



## Mary Helen Rolland

July 11, 1933 - June 20, 2025

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Mary Helen (Kraabel) Rolland passed away at her home in Timberland Village (Story City) on June 20, 2025 from congestive heart failure.

Mary was born on July 11, 1933 in Glendive, MT to Pastor Maynard & Helen (Henryson) Kraabel. Their ministry journey took them to Clarissa, MN; Canby, MN; San Francisco, CA and then to Bode, Iowa. Mary graduated from Bode High School in 1951 where she met Conrad Rolland. After graduating HS she worked at the hospital in Ft. Dodge for a year, waiting for a certain young man to finish his senior year at Bode. Conrad & Mary then both attended Luther College in Decorah from 1952-1954. They were married on August 14, 1954 and remained constant companions for the rest of their lives.

To this union they were blessed with five children: Kim Susanne, Kari Lynn, Steven Paul, Kristen Marie and Sonia Kay.

Mary was a “stay at home” Mom and a devoted (behind the scenes) pastor’s wife in parishes in Scarville & Inwood and Belmond & Roland, Iowa. When they moved to Belmond she started working at Dougherty Jewelry from 1974 until 1979 when they moved to Roland, Iowa.

She loved going to LCW meetings, Circle, singing in the choirs and small groups, hosting Christmas Church Council meetings (her rice pudding was a hit!), and helping/supporting Connie with organizing 9 congregational retreats to Colorado.

Mary also loved to bake bread & rolls, pies and her Norwegian sandbakkels and krumkake were loved by all. She did stitching projects, loved camping with her family in Colorado, & watching and attending as many sporting events of her children, grandchildren & great-grandchildren; loved going for rides with Connie, shopping and helping with the harvesting of popcorn in both Belmond & Roland. And reading her devotions each and every day was a central part of her life.

In their retirement years, Mary and Connie cherished spending winters in Arizona, surrounded by desert beauty, sunshine and warmth of new friendships. Those winters became a season of joy & renewal, filled with morning walks under the Arizona sun, and watching the sun dip behind the mountains at night. They built a community that felt like family, finding comfort in shared stories and simple routines. They were inseparable, often seen holding hands like teenagers, a quiet testament to their deep bond-until Connie’s passing in January ’24.

Mary is survived by her children:

Kim of Roland

Kari (Chuck) Burgin of Indianola,

Steve of Belmond

Kris (Randy) Dougherty of Belmond

and her 9 grandchildren: Jason (Holly) Burgin

Taylor (Shon) Olson

Gavin (Natalie) Burgin

Bruce (Hilary) Rolland

Markie (Kyle) Rodgers

Michael Rolland

Jacki (Brandon) Knight

Chelsey Dougherty (Brandon Bobst)

Shelby (Dane) Askelsen

and her great-grandchildren: Ryker, Wren, Quinn, Isaac, Chloey, Jaxon, Kate, Lakyn & Cash

Her siblings:

Barbara Kraabel

Steve (Susie) Kraabel

Gracia (Steve) Blanchard

...and all her special Kraabel & Rolland nieces and nephews, other relatives and many dear friends.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband Connie, daughter Sonia, son Bruce (infancy) grandson Ryan (infancy) her parents Maynard & Helen , sister Kae, brother John and parents-in-law Leo & Gladys.

The family wishes to say a heartfelt thank you to the staff and residents of Timberland Village and also to Suncrest Hospice for loving and caring for our beloved Mary.

## Cemetery

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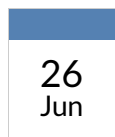


ROLAND CEMETERY

59168 130th St.,  
Roland, IA 50236

## Events

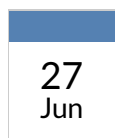
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### VISITATION

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Bergen Lutheran  
Church 101 W. Maple,  
Roland, IA 50236



### SERVICE

10:30 AM - 11:10 AM

Bergen Lutheran  
Church 101 W. Maple,  
Roland, IA 50236

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# Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous**

With all our love for a very special sister & aunt.



**"Beautiful in Blue"**

was purchased for the family of Mary Helen Rolland



**Tribute Store**

*Show your support with flowers*

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**S**

**Sue Hetland**

Mary was the sweetest lady and married well to Pastor Conrad Rolland! What a lovely lady! ?

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**A**

**A Memorial Tree was planted for Mary Helen Rolland**

We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Soderstrum Funeral Home - Roland

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