



Elva "Jean" Shonka

January 24, 1931 - May 27, 2024

Elva "Jean" Shonka, age 93, of Grand Island, passed away Monday, May 27, 2024 at Tabitha at Prairie Commons.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, June 1st at 10:30am at All Faiths Funeral Home with Father Mark Maresh officiating. The service will be livestreamed on the funeral home website. In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, a local food pantry or to the family for future designation. Condolences can be left at www.giallfaiths.com.

Elva was born on January 24, 1931 in Ord, NE to Stefan and Barbara (Suminski) Papiernik. She attended Rural Valley County Schools and graduated from Ord High School in 1949. After graduation, she worked for the PMA for a number of years. When her children were older, she became a certified food service manager and worked for 10 years at Ord Public Schools and St. Mary's. She moved to Columbus in 1982, and worked in the cafeteria at Scotus for 10 years and then Schuyler High School part-time for 5 years. On May 9, 1953 she was united in marriage to James Finley and to this union 4 children were born. James passed away in 1977. On January 8, 1988 she was united in marriage to Martin Shonka, he passed away in 2002. Elva was a member of the Ladies VFW Auxiliary, American Legion Auxiliary and the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association.

Elva is survived by her daughters, Linda (Mike) Follmer and Christine (Kurt) Bogus both of Grand Island; grandchildren, April, Autumn, Andy (Jill), Aaron (Mia) and Alison Follmer and Josh (Sarah), Spencer (Susie), Nathan (Tina) Bogus and Jef (Krista) Finley and Rhiannon Sanford; stepchildren, Doug (Michelle) Shonka and Marta Gilson; step grandchildren, Aaron and Nathan Gilson and Chelsea (Joe) Gilson Meduna; numerous great grandchildren; brother, Don (Janet) Papiernik and nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Preceded in death by her parents; husbands, James Finley and Martin Shonka; sons, James and Steve Finley; infant grandson, Joseph Finley; sister, Evelyn Kusek and stepson, Danny Shonka.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 1. 10:30 AM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home
2929 S Locust St
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 398-2929
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *All Faiths Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Elva "Jean" Shonka*



All Faiths Funeral Home - May 31, 2024 at 04:47 PM

RJ

“ *Condolences to the family for your loss. Our memories go back to the 60's and 70's. in Ord. She was a good and kind person. Ron & Penny Janus of Colorado.*

Ron Janus - June 01, 2024 at 09:59 AM

DS

“ *Jean was a wonderful woman. A loving and devoted wife to my dad. She was a wonderful grandmother to our kids. She was very loving with them, patient and warm. She was just an all around likable lady.*

Doug Shonka - May 31, 2024 at 09:36 PM

JH

“ Jean was *THE BEST* of the best. Prayers of peace and comfort to her family whom she was very proud and loved so much.



Jane Havelka - May 29, 2024 at 07:24 PM

JR

“ Jean was such a lovely woman. I will always remember her with that wonderful smile she always had on her face. All my love, Joan (Havelka) Roberts

Joan Roberts - May 29, 2024 at 03:11 PM

JH

“ Jean was *The BEST* of the best. Prayers for comfort and peace to her family whom she was very proud of and she loved so much. Jane Havelka



Jane Havelka - May 29, 2024 at 11:46 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Elva "Jean" Shonka.*



May 29, 2024 at 08:52 AM



“ *Katie, Joan, Jean, Jane, Judy & John planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elva "Jean" Shonka.*

Katie, Joan, Jean, Jane, Judy & John - May 28, 2024 at 06:24 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Elva "Jean" Shonka.*



May 28, 2024 at 06:24 PM



“ *I loved Jean - she was so sweet and always had a smile on her face. She was a good woman. Joan (Havelka) Roberts*

Joan Roberts - May 28, 2024 at 06:20 PM