



## Lois Jean Smalley

January 26, 1947 - October 2, 2025

Lois Jean Smalley, 78, of rural Bloomfield, Iowa passed peacefully with loved ones at her side on October 2, 2025 at Northern Mahaska Specialty Care in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Jean was born January 26th, 1947 in Lamar, Colorado to Stanford Koch and Lois Jean Crister. Jean grew up in Colorado and always felt at home near the mountains. While attending High School in Lamar, she found the love of her life, Kenneth Smalley. After graduation, they married on June 10, 1965 in Fruita, Colorado. They dreamed of building a life together. From that dream they started their family in Missouri. Kenneth's dream of a farm came true when their family moved to Bloomfield, Iowa. Jean could not have been happier to see their dreams come to life.

Jean worked as a CNA, a secretary for Iowa Legal Aide, and helped with her husband's farm. The highest titles she ever held was wife, mother, and Granny. She loved her babies with everything she had. Jean had an amazing sense of humor. Her strength and perseverance for loving and protecting her family came above all else. Those that had the privilege to know her say that "she was love," in all that she did. The simple pleasures in life made her the happiest; family being near, chocolate, and Chery Coke.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Kenneth Smalley;

parents, Stanford Koch and Lois Crister; five siblings, Thomas Koch, Grant Koch, Merrie Unselt, Luther Marten Sr., and Nancy Sparks.

She will be lovingly remembered by family; she is survived by five grandchildren, Julie Ellis of North Carolina, Kenneth Smalley of Montezuma, Iowa, Stan (Raechel) Smalley Jr. of Oskaloosa, Iowa, Jessica Smalley of Missouri, Waylon Smalley of Fort Riley, Kansas; eight great-grandchildren that were the absolute light of her life; and five siblings, Kathy Walker, Darla Shanks, James Walker Jr., Julie Walker, and Donna Crabb all of Oklahoma.

A celebration of life for Jean will be held on Monday, October 13, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at the UFCW Union Hall located at 1305 E. Mary St., Ottumwa, Iowa 52501. Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield is assisting the family and online condolences may be directed to [www.waglerfuneralhome.com](http://www.waglerfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall

CB

“ Lois was a beautiful friend for many, many years..we have known each other since our school days.(such a long time ago)..sometimes it would be 2 o3 years maybe before one of us would pick up the phone and call each other..it didn't matter..we always knew we were there for each other no matter the time or the miles..she was one of the strongest people I am blessed to know..she could be fiesty and have a strong opinion or be calm and watchful..sending love and blessings to all that was fortunate to call her family..she will always be a sister in my heart..I know she will always be around.(so watch out lol)..fly high Lois as you deserve your Wings...love and miss you always

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**CORA BRANT** - October 14, 2025 at 03:49 PM

DS

“ I am so glad I got to know Jean for a time. I just loved her and her good heart, good humor and determination. She was truly an inspiration to many. So glad she is in Jesus arms. Diana Simmons

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**Diana Simmons** - October 11, 2025 at 05:56 PM

RG

“ Regina Gooden lit a candle in memory of Lois Jean Smalley



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**Regina Gooden** - October 03, 2025 at 06:46 PM