



Barbara J Waggie

October 9, 1933 - April 8, 2026

Barbara J. Waggie, age 92, of Rochester, Minnesota and formerly of Newell, Iowa died April 8, 2026 in Rochester.

Funeral services will take place Saturday, April 25, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at Bethel Baptist Church in Newell. Burial will be in the Varina Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday, April 24, 2026 from 5-7:00 p.m. at the CHURCH in Newell. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Barbara Jean Degner was born on October 9, 1933, on a farm in Newell, Iowa, to Fred W. and Arvilla Degner. Her life may have started during the Great Depression, but this family had wonderful times. Her older brother was Freddie. Other children soon followed, Ruth (Paulson), Robert and David. They all enjoyed a farm life, growing up just outside of Varina. Barb participated on the Varina High School basketball team. She and her sister Ruth were inseparable, and even though life took Barb away from Iowa for a number of years, whenever she and Ruth were back together it was like they had never been apart.

She was united in marriage to John Walter Beilby after graduation in the summer of 1951 and the couple settled in Plover, where the water tower there dripped on Barb's garden and helped produce the largest plants in

town. Barb's first daughter, Susan, did not survive childbirth. John was recalled back into the Navy during the Korean conflict so the couple settled in the San Francisco area and had their second child, David, while there in 1954. After leaving the Navy, the couple settled in Phoenix, Arizona, where two more sons were born, Stephen in 1956 and Douglas in 1963. While pregnant with her fourth son, Larry, a divorce occurred in 1965 and Barb and the boys landed back home in Newell, Iowa.

As a single mom, Barb was driven to get a college education and graduated from Buena Vista College in 1970. She was a teacher in the Albert City-Truesdale school system for 25 years until her retirement in 1996. Hundreds of kids can claim tutelage from Barb.

In May of 1984 Barb had a second chance at love and married Roger Waggie and returned to living on a farm now that all four of her boys had graduated and moved away, and Roger's daughter Kim was finishing up advanced degrees. In 1996 the couple remodeled a house in Storm Lake and left farming. They settled there for 20 years before taking up residence in independent living in Spencer. In 2019, Roger and Barb moved to Rochester, MN to be close to son Stephen and near the Mayo Clinic for health reasons.

Barb is preceded in death by her siblings except her brother David. David has said Barb was like a mother to him. She is survived by her husband Roger in Rochester, her four sons, David along with his wife Lisa in Wausau, WI; Stephen in Rochester, Doug and his wife Jennifer in Grand Island, NE; and Larry and his wife Kim in Boyd, TX. She is also survived by her step-daughter Kim Waggie and her partner Leanna in Mt. Vernon, WA. Barb boasts eight grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Cemetery Details

Varina Cemetery

Varina, IA 50593

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **24**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Bethel Baptist Church -- Newell
313 Highway 7
Newell, IA 50568
<http://bethelnewell.org/>

Funeral Service

APR **25**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Bethel Baptist Church -- Newell
313 Highway 7
Newell, IA 50568
<http://bethelnewell.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Barbara J Waggie*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 25 at 01:27 PM



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Barbara J Waggie*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 22 at 01:33 PM

LS

“ *I had your mom as a 5th grade teacher in Albert City in the early 70's. She was a sweet lady! I never knew much about her life until I read her obituary. You would never know by sitting in her classroom what she went through/was going through in her personal life. She was a blessing to many! May your memories keep her close and God give you strength in the days ahead. My deepest sympathy, Laurie Simonsen*

Laurie Simonaen - April 25 at 09:03 PM

LS

“ When I came to Albert City in 1986 to teach 6th grade, Barb's classroom was right beside mine. She was my mentor and friend. When I married Todd, we also became neighbors until Barb and Roger moved to Storm Lake. I always enjoyed running into them at the grocery store and catching up. Condolences to her family.

Laura Sievers - April 22 at 06:51 PM

FH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 22 at 01:43 PM



“ 30 files added to the album LifeTributes



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - April 22 at 01:29 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Barbara J Waggie.*



April 20 at 11:35 AM



“ *Our sympathy to the family of Barbara Degner Waggie.*



Duane and Eldona Hornor - April 12 at 09:04 PM



“ *Sending Prayers and hugs*



Shelly Schossow - April 11 at 06:49 PM



“ *Jason and Leigh Schultz lit a candle in memory of Barbara Waggie*



Jason and Leigh Schultz - April 11 at 01:58 PM

JA

“ Mrs. Beilby was my 5th grade teacher. Even though it was many many years ago, I remember her always being so caring. She was a great teacher. Condolences to her family. May she rest in peace

Jan VanderLeest Alter - April 11 at 01:06 PM

MP

“ I loved growing up with aunt Barb and her boys. It was never a dull moment, going between her home and having them all at our home. Mary Ruth Huedpohl (Paulson)

Mary Ruth Huedepohl Paulson - April 11 at 11:13 AM

WM

“ Wanda (Nelsen) McClintock lit a candle in memory of Barbara Waggie



Wanda (Nelsen) McClintock - April 09 at 05:57 PM

DB

I had Mrs Beilby as my 5th grade teacher - she was so nice and a great teacher. 🙏❤️🕊️

Darlys Blomberg - April 10 at 07:16 PM