



eldest of eight children born to John and Anna Podnar.

Joan lived on the family farm in Florence until moving to Waukesha when she met and married her



husband, Donald Goerke, on Oct. 5, 1940. They lived on a farm in Eagle until 1958. The Donald Goerke family then moved to Waukesha

on Sunset Drive. Joan lived there for 50 years. Joan enjoyed being outdoors. She was an avid gardener who took great pride in her flower and vegetable garden. She was an excellent cook and enjoyed entertaining her guests. She was a devoted homemaker and took great pride in her home.

Joan enjoyed canning her fresh produce and sold her produce at the farmers market. She found gardening both relaxing and stress-releasing. Joan was a devoted Christian woman who was very active at St. Paul's Catholic Church. She was very involved in the church with such activities as helping with funeral luncheons, running a booth at the bazaar, helping with the Christian Mothers and quilting, which was her main love. Joan often helped make

(Daniel) Gonzalez, Edith (G. Miller) Peters and Sarah Goerke; a great-grandson, Kohl P. Gonzalez; her brothers, Pete (Barbara) Podnar of Florence, Joe (Nancy) Podnar of Florence, Matthew (Ann) Podnar of Florence and Donald (Yvonne) Podnar of Goodman; sister-in-law, Helen Podnar of Crystal Fall, Mich.; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Joan was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Donald; son, John D. Goerke, in 1967; sister, Frances (Podnar) Henry; and brothers, John (Dorothy) and Paul Podnar.

Visitation will be held from 3:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Friday, June 30, at Cesarz, Charapata, & Zinnecker Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 237 N. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha. A procession to St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 822 N. East Ave., Waukesha, will follow the visitation, with a Mass being held at 7 p.m., officiated by the Rev. William Key.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Gill of Moreland Medical Center, Waukesha Memorial Hospital for their patience and understanding, and the caring staff of AngelsGrace Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorial donations be made to St. Paul's Catholic Church Building Fund, highways 83 & D, Genesee Depot, WI 53127; the American Cancer Society, N19-W24350 Riverwood Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188; or the American Heart Association, 660 E. Mason St., Suite 200, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

For more information, call Cesarz, Charapata & Zinnecker Funeral Home and Cremation Services at 542-6609 or visit www.waukeshafuneralhome.com for online obituaries, directions or condolences.