



Ila Grace Wangsness

August 14, 1932 - June 23, 2026

Ila Wangsness, 93, of Allison, passed away on June 23, 2026, at Elm Springs in Allison. Funeral services will be at 10:30, Monday, June 29, 2026, at St James Church in Allison. She will be laid to rest at the Allison Cemetery following the service. A public visitation will be held from 4:00 – 6:00p.m. Sunday, June 28, at the Woodley Funeral Home in Allison. Woodley Funeral Home of Allison is caring for Ila and her family.

Ila Grace Wangsness was born on August 14, 1932, the daughter of Alfred and Inez (Strom) Halvorson in Decorah, Iowa. She spent her childhood in Decorah and was confirmed at First Lutheran Church and graduated from Decorah High School in 1950. After graduation, Ila worked as a telephone operator.

Ila was united in marriage to Ken Wangsness on March 29, 1953. The couple were blessed with four children: Deb, Gary, Rod, and Rick. Ila devoted herself to caring for her family and maintaining their home. She also worked for a short time at J&C Grocery store. Ila was a member of St. James Lutheran Church in Allison.

In her free time, Ila enjoyed baking, hand embroidery, puzzles and word search books. Her greatest joy was her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Ila will be remembered for her gentle spirit and her

gift of bringing a smile to anyone's face through her kind and thoughtful words.

Ila was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Ken, her twin sister, Ilene Bernhardt, her brother, Hans Halvorson, her son-in-law, Harlan Steere, and her grandson, Brock Steere.

Those left to cherish Ila's memory include: daughter, Deb Steere; sons Gary Wangsness, Rod (Stacy) Wangsness and Rick (Kelli)Wangsness; grandchildren Renee Salge, Brett Steere, Jill Lamborn, Tracy Kruse, Dave Wangsness, Travis Wangsness, Kiley Shear, Nick Wangsness, Cody Wangsness, Tanner Wangsness and Trevor Wangsness; 29 great grandchildren; and 2 great great grandchildren on the way; step sister Lorna Neil; sister-in-laws Joanne Egge, Georgia Snyder, Norma Wangsness and Sharon Wangsness; and many nieces and nephews.

Cemetery Details

Allison Cemetery

IA-14
Allison, IA 50602

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 28. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Allison - Woodley Funeral Home
308 Birch Street
Allison, IA 50602
(319) 267-2507

Funeral service

JUN 29. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. James Lutheran Church
421 N Main Street
Allison, IA 50602

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ila Grace Wangsness.*



Yesterday at 10:56 PM



“ *Im so sorry to read this! She was such a gentle soul with a smile for all! My sympathy and love to a!!! Prayers!! Karen Souhrada*

Karen Souhrada - Yesterday at 05:52 PM



“ *Deb & Family, So sorry to hear of your moms passing. Our prayers are with you. Ed & Betty Etnier*



Betty Etnier - Yesterday at 05:19 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ila Grace Wangsness.*



Yesterday at 05:03 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ila Grace Wangsness.

Yesterday at 05:03 PM



“ Kurt and Tina Graven & Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Ila Grace Wangsness.



Kurt and Tina Graven & Family - Yesterday at 04:52 PM



“ Mrs. W was one of the nicest people on my paper route.

Grant Roelf - Yesterday at 04:44 PM