



Alice A. De Ruiter

February 27, 1929 - October 22, 2025

Alice (Aaltje Anna) DeRuiter of Holland went to be with her Lord and Savior on October 22, 2025, at the age of 96. At the time of her death she was a resident of Appledorn Assisted Living Center where she received wonderful care and comfort from the staff, as well as Hospice of Holland in her final days. Alice was born in Made-Drimmelen, the Netherlands, on February 27, 1929. After enduring World War II, Alice immigrated to the U.S. by boat with her fiancé, Cornelius (Case) DeRuiter, arriving in the U.S. on July 12, 1950. Case and Alice were married on September 22, 1950.

Alice was a wonderful wife, mother and friend, supporting those facing adversity and encouraging those pursuing their dreams. She worked hard all of her life, helping people in their homes and at a local bakery where she became known to many in town as the “donut lady”.

Alice was a faithful member of Central Avenue Christian Reformed Church, and prior to that Maple Avenue Christian Reformed Church. Prior to her illness she faithfully attended church services and very much enjoyed her Bible study groups and participating in the many activities of the church including visiting those unable to attend services. For many years, each week Alice would bake a variety of cookies to enrich the after-church coffee hour.

Alice was preceded in death by her parents, Gerardus and Elisabeth

(Schuuring) van der Sluijs of Made-Drimmelen, the Netherlands, her husband Cornelius, her son Paul, her brothers, Jan and Jacobus van der Sluijs, and her sisters Elizabeth (Betje) van der Sluijs, Aartje Elizabeth Vander Veken and Anna Klazeina De Vries.

Surviving are her children, John DeRuiter and partner Leonard Rogalla of Muskegon, MI; Jack DeRuiter and his wife, Pamela of Alexander City, AL; William G. DeRuiter and his wife Sharon of Kalamazoo, MI; Elizabeth A. DeRuiter-VandeWaa of Spanish Fort, AL; and Mark DeRuiter and his wife, Cathy of Pittsburgh, PA. Also surviving are her grandchildren, Alexander DeRuiter (wife Blair), Taylor DeRuiter (wife Katie), Casaundra Jordan (husband Jeff), Jennifer Branson (husband Kevin), Dustin DeRuiter, Matthew DeRuiter (wife MicKayla), Arie VandeWaa (wife Caitlin) and Elissa Pennington (husband Kerrigan). Her great-grandchildren include Jackson, William and Bennett Green, Brooklyn DeRuiter, Karson and Riley Pennington, Eliza VandeWaa and Milo DeRuiter.

To view the livestream of the service, please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HUZYiVYfmcQ>

Funeral services will be 11:00 am Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at Central Avenue Christian Reformed Church, 259 Central Ave., Holland. Officiating will be Reverend Chad Steenwyk. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will be in Pilgrim Home Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to The Central Avenue CRC Memorial Fund, Hospice of Holland Inc., 270 Hoover Blvd, Holland, MI and Gateway Mission (Holland City Mission), 661 East 24th Street, Suite 300, Holland, MI.

Cemetery Details

Pilgrim Home Cemetery

370 E 16th St.
Holland, MI 49423

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **29**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Central Avenue Christian Reformed Church
259 Central Ave.
Holland, MI 49423

Funeral Service

OCT **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Central Avenue Christian Reformed Church
259 Central Ave.
Holland, MI 49423

Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Alice A. De Ruiter*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - October 28, 2025 at 02:06 PM

BA

“ *Bogi A. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alice A. De Ruiter.*

Bogi A. - October 31, 2025 at 04:37 PM

BS

“ *I have such fond memories of Tante Alice, especially from the final years of her life. I first met her as a young boy, together with Uncle Case, when they visited the Netherlands. After that, they came regularly. Later, I was fortunate to visit them a few times in Holland myself.*

And in recent years, there were visits that Bogi and I hold especially dear. Her humor and optimism were unforgettable. So was her heartfelt desire to make you feel at home. And of course, her cooking and cookie-baking skills—truly unforgettable.

We will miss her deeply.

Bogi and Gerry van der Sluijs - October 31, 2025 at 04:29 PM

CH

“ We are very sorry for the loss of your mother, mother-in-law and grandma. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time. May the faith in Jesus Christ that your mother lived by and the memories you shared bring you comfort and peace.

Cees (named after your father) and Margreet van Houwelingen, Netherlands

Cees van Houwelingen - October 30, 2025 at 10:35 AM

SA

“ When I was a young girl, my mom frequently took me for a donut after school. Her and Mrs. Bierling were like second grandmas to me. When it wasn't busy, Alice would come and sit in the booth with us and ask me about my day at school. She'd grab another donut from the case and surprise me with it, followed by a big hug and smile. When I told her my cat passed away, she shared it with Mrs. Bierling. They soon surprised me with a new kitten! What a special lady. I will never forget her.

Sara - October 29, 2025 at 04:51 PM

JF

“ John Vande Waa and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Alice A. De Ruiter.



John Vande Waa and Family - October 28, 2025 at 03:52 PM

JF

“ John Vande Waa and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alice A. De Ruiter.

John Vande Waa and Family - October 28, 2025 at 03:52 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Alice A. De Ruiter.



October 28, 2025 at 10:21 AM



“ Clinical Team, RxBenefits planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alice A. De Ruiter.

Clinical Team, RxBenefits - October 28, 2025 at 10:21 AM



“ A. B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alice A. De Ruiter.

A. B. - October 27, 2025 at 08:56 PM



“ Randall & Margaret; Forrest & Nguyet purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Alice A. De Ruiter.



Randall & Margaret; Forrest & Nguyet - October 27, 2025 at 04:58 PM

GS

“ *Sad news. But it's okay.
In a less health and the age 96. There is peace now. Our
condolences family.*

*We remember her as a joyful, very kind aunt and always in to a
joke.*

*We often speak about her and the days she was visiting us in
Harderwijk.*

*In the last months of his life my father in law (Ko van der Sluijs) and
'tante Alie' spoke to the phone, it was as if they had seen each other
yesterday.*

*Unfortunately we live so far away. And it isn't possible to come for
the funeral.*

We wish you much strength with these days.

*Los of love from Harderwijk
GertJan en Jolanda van der Sluijs*

GertJan en Jolanda van der Sluijs - October 27, 2025 at 03:52 PM

KS

“ *I have very fond memories of growing up a block down from the
DeRuiter family and hanging out with Paul. I spent many afternoons
and evenings there eating cookies and listening to records with
Paul. I remember my dad (Tony TenHarmse) often took Paul to Ann
Arbor (I think) for medical appointments. Alice was a wonderful
woman and your family is in our prayers.*

Kris Swieringa - October 26, 2025 at 03:08 PM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Alice A. De Ruiter.*



October 26, 2025 at 08:31 AM



“ *My first memorie of Auntie Alissa is spending a holiday with her and uncle Case, together with my mom and dad. From day one I felt so warm and welcome. Case and Alice were the warmest, kindest persons. They did everyting to make us welcome. That time we made a trip to the Niagara falls. It was beautiful. Three years later I came back, alone this time. And again I felt at home. This time we made a trip to the Smokey Mountains, again a beautiful trip. I met Jack and his family we even spend some time with them, which was great. And that will always be in my mind. The warmth, the feeling being at home. The efford Case and Alice did to give me a lovely time. Auntie Alissa was a warm, kind and sweet lady. Not afraid to share. She had sense of humor. There are absolutey not enough words to describe the kindness she was, and she shared. I will miss her.*

Tine Marie Molenaarsgraaf The Netherlands

Tine Van Houwelingen - October 26, 2025 at 07:16 AM

JD

“ She was a one of a kind woman. She never stopped, always gave, persevered and served more than any other woman I have ever known. She, was a true Proverbs 31 Christian woman, everything a faithful woman should be. I could go on and on about the woman she was, but honestly words do not even do her justice. I will miss her humongous meals, her telling me to “just sit down a minute and relax”, her tea with me, her advice on being a mom, her spelling my Will’s name the Dutch way “Wil”, her adorable naughtiness of sneaking me \$20 and her amazing stories that could not be made up. And what a story she had-I wish she had written a book. She was always there, an ever so present figure in my life. A beacon of light in a world of darkness. She loved my Grandpa fiercely and not one day went by that she did not say she missed him and that she had such a great husband. Not only was she blessed, but she blessed us in so many ways that I once again, can’t even put into words. I compare myself to her, and even though I will never come close to her ways, I hope I always strive to. She was an example, she was an absolute legacy. I miss her so much and I am left wishing I made more of an effort to see her more than I did. I love her and the only consolation and peace I have is knowing she is right where she has wanted to be, with her Father in heaven, with my Grandpa and Paul also. I wish I could have seen her arrive there-what a sight that would have been. I love and miss you Grandma.

Casey (DeRuiter) Jordan

Jack DeRuiter - October 24, 2025 at 05:28 PM