



Leona Rath

May 18, 1930 - April 1, 2025

Sutton resident Leona Rath, 94, passed away peacefully at Legacy Square in Henderson, Nebraska, on Tuesday, April 1, 2025.

A Funeral Service for Leona will be held on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 10:30 a.m., at the Hope Reformed Church in Sutton, Nebraska, with Pastor Scott Henry presiding.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, April 6, 2025, at Sutton Memorial Chapel in Sutton, Nebraska, from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., with the family greeting the public from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Private Family Graveside Services will be held at the Sutton Cemetery in Sutton, Nebraska.

In Lieu of Flowers - Memorials are to be directed to the Sutton Christian School.

Leona's Funeral Service will be live-streamed on Sutton Memorial's Facebook page on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

Leona Griess Rath, 94, of Sutton, Nebraska, passed away on April 1, 2025, at Legacy Square in Henderson, Nebraska.

Leona was born on May 18, 1930, in Hamilton County, northeast of Stockham, Nebraska to Richard A. and Olanda Griess. The youngest of 9 children, she received her education at District 8 country school outside of Stockham, and went on to live a life full of love, faith, and service to others.

On October 15, 1952, Leona married Robert Henry Rath. Together, they built a family filled with love and strong values. They made their home on a farm in northwest Fillmore County, until they moved into Sutton in 1988. To this union, 6 children were born; Elaine, Marilyn, Marcella, Linda, Joan, and Stanley.

Leona found joy in serving her husband, family and loved ones. She loved preparing meals for her beloved family, hosting her family for Sunday lunch after church for several decades, as well as her grandchildren on Wednesday afternoons before catechism, ensuring that their table was always filled with warmth and love. She also worked at the Sutton Community Home, sharing her kindness with those in her care. She was an active member of the Fillmore County Extension Club. She enjoyed time spent with friends over coffee, sharing stories and laughter. She was a longtime member of the Hope Reformed Church.

Her faith in the Lord was the cornerstone of her life. She leaves behind a legacy of faith, encouraging her family to “keep going to church, pray, and read the Bible,” and to “have faith, be content, and know that God is in control of everything.”

Leona will be remembered for her kindness, hard work, servant heart, and just the right touch of feistiness. She served her family well, and her presence will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Leona is survived by her 6 children, Elaine Robinson of Sutton, NE; Marilyn

Eason of Pender, NE; Marcella (John) Van Kirk of Sutton, NE; Linda (Walt) Hahn of Sutton, NE; Joan (Timothy) Johnson of Harvard, NE; and Stanley (Melissa) Rath of Sutton, NE. She also leaves behind a cherished legacy of 19 grandchildren and 40 great-grandchildren, who will forever hold her memory in their hearts.

She is preceded in death by her husband, her parents, her in-laws, Henry and Adolphine (Griess) Rath; her 5 brothers, Reinhold R. Griess, Edmond R. Griess, Oscar R. Griess, Gilbert R. Griess, Simeon R. Griess, 3 sisters, Johanna Griess, Talitha Hofmann, Minnie Hofmann; her son-in-law, Wayne Robinson, her granddaughter, Jamie (Rath) Lingren, and great grandson, Henry William Obrinsky.

Cemetery Details

Sutton Cemetery

1202 N. Saunders Ave
Sutton, NE 68979

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 6. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sutton Memorial Chapel
804 S. Saunders, Ave.
PO Box 612
Sutton, NE 68979
(402) 773-4100
suttonmemorial@windstream.net
<http://www.suttonmemorial.com/>

Family Present At Visitation

APR 6. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sutton Memorial Chapel
804 S. Saunders, Ave.
PO Box 612
Sutton, NE 68979
(402) 773-4100
suttonmemorial@windstream.net
<http://www.suttonmemorial.com/>

Funeral Service

APR 7. 10:30 AM (CT)

Hope Reformed Church
311 E Hickory St
Sutton, NE 68979

Tribute Wall



“ 44 files added to the album *Flowers*



Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel - April 08, 2025 at 04:19 PM



“ *With deepest sympathy to your family. We find comfort knowing she is with our Lord. Leona always had a smile and encouraging word. She will be missed.*

Lana Ebert - April 06, 2025 at 08:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Leona Rath.*



April 04, 2025 at 08:48 AM



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

April 04, 2025 at 08:48 AM



“ Alan and Diane Beyke purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Leona Rath.



Alan and Diane Beyke - April 04, 2025 at 07:56 AM



“ Dearest Friends, Leona is now with her precious Savior, Jesus Christ. I can hear her laugh as I write this note to her girls and to her son, Austan. I know that you are all finding the peace of mind and heart that only God can give at a time like this. What is our only comfort in life and in death? You all know that answer. Before I left Sutton, every Friday eve was spent with your mom and 2 other gals playing Dominos. I can just hear your mom's giggle over the game and a little glass of "juice". I loved how your mom was the first to offer help wherever it was needed, and her baking was to die for. I am so thankful to have had your mom for a faithful friend. I truly loved her and will miss her until we are together again about the throne of our Lord God.

Phyllis Grossmann

Phyllis Grossmann - April 04, 2025 at 12:51 AM

AW

“ *Leona was one of my favorites, and the momma of my best friend and cousin, Jo Jo. She treated me like a princess whenever she saw me. She was delighted with me and me with her.*

Audrey Richards Woita - April 03, 2025 at 04:49 PM

SF

“ *Leona you will be missed! I will miss our garden and tea talks and the amazing love you shared!*



Sara Farley - April 03, 2025 at 01:51 AM