



Linda French

September 25, 1948 - January 9, 2026

Linda French, age 77, of Alta, Iowa, was called into the loving arms of Jesus on January 9, 2026, at Accura Healthcare in Aurelia, Iowa, following a courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Funeral services will take place Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. at Summit Evangelical Free Church in Alta, Iowa. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery in Alta. Visitation will be Monday, January 12, 2026 from 5-7:00 p.m. at Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in STORM LAKE. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the family, who will be dedicating a memorial to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in memory of Linda. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Linda Janelle McGowan French was born on September 25, 1948, in Alta, Iowa, the daughter of Merlin and Delores (Henriksen) McGowan. She graduated from Alta High School in May 1966, where she was especially proud to serve as a majorette in the Alta Marching Band. On October 22, 1966, she married the love of her life, Thomas French, in Waynesville, Missouri. Together, they were blessed with three children: Jerry, Michelle, and Jill.

Linda was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. In her younger

years, she was a stay-at-home mom, served as a Deacon at the Presbyterian Church in Alta, volunteered for Meals on Wheels, participated in Bible study, and worked as a youth counselor. Once her children were school-aged, Linda became a cook at Alta High School, where she took great joy in serving what she considered a labor of love to the students.

She loved bowling and golfing in multiple leagues, boating with family, listening to music, snowmobiling, playing cards, shopping, and cooking for family and friends. Linda faithfully attended countless sporting events for her children and grandchildren over the years. After retirement, she also enjoyed spending several winters in Tucson, Arizona. Above all else, she cherished time spent with her grandchildren. Linda lived her life loving deeply, laughing often, always smiling, and caring selflessly for her family.

She is survived by her devoted husband of nearly 60 years, Thomas French, of Alta; her children Jerry (Shawn) French of Johns Creek, Georgia, Michelle (Todd) Mackey of Ankeny, Iowa, and Jill (Brian) Jackson of Alta; brother Bruce (Deanna) McGowan of Alta, sister Julie (Paul) Movall of Rochester, Minnesota and her beloved grandchildren Austin, Davis, and Carter French of Atlanta, Georgia, Taylor French of San Francisco, California, Mackenzie and Carson Mackey of Ankeny, Iowa, and Brooke, Braden, and Brittany Jackson of Alta. She is also survived by extended family, many nieces and nephews and dear friends.

Linda was preceded in death by her parents, Merlin and Delores McGowan, parents-in-law, George and Harriett French, grandparents Peter and Opal (Lauridsen) Henriksen, and Urany and Elizabeth (Gerjets) McGowan.

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn

Alta, IA

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **12**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - Storm Lake
1615 W Milwaukee Ave,
Storm Lake, IA 50588
(712) 732-1911
jensenfuneralhomes@gmail.com
<https://www.fratzkejensen.com>

Funeral Service

JAN **13**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Summit Evangelical Free Church
1000 S. Main St.
Alta, IA 51002

Tribute Wall



“ *Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Linda French*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - January 12 at 12:17 PM



“ *Dr. Don Crouch lit a candle in memory of Linda French*



Dr. Don Crouch - January 14 at 01:17 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - January 12 at 04:09 PM

DL

“ Dan & Andrea Lietz purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Linda French.



Dan & Andrea Lietz - January 11 at 10:56 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Linda French.



January 11 at 04:36 PM

LO

“ I am sorry for your loss, prayers to her family. Linda and my late sister, Louise Friedrichsen were classmates and in band together and now reunited in Heaven. I was able to visit with her when she was in Wel-Life when I came there to see my friend, who has since passed. She fought a terrible disease and now she is free of all that.



Loreen(Friedricsen)Money penny - January 11 at 02:27 PM

JB

“ Jim and Syd Barber lit a candle in memory of Linda French



Jim and Syd Barber - January 10 at 08:05 PM

CM

“ *A lady who was so full of life. She will be missed.*



Cindy Morton - January 10 at 03:00 PM

KG

“ *Cherish the family memories!! I am so glad I was able to stop and see her one day when I was in Alta!! We had many laughs over the years and I enjoyed my visit with her!! Praying for all of you!!!*



Kathy Grienke - January 10 at 10:34 AM

PH

“ *Paul/Eileen Howie lit a candle in memory of Linda French*



Paul/Eileen Howie - January 10 at 09:16 AM

VU

“ *Vicki Ulven lit a candle in memory of Linda French*



Vicki Ulven - January 10 at 08:39 AM

JD

“ *John/Connie Demers lit a candle in memory of Linda French*



John/Connie Demers - January 10 at 08:07 AM

CL

“ *I have been so blessed to have many visits with Tom and Linda over the last year here. What a devoted husband Tom has been being here almost every night. Your family are in my thoughts and prayers during this time.*

Courtney Lytle - January 09 at 07:40 PM