



Ruth "Carol" King Sovern

February 22, 1932 - August 19, 2024

Ruth "Carol" King Sovern, age 92, of Albia, IA, passed away on Monday, August 19, 2024, at the Monroe County Hospital in Albia.

Carol was born in Rockford, Illinois in 1932 to J.E. and Helen King. She graduated from Albia High School in 1950 then attended Grinnell College where she graduated four years later with a bachelors degree in education. While teaching in Battle Creek, Michigan she met Elmer Sovern, Jr. They married in 1958 and she became the immediate stepmother to Mary, Robert, Alice, William and Richard. In 1972 the couple moved to Albia where Elmer ran Behnke's Famous Friers. Before that he had worked in the cereal industry traveling to England, Trinidad and Australia. Carol happily accompanied him learning all she could about the countries.

Carol was an accomplished soprano sharing her talent at churches and civic groups. She was a 50-year member of AAUW and had years with bank directors traveling to seminars across the nation. A member of Trinity Methodist Church found her active in UMW, the choir and Bible Study. There was also The Albia Women's Club and the DAR.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, brother James, and sons William and Richard. She's survived by children Robert, Mary, and Alice, 12 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. The family extends its thanks to

the caregivers in her later years, especially Deanna Smith.

A memorial service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 12, 2025, at the Albia Trinity Church with Pastor Roger Henry officiating. A High Tea will follow services at the Albia Tea Parlor followed by burial at Oakview Cemetery in Albia.

A memorial has been established to the Albia Trinity Church.

Cemetery Details

Oak View Cemetery

602 2nd Ave.
Albia, IA 52531

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 12. 1:00 PM (CT)

Albia Trinity Church
1117 Benton Ave. East
Albia, IA 52531

Tribute Wall

NA

“ I am so sorry to learn of Carol's passing. I knew her when we were in Easter People Bible Study at North Naples Methodist Church. She was a wonderful, Christian woman. I will always value her wisdom and friendship. God Bless her family.

Nancy - November 10, 2024 at 03:24 PM

DW

“ I got to know Carol through the Monroe County Garden in which she was a member for over 20 years and also president for many years. Alway enjoyed when she had Christmas luncheon Everything was so elegant. RIP Carol.

Diane Whitson - September 12, 2024 at 09:04 AM

BG

“ I met Carol in Naples Fl about 30 tears ago. We were in the same Bible Study for almost 30 years. Carol was a delightful and beautiful Christian lady full of energy, life and her strong faith. Barbara Gordon

Barbara Gordon - September 01, 2024 at 06:45 PM

EH

“ My heartfelt condolences to her family. I met Carol in Naples, FL when I brought the Grinnell College swim team down for our winter training. Our first visit with Carol and Elmer was at their condo where she and family members prepared a delicious dinner for our entire team. Then for years later we met during the swim team/Grinnell Alumni luncheon at Port Royal. She loved engaging with the college students and sharing Grinnell memories. They adored her, as did I. She also gave the team a special treat of a trip for ice cream trip for the ENTIRE team! A wonderful human who I am so fortunate to have met. Payers.- Erin Hurley, former GC Swim/Dive coach

Erin D Hurley - August 29, 2024 at 06:45 PM

DG

I worked for Carolyn at Binkies very nice lady

Deborah Gray - September 01, 2024 at 12:43 PM

KE

“ May you rest in peace Carol; you and Elmer were so good to Sarah and I. I was going through a divorce, and you asked if I would consider house sitting while you were out of the country with Elmer on his cereal products. It's a story Elmer always told me 'Special ' cereal was in your honor. It was our home for 12 years. I was married in that beautiful home in front of the stone fireplace. Kathy Elliott

Kathy Elliott - August 23, 2024 at 10:17 PM

KA

The cereal was Special K

Kathy - August 23, 2024 at 10:20 PM

ES

My condolences to Carols family . I did not know you were married in her home . Memories for you .

Evelyn Sharpe - September 02, 2024 at 09:26 PM

GS

“ *I met Carol in Naples,Florida at the Seasonal Circle and Easter People groups. After Elmer passed, we became movie buddies when my husband traveled with work. At one point, I drove her from Naples to Albia. I thoroughly enjoyed my times with Carol and considered her a dear friend. I will always remember fondly her Easter tea parties*

Gail Schlenk - August 23, 2024 at 03:44 PM

DC

“ *Daniel Crall lit a candle in memory of Ruth "Carol" King Sovern*



Daniel Crall - August 22, 2024 at 06:09 PM

MC

“ *MAX COX lit a candle in memory of Ruth "Carol" King Sovern*



MAX COX - August 22, 2024 at 05:43 PM

MC

I worked with Elmer and Carol at Behnkes for several years and they were both great neighbors also.

MAX COX - August 22, 2024 at 05:45 PM

KJ

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. I will carry fond memories of Carol from church. She was a precious lady; she will be missed.

Praying for you during this difficult time. May God's comforting presence surround you now and in the challenging days ahead.

Sincerely,

Kim Jolly

Kim Jolly - August 22, 2024 at 05:03 PM

GA

So sorry for the loss of my aunt carol. I was fortunate to spend time with her and the rest of the family. I spent time with Elmer and carol when they were living in trinidad, Tobago. Was very special times. She would always come to family gatherings and give all support. My prayers to all of those she has left behind. Thank you aunt carol for all of your memories you have given all of us. All my love to everyone, your niece gloria

Gloria Abnet - August 22, 2024 at 11:50 PM

DD

“ *My prayer and sympathy to the children and families. My mom worked at Behnke's for Elmer and she was friends with both Carol and Elmer. Carol was such a sweet kind lady. Always knew you and had time to talk to you. She will truly be missed by many.*

Darlene Sisler (Irene Fishers daughter) - August 22, 2024 at 05:00 PM