



## Elsie A. Houdek

January 11, 1936 - January 17, 2022

Elsie A. Houdek, 86, of Chapman, passed away Monday, January 17, 2022 surrounded by her loving family. Funeral Services will be Friday, January 21, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Grand Island, NE with Rev. Martin Egging officiating. Visitation will be Thursday, January 20, 2022 from 5-7 p.m. with a Rosary Service at 7 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. Interment will be at the Central City Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated at a later time.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.soltwagnerfuneral.com](http://www.soltwagnerfuneral.com).

Elsie was born on January 11, 1939 on a farm near Agnew, NE. She was united in marriage to her husband, Jerome J. Houdek on June 20, 1955 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Agnew, NE.

Elsie belonged to several extension clubs, Friendly Club of Chapman, and served as the School Board secretary for Chapman School for 15 years. She was also a member of the Altar Society at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Central City, South Central Nebraska Czech Club, and a member of Catholic Daughters of the Americas. Elsie was instrumental in bringing Benes and Hajek families together with her many years of research and compilation of history and genealogy. Her passions in life included baking cakes for all occasions, especially wedding cakes, baking her famous crescent rolls, gardening, canning, irrigating, and helping drive grain trucks on the family farm. There wasn't much she couldn't do! Elsie's cherished memories were of her family spending time at the farm.

Elsie was preceded in death by her loving husband of 39 years; her parents, Charles and Rose Benes; son, David Houdek; brothers, Rudy Benes, Philip Benes, Stephen Benes, Richard Benes; and sister, Stella Fiedler.

Elsie is survived by her loving children, Theresa Lawrence, Shelly Church (Dave's fiancé), Gerard (Danette) Houdek, Rose (Bob) Helgoth, Joe (Darla) Houdek, Corinne (Dan) Brockhaus, and Mariann (Paul) Andersen. Her 26 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren were her pride and joy. She was proud of them and loved each one.

# Cemetery Details

## Central City Cemetery

Central City, NE 68826

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 20. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM.

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church  
Grand Island, NE

## Rosary

JAN 20. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM.

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church  
Grand Island, NE

## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 21. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM.

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church  
Grand Island, NE

# Tribute Wall



“ [Memorial Trees](https://www.soltwagnerfuneral.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Elsie A. Houdek.

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January 22, 2022 at 12:42 PM

SL

“ Such a loss of someone special to the Lukas Siblings and so many others. Some remembrances:

-We once visited Elsie's and Jerome's farm. Elsie made homemade ice cream. As kids we went to the berry patch for strawberries that were chopped into topping. An incredible treat! (Alan Lukas, Florida)

-Jerome and Rudy took us boating on their lake. We were pulled behind on a plywood raft they had built in their shop-certainly a precursor to the skis we use now! Elsie then fed us a delicious roast beef dinner followed by ice cream and strawberries from their garden. Elsie's calm and pleasant personality always made being in her company a pleasure. I will miss my friend/cousin. (Carol Franssen, Missouri)

-I was privileged, as a City kid with not much to do, to come to the farm and spend time trying to learn cultivating from Rudy and Jerome and to dine on strawberries and ice cream from huge bowls. The rewards far exceeded the work I did. Great friends. (Steve Lukas, Minneapolis)

-Each time I saw Elsie I was greeted by a huge smile and was made to feel welcome! I remember the strawberry patch. I give great thanks for her creation of the Benes genealogical book that she created. We use it often. Thanks Elsie! (Jeanne Martin, Ohio)

-Elsie and I kept in touch via Facebook these many years. She always shared wonderful pictures of her and her families. She seemed timeless. I remember the Fourth of July at Grandparents-Benes. Good memories hanging out with Elsie. We have lost a wonderful woman. (Sandra Keig, Oklahoma)

-I remember Elsie and I paling around as great friends since we were so close in age. We looked forward to summer so we could spend time at each other's farms. Rudy would drive us to dances as we got older. Elsie was the sweetest, even-tempered person. Her kindness was really special. I loved her! (Marlene Arute, Oklahoma)  
We will be donating trees in her honor! Thanks for being part of our lives! The Lukas Family

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Steven M. Lukas - January 22, 2022 at 12:28 PM

DB

“ Our thoughts and prayers to the family. I have very fond memories of Elsie and all of her family and the kindness and love that she and Jerome instilled in the family. Unfortunately (due to cold/flu/covid/quarantine) we are unable to attend the Rosary/Funeral. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you all. I will have Mass intentions for Elsie @ SS Mary and Josephs Church Valparaiso. "Let perpetual light shine upon her, and may her soul and the souls of all of the faithfully departed, Rest in peace, Amen"

*RIP Aunt Elsie*  
*Love, The Doug Benes Family*

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**doug benes** - January 20, 2022 at 07:41 PM

SH

“ My sympathies are with the entire family at this time of loss. Prayers for peace and healing.

*Sue Horton*

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**Sue Horton** - January 20, 2022 at 06:48 PM

FR

“ 1 file added to the album Elsie



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**Friend** - January 20, 2022 at 03:33 PM

CD

“ *Corteva Agriscience- Doniphan, Nebraska purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Elsie A. Houdek.*



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**Corteva Agriscience- Doniphan, Nebraska** - January 20, 2022  
at 12:09 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Elsie A. Houdek.*



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January 20, 2022 at 11:55 AM

PC

“ *Aunt Elsie was a very special aunt. She and my mom, Stella, were very close as sisters throughout their lives. With so many family members it always amazed me when she knew who I was by my voice on the phone. She will be missed. Pat Crum*

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**Pat Crum** - January 19, 2022 at 05:56 PM

JH

“ *I will miss my aunt Elsie. She and uncle Jerome were very wonderful! They were so special to me! Prayers going out to all the family members!*

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**Jean Marie Huntington** - January 19, 2022 at 02:10 PM

TF

“ *The Kalvelage family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Elsie A. Houdek.*



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**The Kalvelage family** - January 19, 2022 at 12:33 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Elsie A. Houdek.*



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January 19, 2022 at 10:08 AM

SM

“ *Stephanie McClure lit a candle in memory of Elsie A. Houdek*



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**Stephanie McClure** - January 19, 2022 at 03:20 AM

LK

“ *Larry Kosmicki lit a candle in memory of Elsie A. Houdek*



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**Larry Kosmicki** - January 18, 2022 at 10:56 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Elsie A. Houdek.*



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January 18, 2022 at 04:20 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Elsie A. Houdek.*



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January 18, 2022 at 03:55 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Elsie A. Houdek.*



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January 18, 2022 at 03:40 PM