



Dorothy Anna Gerken

March 15, 1934 - April 16, 2020

Dorothy Gerken Livestream Video- [Click Here.](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utDyOjYUIJU>

Dorothy Anna Gerken, 86, of Napoleon, Ohio died peacefully on Thursday, April 16th, 2020 at Genacross Lutheran Home, Napoleon, Ohio.

Dorothy was born March 15, 1934 at home in Defiance County to the late Anton and Wilhemina (Lineau) Wiemken. With a caregiver's patience and love, Dorothy was tasked with raising her six younger siblings after her mother's passing at a young age. On September 19, 1954, she married Henry August Gerken at Bethlehem Lutheran Church -Adams Ridge. Once again, she became a caregiver after her father's passing when her three younger siblings moved in with her and Henry.

Dorothy was a homemaker and worked at Napco Plastics for 30 years. She was a faithful member of St. John Lutheran Church Freedom Twp., where she was active in the Woman of Freedom, sang in the church choir, and taught Sunday School. She was a 4-H advisor for the Gerald Busy Fingers for several years.

She is survived by her husband, Henry; children, Beverly (Michael) Becker of North Olmsted, Randall (Liza) Gerken of Napoleon, and Bethann Gerken of Archbold; step grandchildren, Kevin Becker, Amy Becker, Brittany Trolio, and Jerid Stine; step great grandchildren, Mia, Rowan, and Ezra Trolio; and siblings, Louisa (Robert) Blue of Hamler, Henry (Rose) Wiemken of Napoleon,

and Norman (Kathleen) Wiemken of Defiance; and a sister-in-law, Judy Wiemken of Baton Rouge, Louisiana . She was also preceded in death by brothers, Frederick and Edward Wiemken, and a sister, Elmina Backhaus. Due to the current health environment, a private service will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, April 20th at St. John Lutheran Church-Freedom Twp. The service will be live streamed and you may go to Dorothy's tribute page at www.rodembergergray.com to access the service. Interment will be held at St. John Lutheran Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to St. John Lutheran Church, Grace Hospice, or the Lutheran Hour and can be mailed to Rodenberger-Funeral Home 1010 Westmoreland Ave. Napoleon, OH 43545. Dorothy's family would like to extend a special thanks to the staff at Genacross and Grace Hospice for all their care and support.

Cemetery Details

St. John Lutheran Freedom Township Cemetery

16035 Co Rd U
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall



“ Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dorothy Anna Gerken



Rodenberger Funeral Home - April 20, 2020 at 08:15 AM

JM

“ I just learned of Dorothy's passing. I am so sorry. I will miss her so much. She was a beautiful lady and I so enjoyed talking to her at the Lutheran Home. My prayers are with you Henry and your family.
Jan Miller

Janis S Miller - April 21, 2020 at 11:49 AM

JC

“ So sorry to see that your Sister has passed away My Sympathy to you, Henry , and to Rose. Sending prayers!

judi cotter - April 18, 2020 at 10:33 PM

KG

“ Henry and family you have my sympathy. Take care.

Kathryn Gobrogge - April 18, 2020 at 11:15 AM

LR

“ Dorothy was such a beautiful lady! My thoughts and prayers for all of the family.
Laura



Laura Rohlf - April 17, 2020 at 10:53 PM

BG

“ Aunty Dorothy loved to bake and was a master at many types of cookies. This was evident at family gatherings. She was loved by all and will be greatly missed.
Love-Bethany and Rick Gable

Bethany Gable - April 17, 2020 at 05:00 PM