



Lois Jewell Alton

May 6, 1936 - January 11, 2026

Linden – Lois Jewell Alton, age 89 of Linden, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her three daughters on Sunday, January 11, 2026 following a courageous battle with cancer.

Lois was born to Fred and Fern Caygill at the Caygill farm in Linden on May 6, 1936. Following graduation from Linden High School in 1954, Lois married Philip “Binks” Alton on April 16, 1955, in Linden. They were blessed with 59 years of marriage.

For 20+ years, Lois was the best stay-at-home mom. She was later recruited by a good friend to work at Photoland Studios, a job she loved. For the next 26 years, she worked at Lands’ End, before retiring as a Specialty Shopper. Her hobbies included gardening, playing Kings Corners, sharing sweet treats with anyone who visited, trips to “the boat” in Dubuque, attending any and all activities and sporting events her family were involved in (especially for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren), and being a fan of Packers, Brewers and Badgers. Lois was a very active member of the Linden United Methodist Church and the Linden American Legion Auxiliary and served on several committees and boards.

Lois was a true matriarch, nurturer, and caretaker. She enjoyed a special unique bond with each family member and treasured all family gatherings—her love for family had no limits. She was always finding ways to make the world a better place—caring for friends, neighbors, and even strangers (who then became friends). She spent countless hours outside tending her yard and flowers and just generally keeping the neighborhood looking great, always happy to take a break to talk to friends and acquaintances. Everyone knew they were welcome to stop in for a coffee and a visit. Never one to seek out attention or admiration for herself, Lois was always looking for a way to help. She was happiest when she was helping others. Her impact and love will continue to be felt by family and friends, near and far. She leaves behind a vast network of family and friends who were blessed to have her in our lives.

Survivors include three children, Dixie (Randy) Edge and Kristy (Robert) Spurley, both of Linden, and Robin (Steven) Wienkers of Cedarburg. She is also survived by nine grandchildren, Dennise (Adam) Ross of Waupaca; Anthony Edge of New Glarus; Aaron (Hannah) Edge of Fitchburg; Ryan Spurley of Linden; Philip (Sarah) Spurley of Cottage Grove; Kyle (Molly) Spurley of Cuba City; Justin (Alex) Wienkers-Alvendia of Los Angeles, CA; Mary Wienkers of Fitchburg; and Stephanie Wienkers of Denver, CO; eleven great-grandchildren, Alton, Addison, Kaycin, Lux, Brynlee, Nash, Booker, Bodhi, Autumn, Nathan, and Calum. Lois is also survived by brother, Jack Caygill; sister-in-law, Nancy Caygill; and brother-in-law, Eddie Elmore; as well as many nieces, nephews, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Philip “Binks” Alton; her son, Dennis; her parents, Fred and Fern Caygill; her father- and mother-in-law, Byron and Ocea Alton; her brothers and sisters, Karen Bennett, Jeanette Otteman, Thomas Caygill, William Caygill, and David Caygill; and brothers- and sisters-in-law, Dave Bennett, Vincent Otteman, Billie Caygill, Darlene Caygill, and Margaret Caygill; as well as Kerwin “Bud” and Flo Alton; Ralph and Katie Steele; Harry and Marge Swanson; Norman and Betty Ketchum, and Joan Elmore; and many family friends.

The family extends heartfelt thanks to the Upland Hills Home Health and Hospice nurses —Rachel, Sueann, and the entire team who cared for Lois— for their compassionate care and kindness.

A Celebration of her Life will be held at 2:00pm Friday, January 16, 2026 at the GORGEN-McGINLEY & AYERS FUNERAL HOME in Dodgeville. Friends and family may call from 11:00 a.m. until the time of the service. A private family inurnment will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Linden United Methodist Church, the Iowa-Grant School Lunch Fund, Second Harvest Food Bank, or a charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Linden Cemetery

311 Church Street
Linden, WI 53553

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 16. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Gorgen-McGinley & Ayers Funeral Home
400 East Grace Street
Dodgeville, WI 53533
(608) 935-5222
gorgenfh@mhtc.net

Celebration of Life

JAN 16. 2:00 PM (CT)

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400 East Grace Street
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Tribute Wall

SK

“ So sad to hear this.... Enjoyed so very much our visit together last summer at a family event. Every visit with Aunt Lois was truly the best there was. Our deepest sympathy goes out to all of her family. May your sweet memories of her heal your broken hearts.
Sue and Pat Kneeland

Sue Kneeland - February 02 at 10:00 PM

DA

“ I am heartbroken to find that my Aunt Lois has passed away. I have such fond memories of times with her and my cousins. my thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Deb Alton - January 27 at 04:47 PM

EL

“ We were saddened to hear of Lois's passing. Every time I think of one memory of Lois it triggers another. All the coffee times shared, all the laughs and times shared with Mel and Irene. Both our dogs looked for her in the yard when we would walk past. Thinking of you all and wishing beautiful healing memories. I know I will continue to look for her from my kitchen window for a long time to come. Ellen and Dick

Ellen Lindner - January 16 at 01:02 PM

EA

“ Our condolences to all. Your Mom never forgot a name or event many people were involved in from years past. She was one of the most gracious people we had the pleasure to have known. Very sorry for your loss. Eric and Teresa Addison

Eric and Teresa Addison - January 16 at 12:13 PM

RD

“ I remember louis . She was a good person.at Jerry first studio she was very kind person to meet. We are dealing with it a death i lost my mom verna goold she died dec 30 .2025I we are planning a celebration of her life in Verona wisc in April. She was cremated too. My brother did everything for mom . Our deepest condolence to Dixie. Randy and others .

Robert and Kristine dreger - January 15 at 05:51 PM

RD

“ Robert And Kristine Dreger lit a candle in memory of Lois Jewell Alton



Robert and Kristine dreger - January 15 at 05:44 PM

EC

“ Lois was always kind to our family, what a beautiful lady and very thoughtful as well. She will be missed for sure.

Ellen Rule Chatten - January 15 at 11:41 AM

JS

“ We are sorry for your loss of Lois but know what a great impact she had on many people, especially those from the Linden community. She built a strong family who followed in her footsteps. Hugs to you all. Jean Slack

Jean Slack - January 14 at 09:25 PM

KK

“ Kevin and Jeanette King purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Lois Jewell Alton.



Kevin and Jeanette King - January 14 at 03:05 PM

TO

“ My condolences to the Alton family on the passing of the matriarch of your family. I remember Lois as a dedicated mother and a leader in the Iowa Grant community her entire life. Lois left a positive mark on all the people she touched and in all the activities she was involved in. Tom Osting

Tom Osting - January 14 at 12:11 PM

RM

“ My sympathy to all of you in your loss. Keep your precious memories of her to help you heal. Rosalie R. May

Rosalie May - January 13 at 10:20 PM

LO

“ Condolences to Lois's family. Anyone who had a brief or longer interaction with her left with a smile.

Judy McGinley
Lori McGinley Seyfferth

Lori - January 13 at 04:27 PM



“ Rose Garden Heart was purchased for the family of Lois Jewell Alton.



January 13 at 09:50 AM

KG

“ Kurt, Kelly, and Todd Gundlach planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lois Jewell Alton.

Kurt, Kelly, and Todd Gundlach - January 13 at 09:50 AM

JP

“ I enjoyed talking to Mrs A several times and she was always so upbeat and kind. She was a very classy, elegant lady!

Jon and Elaine Pepper - January 13 at 08:59 AM

ML

“ I'll always remember Lois as the warm, caring woman on Franklin Street. What a privilege it was to get to walk past her house almost every day and say hello as she worked on her lawn. Dearest sympathies to you all.

Miranda Rickard Lindner - January 12 at 09:54 PM

JL

“ Sending sympathy to the family of Lois. I will miss our conversations over all the Linden news. I enjoyed working on your home projects. She will be missed

Jeff Lindner - January 12 at 09:32 PM

JL

My sympathy to the entire family. Lois was a truly great person and good friend to all. God bless 🙏

Jeff Leonard - January 12 at 09:49 PM

LR

“ Jim and I send our condolences to Lois’s family. Lois was such a gem and her heart for serving others was truly a blessing to many. I loved spending a few minutes as I was walking to catch up with her. Lois will be missed! Lorie Rule

Lorie Rule - January 12 at 08:21 PM