



Eleanor Joan "Jean" Erthum, 93

October 31, 1931 - September 18, 2025

Saronville, NE resident Eleanor Joan "Jean" Erthum, 93, passed away Thursday, September 18, 2025, at Bryan Medical Center East Campus in Lincoln, NE.

A Rosary will be prayed at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sutton, NE. Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, at the church with Father Kenneth Hoelsing officiating. Interment will follow at the Calvary Cemetery in Sutton, NE. Visitation will be one hour prior to the Rosary at the church.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family to be designated later.

Eleanor J. "Jean" Erthum was born October 31, 1931, on the family farm SW of Geneva, NE, to Al and Fay (Nance) Erthum. She attended country school in Districts 81 and 47 and graduated from Fillmore High School in 1948. She then married and seven children were born to this union: Katherine, Steven, Laura, Michael, Gary, Carol and Sheryl. They moved to the farm west of Sutton, NE, in 1952.

Her life was spent as a mother, farmwife, farmer and doing various other jobs over the years.

Jean loved gardening, sewing, artistic crafting and especially spending time with family. She enjoyed cooking for family and hosting family celebrations and holidays, or anytime! Her egg salad sandwiches were always a hit at church events!

Jean will be remembered for her kindness, creativity, gardening talents and love for God and family. She always saw the good in others. She was a long-time member of St. Mary's Altar Society and a part of The Living Rosary these last few years, responsible for the 2nd Joyful Mystery. She was always on the go and a hard worker; she would say, "I have to keep moving or I won't be able to." With her birthday on Oct. 31st, she enjoyed dressing up in costume and entertaining her family and guests with stories, jokes and treats. She was a proficient storyteller and joke-teller and loved making people laugh! She especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, making them special gifts for special occasions or "just because." She enjoyed playing cards with friends and visiting her cousins.

She is survived by son, Steve (Joan) Krause of Ogallala, NE; daughters, Laura McNabb of Lakeland, FL; and Sheryl (Paul) Drudik of Saronville, NE; 14 grandchildren; 35 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; daughters, Kathy Sneed and Carol Krause; sons, Mike and Gary Krause; grandson, Tom Krause; sisters, Dorothy Gruenemeier; Carol Bagby and Shirley Beaver; and brothers-in-law, Vic Gruenemeier and Jim Beaver.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

316530-31677 Road X
Sutton, NE 68979

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 23. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
312 S. Saunders Ave.
Sutton, NE 68979

Rosary

SEP 23. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
312 S. Saunders Ave.
Sutton, NE 68979

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 23. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
312 S. Saunders Ave.
Sutton, NE 68979

Tribute Wall



“ 21 files added to the album *Flowers*



Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel - September 23, 2025
at 01:39 PM

LZ

“ *My sister Joanie and I went to Jean's flower garden to cut flowers for our mother Pat's funeral. Looking out at her garden, we had a feeling it could be hard to find enough flowers because most were gone in August.*

We ended up cutting and arranging several vases of the most beautiful flowers for mom's memory tables

Thank you cousin Jean for this and all of the times spent south of town for Sunday coffee.

Sorry we lost your flower cutter tool.

Cousin Laura Zabloudil

Laura Zabloudil - September 22, 2025 at 04:04 PM

LZ

“ Laura Z. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eleanor Joan "Jean" Erthum, 93.

Laura Z. - September 22, 2025 at 03:55 PM

AN

“ All the Florida Beaver neices/nephews purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Eleanor Joan "Jean" Erthum, 93.



All the Florida Beaver neices/nephews - September 22, 2025 at 11:12 AM

SF

“ Sharia & Family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Eleanor Joan "Jean" Erthum, 93.



Sharia & Family - September 21, 2025 at 05:25 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Eleanor Joan "Jean" Erthum, 93.



September 19, 2025 at 03:48 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Eleanor Joan "Jean" Erthum, 93.

September 19, 2025 at 03:48 PM