



Lula "Lu" Rosella Calkins, 85

May 23, 1940 - April 11, 2026

Sutton, NE, resident Lula "Lu" Rosella (Rachow) Calkins, 85, passed away Saturday, April 11, 2026, at the Sutton Community Home in Sutton, NE.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 17, 2026, at the Federated Church in Sutton, NE, with Pastor Edison Toe officiating. Interment will follow at the Sutton Cemetery in Sutton, NE. Visitation will be Thursday, from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., at Sutton Memorial Chapel in Sutton, NE.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Sutton Federated Church or the Sutton Community Home Foundation.

Lula was born to Fred and Rosella (Dondlinger) Rachow on May 23, 1940, on a farm near Shickley, NE.

Lu was raised on a farm in Clay County, NE, and went to country school through the sixth grade. She then started going to Sutton Public Schools and graduated in 1957.

Lu moved to Lincoln, NE, after graduation and started working various jobs. It was there that she met her future husband, William "Bill" Calkins, whom she married on May 22, 1958. To this union six children were born: William, Larry, Jerry "Happy", Terrie, Sherrie, and Mary. Bill and Lu lived in Ohio for many

years before moving back to Sutton.

Lu worked for many businesses and individuals, waitressing, cooking and finally having her own bookkeeping service. Lu and Bill also managed the Fox Hollow Motel for a number of years.

Fishing and camping while her children were growing up was a passion for her, along with her husband, Bill. Lu was a member of the Federated Church of Sutton and the Sutton American Legion Auxiliary. Dancing was also a great passion. Many a weekend, Lu and Bill were at a dance.

Her most joyful job was enjoying her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Lula is survived by her sons, William (and Friend Vena) of Royal, AR; Larry of Aberdeen, WA; and Jerry "Happy" of Sutton; daughters, Sherrie (John) Bartell of Sutton; Mary (Greg) Kruciak of Red Cloud, NE; sister, Lois Barker of Omaha, NE; grand-children, Shannon (Dillon) Abernathy of Royal, AR; Sarah Jones of Wamego, KS; Zachariah (Brenda) Roose of Wichita, KS; Tracy (Kristin) Calkins of California; Tina Calkins of Washington; Kelsey (Brent) Drake of Ord; Jeramiah Calkins (friend Kylie) of Sutton; Maryah (Spencer) Friesen of Sutton; Makyah (Jordan) Wagoner of Saronville; Joshua (Katrena) Bartell of Eustis; Jesse (Kerri) Klein of Osceola; Teri (Jarrod) Aspegren of Sutton; Amy (Jeff) Wagnell of Salem, OR; Luke (Dacie) Kruciak of Lebanon, KS; Eliza (Josiah) Nelson of Omaha; Joanna (Luke) Swenson of Elk Point, SD; Timothy (Karl) Kruciak of Lebanon, KS; Bethany (Jackson) Shudak of Alvo, NE; 40 great-grand children and many other relatives and friends.

Lula was preceded in death by her parents; husband, William Calkins; daughter, Terrie Calkins; sister, Lola; brother-in-law, Don Laribee; daughters-in-law, Carol Calkins and Laura Calkins; brothers-in-law, Scott Barker; Tommy Calkins; and sister-in-law, Ruth Mills.

Cemetery Details

Sutton Cemetery

1202 N. Saunders Ave
Sutton, NE 68979

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 16. 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/>

Funeral Service

APR 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

Federated Church
407 N. Saunders Ave.
Sutton, NE 68979
(402) 773-5336
<https://www.suttonfedchurch.org>

Tribute Wall



“ 2 files added to the album *Floral Tributes*



Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel - April 17 at 04:56 PM

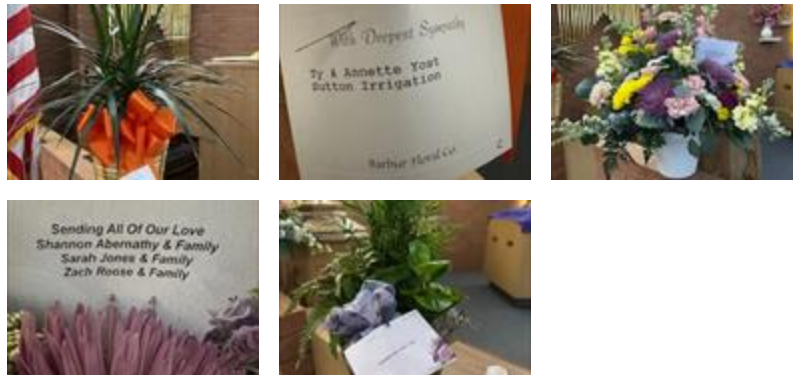
SE

“ *Lois, I am so sorry to hear of Lou's passing. She was a special lady and a light for all. My prayers are with you and all of the family!*

Sherry Ebert - April 16 at 09:01 PM



“ 18 files added to the album *Floral Tributes*



Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel - April 16 at 09:00 PM

LS

“ Laurie and Barry sheridan purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Lula "Lu" Rosella Calkins, 85.



Laurie and Barry sheridan - April 16 at 08:46 AM

LS

“ Laurie and Barry sheridan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lula "Lu" Rosella Calkins, 85.

Laurie and Barry sheridan - April 16 at 08:46 AM

SB

“ Sherrie Bartell lit a candle in memory of Lula "Lu" Rosella Calkins, 85



Sherrie Bartell - April 14 at 02:38 PM

SB

I miss you already. Love you mom.

Sherrie Bartell - April 14 at 02:39 PM

LL

“ Love, Lois purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Lula "Lu" Rosella Calkins, 85.



Love, Lois - April 14 at 12:34 PM

LL

“ Love, Lois planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lula "Lu" Rosella Calkins, 85.

Love, Lois - April 14 at 12:34 PM

LK

“ Larry Joyce Klein lit a candle in memory of Lula "Lu" Rosella Calkins, 85



Larry Joyce Klein - April 13 at 10:59 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lula "Lu" Rosella Calkins, 85.



April 13 at 08:23 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Lula "Lu" Rosella Calkins, 85.

April 13 at 08:23 PM

VJ

“ A Beautiful lady! ❤️



Virginia Johnson - April 13 at 08:02 PM

KG

“ Lu and Bill were such wonderful hosts every time I stayed at the Fox Hollow Motel. My condolences to the family. -Kathy Griess

Kathy Griess - April 13 at 03:40 PM

DM

I will miss my highschool friend and visiting her whenever I traveled to Sutton. Enjoyed my time staying at the Fox Hollow motel and was even invited to have wine in the private quarters. Darlene Ochsner Martin

Darlene Martin - April 14 at 09:05 PM