

In Loving Memory



Helga Kennedy

May 1, 1938

January 29, 2026



VISITATION

12:00-1:15 PM, Friday, February 6, 2026
Boman Funeral Home
Webster City, IA

FUNERAL SERVICE

1:30 PM, Friday, February 6, 2026
Boman Funeral Home
Webster City, IA

OFFICIATING

Dan Carrow

MUSIC

Supermarket flowers

CASKET BEARERS

Tracy Ihle
Megan Ashworth

Amanda Ihle
Raymond Kennedy

Ben Kennedy
Rachel Kennedy

BURIAL

Lake Center Cemetery
Stanhope, Iowa



Boman Funeral Home
613 Ohio - Webster City, IA 50595
bomanfh.com 515-832-6001

Helga was born on May 1, 1938, at Hamilton County Hospital in Webster City to Berg Oppedal and Austrid Amanda Oppedal. She spent nearly her entire life west of Randall, Iowa, where she grew up, attended Randall High School, and graduated with the Class of 1956. After graduation, she spent a memorable summer in Norway visiting relatives and exploring her family's heritage. Upon returning home, she attended and graduated from Waldorf College before beginning her career in Webster City.

On June 14, 1959, Helga married Gary Kennedy, and together they built a life rooted in family, hard work, and community. They raised their children while farming for 26 years, creating a home filled with love, laughter, and the steady rhythm of rural life. They moved to Story City in 1986.

Helga was widely known for her extraordinary talent and lifelong devotion to rosemaling. She taught the art form through Iowa Central Community College for more than 25 years and practiced it for over 50 years. Her passion led her to open Helga's Rosemaling in Story City, where her creativity flourished. Whether she was holding a paintbrush or sketching a new pattern, rosemaling was her joy, her craft, and her signature.

Beyond her artistic gifts, Helga was blessed with a rich and fulfilling life. Her happiest moments were spent with her family—watching her children and grandchildren grow, enjoying time at the lake, and gathering around a crowded table for spirited card games. Her warmth, humor, and gentle spirit touched everyone who knew her.

Helga is survived by her children: J.B. Kennedy and Marlene (Tracy) Ihle; and her grandchildren: Raymond Kennedy, Megan (Taylor) Ashworth, Rachel Kennedy, Benjamin Kennedy, and Amanda Ihle.

Her legacy lives on in her family, her artwork, and the countless lives she brightened with her kindness and creativity.



Words cannot express
How grateful our family is
For your generous support,
Encouraging words, and
Thoughts and prayers.
Thank you for thinking of us
in our time of grief