighton, IA 50143

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 28. 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory
2116 N 3rd St
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
(641) 672-2181
langkampfuneralchapel@gmail.com
<https://www.langkampfuneralchapel.com>

Family will be present from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. to greet relatives and friends.

Funeral Service

MAY 29. 10:00 AM (CT)

Bethel Christian Reformed Church
2157 230th ST
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Burial

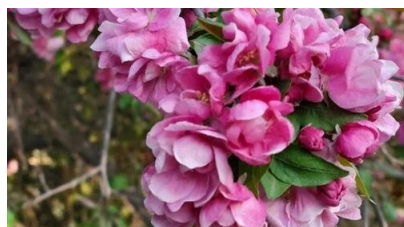
MAY **29**. 11:30 AM (CT)

Evergreen Cemetery
Easton Ave. and 205th ST
Leighton, IA 50143

Tribute Wall



“ *Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Dorothy Mae Van Der Pol*



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - May 26 at 03:08 PM

EF

“ *Enjoyed the video and seeing dear Dorothy and her family! She was a beautiful person in every way! Melvin drove us to school and Dorothy blessed many other farm kids with her driving skills! Love the memories.*

Elie Ford - May 31 at 09:04 AM

LO

“ *Many years ago, I was so blessed to receive amazing hospitality from Dorothy, when several of us would converge on the Van Der Pol home on Sunday evenings. She was just quietly in the background providing/making delicious snacks for this whole table of teens and 20-somethings! What an amazing mother and grandma you had in her! Linda (N) Oldenkamp*

Linda Oldenkamp - May 30 at 04:42 PM

TH

“ *My condolences for Jerry and Sondra on the loss of Jerry's mom.*

Tamra Van Haaften - May 24 at 07:50 PM

JB

Condolences to the family. Dorothy was such a lovely lady. She was always delightful to visit with.

Jan Broerman - May 25 at 01:01 PM

LM

“ *Love you bunches, Chelsey and Mariah planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dorothy Mae Van Der Pol.*

Love you bunches, Chelsey and Mariah - May 24 at 02:44 PM

LM

“ *Love you bunches, Chelsey and Mariah purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Dorothy Mae Van Der Pol.*



Love you bunches, Chelsey and Mariah - May 24 at 02:44 PM

PD

“ *May you all find peace and comfort from our good lord and our blessed Angels during this difficult time .Jerry, Mike, and Ron our condolences go out to each of you and all of your family. Bob & Pat Draughn*



Patricia Draughn - May 23 at 09:43 PM

MA

“ *Marla lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Mae Van Der Pol*



Marla - May 23 at 05:40 PM

JS

“ *Jerry & Chris Slobe lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Mae Van Der Pol*



Jerry & Chris Slobe - May 23 at 03:55 PM