



Geraldine Ruth Jabaay

November 20, 1931 - June 8, 2025

Geraldine Ruth Jabaay, age 93, of DeMotte, Indiana, passed away peacefully on Sunday, June 8, 2025.

Gerry was born at home in DeMotte on November 20, 1931, to Simon and Alice (Peterson) Belstra. A lifelong resident of DeMotte, she graduated from DeMotte High School with the Class of 1949. On September 10, 1957, she married Raymond Jabaay in their hometown, and together they built a life centered on faith and family until his passing in 2011.

A devoted homemaker, Gerry poured her heart into caring for her family. She was a longtime member of First Christian Reformed Church, where her faith remained a guiding light throughout her life. Gerry loved to read and was known for her gentle spirit, compassion, and unwavering love for her family. She had a special way of making those around her feel truly valued and loved.

She is survived by her children: Nancy (Alvin) Hamstra, Judy Schaafsma, and John (Jerri) Jabaay; 12 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. Also surviving are her sisters: Ruth (John) DeKock and Rosemary DeRuiter; and her sisters-in-law: Joyce Sienkowski, Annette, Joan, and Carolyn Belstra. Gerry was preceded in death by her parents; her beloved husband, Raymond; her brothers: Albert, Arthur, and Howard Belstra; grandson, Ben Schaafsma; son-in-law: Joel Schaafsma and brother-in-law, Herb DeRuiter.

Family and friends are invited to visit on Friday, June 13, 2025, from 11:30 AM until 1:00 PM at Jackson Funeral Service in DeMotte. A funeral service celebrating Gerry's life will begin at 1:00 PM, with Pastor Jim Alblas officiating. Private, family only, burial will be at Holland Cemetery prior to funeral home services.

Gerry's legacy of faith, love, and kindness will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved her. In appreciation of Oak Grove's dedicated and compassionate team, memorials may be made in her memory to Oak Grove Christian Retirement Village.

Cemetery Details

Holland Cemetery

Holland Cemetery
DeMotte, IN 46310

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 13. 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Service of DeMotte
200 3rd Street, SW
P.O. Box 681
DeMotte, IN 46310
(219) 987-5300
info@jacksonfuneral.com
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

Funeral Service

JUN 13. 1:00 PM (CT)

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200 3rd Street, SW
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Tribute Wall



“ Jackson Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Geraldine Ruth Jabaay



Jackson Funeral Chapels - June 11, 2025 at 10:50 AM

AM

“ Nancy and family of Gerry, We have known Gerry for a long time, since 1972 when we became neighbors after we were married. Nancy was our babysitter for our first child. Then when Gerry moved to town she was a neighbor of our daughter. These past few years while she lived at Oak Grove she always had a smile and a big hello when we were there. She remember my name and we shared conversations about olden times and and also about her family. She was a special lady of great faith and I never heard her complain. She was always someone you are glad you knew. Praying for peace, comfort, and strength for this time of loss. We rejoice in her homegoing to Heaven. Love, Ardy and Ralph



Ardith Myers - June 12, 2025 at 03:19 PM

DU

“ Gerry and Ray were wonderful neighbors to Pete and myself and to my mother, Dorothy Sterk, before us. She was a beautiful lady inside and outside....always so kind and sweet. Gerry was devoted to God and to her family. What a blessing to know her.
Dorothy Uhrhammer

Dorothy Uhrhammer - June 11, 2025 at 11:51 AM



“ 83 files added to the album LifeTributes



Jackson Funeral Chapels - June 11, 2025 at 10:49 AM



“ Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Geraldine Ruth Jabaay.



June 10, 2025 at 10:42 AM

BN

“ Bob, Adrienne & Natalia planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Geraldine Ruth Jabaay.

Bob, Adrienne & Natalia - June 10, 2025 at 08:28 AM

BN

“ Bob, Adrienne & Natalia purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Geraldine Ruth Jabaay.



Bob, Adrienne & Natalia - June 10, 2025 at 08:28 AM

PH

“ Pat Hilton lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Ruth Jabaay



Pat Hilton - June 09, 2025 at 07:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Geraldine Ruth Jabaay.

June 09, 2025 at 06:30 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Geraldine Ruth Jabaay.*



June 09, 2025 at 06:30 PM