



## Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen

February 22, 1944 - April 5, 2026

Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen, age 82, of Albia, IA, passed away on Sunday, April 5, 2026, at her home, surrounded by her loved ones, under the care of EveryStep Hospice.

Judy was born on February 22, 1944, in Ottumwa, IA, to Robert and Hattie Hester (Van Oene) Bloodsworth. She grew up attending school in Eddyville and graduated with the Class of 1962. Following high school, she continued her education at AIB College of Business, earning her 2-year degree in accounting and data processing in 1964. On September 18, 1965, she was united in marriage to William "Bill" Van Polen Jr. at the Christian and Ministry Alliance Church in Boone, IA, and to this union, 3 children were born: Douglas, Jeffery, and Lynnetta. Judy and Bill were blessed with 49 years of marriage prior to Bill's passing on November 6, 2014.

Judy began her working career as a secretary and doing data entry for the Look Magazine in Des Moines. She then worked for IMT Insurance in Oskaloosa before going to work at Northwestern Bell Telephone Company in Des Moines. Upon moving to Albia, she was a Board Treasurer for Monroe County Farm Bureau where she also later worked as a part-time secretary. Judy also worked as a cook at the middle school and worked at L & S Tool before dedicating many years to Hawkeye Molding in Albia where she worked until her retirement.

Judy was a woman of strong faith and was a longtime member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Albia where she served as Board Treasurer from 1979-1987. She loved spending time outdoors, especially fishing and gardening. Judy was an excellent cook and baker, known for her delicious pies and desserts. She also enjoyed playing cards. Above all else, Judy cherished her family and the time spent with them. She especially enjoyed attending her children's, grandchildren's, and great grandchildren's events over the years.

Judy is survived by 3 children, Douglas Allen (Jana) Van Polen, Jeffery Jay (Michelle) Van Polen, Lynnetta Lee (Wayne) Heaton; 7 grandchildren, Bob (Jenna) Van Polen, Evy (Kris) Hicks, Morgan (Brent) Christeson, Lexie (Jake) Wood, Jade (Tony) Leshen, Jay (Mallory) Heaton, and Erin (Andy) Stephens; 9 great grandchildren, Sage, Balen, Kylie, Nora, Kalven, Evelyn, Kobe, Hudson, and J.J; 3 brothers-in-law, Jim Van Polen, Bob Van Polen, and Jerry Van Polen; and 2 sisters-in-law, Lorraine Van Polen and Donna Van Polen. Judy is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her husband, William "Bill" Van Polen Jr.; her parents, Robert and Hattie Bloodsworth; and a sister-in-law, Mazie Van Polen Rouw.

Visitation will be held from 2:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Judy's family present from 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. to greet family and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Albia, with Dr. Jenna Harris officiating. Burial will follow services at Bethel Cemetery in Monroe County.

Memorials have been established to EveryStep Hospice or Bethel Cemetery.



# Cemetery Details

## Bethel Cemetery

Albia, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 8. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home  
116 Benton Ave.  
Albia, IA 52531  
(641) 932-3129  
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

## Funeral Service

APR 9. 10:30 AM (CT)

St Paul Lutheran Church  
335 N 8th St  
Albia, IA 52531  
(641) 932-7270

# Tribute Wall

BF

“ Brenda & Jim Schultz and Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



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**Brenda & Jim Schultz and Family** - April 08 at 03:16 PM

BF

“ Brenda & Jim Schultz and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.

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**Brenda & Jim Schultz and Family** - April 08 at 03:16 PM

MS

“ Martha Stocks purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



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**Martha Stocks** - April 08 at 02:26 PM

MS

“ Martha Stocks planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.

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**Martha Stocks** - April 08 at 02:26 PM

TF

“ The Stocks Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



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The Stocks Family - April 08 at 02:20 PM

TF

“ The Stocks Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.

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The Stocks Family - April 08 at 02:20 PM

RD

“ Rob&Dee Gibson, Chris&Mel Donohue purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



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Rob&Dee Gibson, Chris&Mel Donohue - April 07 at 09:32 PM

RD

“ Rob&Dee Gibson, Chris&Mel Donohue planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.

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Rob&Dee Gibson, Chris&Mel Donohue - April 07 at 09:32 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.*



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April 07 at 09:30 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.*



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April 07 at 05:44 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.*

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April 07 at 05:44 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.*



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April 07 at 05:36 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.*

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April 07 at 05:36 PM

KK

“ Karen, Deb, and Kathy purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



Karen, Deb, and Kathy - April 07 at 02:49 PM

DF

“ DawnAnn, Bruce and family purchased the County Basket Blooms for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



DawnAnn, Bruce and family - April 07 at 02:45 PM

DF

“ Dave & Carla Magnuson and family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



Dave & Carla Magnuson and family - April 07 at 02:40 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



April 07 at 02:29 PM

BF

“ Bonnie Purdy and Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



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**Bonnie Purdy and Family** - April 07 at 02:25 PM

BF

“ Bonnie Purdy and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.

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**Bonnie Purdy and Family** - April 07 at 02:25 PM

ST

“ Serenity Couture team purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



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**Serenity Couture team** - April 07 at 02:05 PM

DP

“ Donna Van Polen purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



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**Donna Van Polen** - April 07 at 12:58 PM

DP

“ Donna Van Polen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.

Donna Van Polen - April 07 at 12:58 PM

NS

“ Norm and Shantel Stocker purchased the Angel's Embrace Bouquet for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



Norm and Shantel Stocker - April 07 at 11:26 AM

NS

“ Norm and Shantel Stocker planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.

Norm and Shantel Stocker - April 07 at 11:26 AM

AM

“ April, Katherine, Jessica & Miranda purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.



April, Katherine, Jessica & Miranda - April 07 at 08:18 AM

T7

“ *The Savage 7 purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.*



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**The Savage 7** - April 06 at 11:02 PM

LK

“ *Judy was the best cook, enjoyed her family and had the most generous heart. Her commitment to St Paul's Lutheran Church and seeing that her kids were brought up in the Christian faith was very important to her. That's how I met she and Bill. Their kids grew up with mine. We share lots of wonderful memories during those years. Wouldn't trade that time for anything. We have been praying for Judy throughout this journey. Now the journey is over, May Our God's Holy Peace surround your loved ones and friends. Lana Kaldenberg Eells and family*

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**Lana Kaldenberg** - April 06 at 08:39 PM

SW

“ *Skylar West purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Judith "Judy" Ann Van Polen.*



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**Skylar West** - April 06 at 06:41 PM