

Cecile "Cele" Frances Olson, age 93, passed away on January 13, 2026, at Westpark Village Senior Living in Billings, MT, with family by her side.

Cele was born to John and Elizabeth (Kern) Cole on November 17, 1932, in Wadena, MN. She graduated from Verndale Public School and attended the College of St. Scholastica where she earned a degree in Home Economics and a minor in Science in 1954. Cele would teach Home Economics in several public schools in Minnesota. Later, she attended the University of Minnesota to study fashion design where she met her future husband, Joseph Charles "Chuck" Olson.

Cele was united in marriage to Chuck on July 26th, 1958 at St. Hubert's Catholic Church in Blue Grass, MN. After starting their family in Shakopee, MN, Cele and Chuck bought a farm in Verndale, MN, where they started Stowe Prairie Potato Farm.

While teaching Home Economics at Eagle Bend Public School in 1971, Cele was named Teacher of the Year. In later years, Cele and Chuck traveled to many countries including Norway and Austria.

She never officially retired, staying active by selling clothes at craft shows. She was known for making warm specialty mittens out of used sweaters. After Chuck died in 2005, Cele turned their Otter Tail Lake cabin into her permanent home, where she continued to host many happy family gatherings.

Cele joined St. Lawrence Catholic Church in 2006. Parishioners described her as kind, classy, and creative. She was a lector and faithful member of the St. Lawrence Christian Women's group.

Cele was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and siblings, Barlaam Cole and Betty Goche. She is survived by brother, Cloud Cole, of Kalispel, MT; four children, Annette (Mark) Riestenberg, Bob Olson, Elise Olson, and Catherine (Tom Frank) Olson; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

*In Loving*  
M E M O R Y



***Cecile Frances Olson***

November 17, 1932 - January 13, 2026



*I have fought the good fight,  
I have finished the race,  
I have kept the faith.*

- 2 Timothy 4:7

**Funeral Mass**

Saturday, January 31, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.  
St. Lawrence Catholic Church of Rush Lake  
Perham, Minnesota

**Officiated By**

Father George Michael  
Deacon Richard Quistorff

**Lectors**

Mark Riestenberg  
Joseph Riestenberg

**Musicians**

The St. Lawrence Choir  
The Sacred Heart Choir  
Teresa Ingebrand  
Beth Hein

**Musical Selections**

“Servant Song”  
“Psalm 121”  
“Lord, You Have Come”  
“John 14:6”  
“Only a Shadow”  
“Hail Mary, Gentle Woman”  
“Song of Farewell: Old Hundreth”  
“The Lord is My Light”

**Casket Bearers**

Joseph Riestenberg - Andrew Riestenberg - Mary Ohe  
Jennifer Pepin - Erica Bengtson - Julia Northrup  
Scott Olson - Hana Turko

**Interment**

Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery  
Dent, Minnesota