



## Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar

April 13, 1949 - May 16, 2026

Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar, 77, of Holland, Michigan passed away on May 16, 2026.

Linda was born in 1949 to Marvin and Marjorie Freestone and resided in Holland, Michigan throughout her life. She attended Holland Public Schools before marrying her beloved husband Richard (Dick) Schaftenaar in 1967 and raising their daughter, Tonya.

Linda pursued a variety of professions over the years. She worked alongside her father-in-law at his medical practice, managed several local restaurants, including The Hatch, Calypso's and Mr. Steak, and later served as a parapro in food management and the events coordinator at the Ottawa Area Career Line Technical Center. After retiring, Linda remained active in the Holland community by volunteering at the Warm Friend and the Community Action House Secondhand Store. She also organized golf tournaments benefiting veterans and active-duty military in memory of her brother, Scott, who gave his life serving our nation in Vietnam.

Since high school, Linda and Dick shared a close bond with a cherished group of lifelong friends: Dick & Jean Schmidt, Mark & Paula Nieuwsma, Rich & Cindy Arenas, and Tim & Linda Kragt. Through the decades, this group stood alongside one another as they got married, raised their children, traveled

together, and lovingly embraced their roles as grandparents to the next generation.

Linda was famous for her homemade banana bread and chocolate chip cookies, which accompanied her wherever she went, as well as for her handmade gifts and beautiful cards. For many years, she proudly held the title of “costume lady,” building an impressive collection of costumes for her friends, family and neighbors to enjoy. She was also an active member at Christ Memorial Church for many decades.

Above all, Linda cherished being a mother and grandmother. She devoted herself to ensuring her daughter and grandchildren felt deeply and unconditionally loved, sending “just because” cards and gifts, sharing many meals and holidays, playing card and board games, and faithfully attending every recital, game, and performance. Her joy in spending time with her family was unmatched, and she will be remembered for her unending love and commitment to her husband, daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren.

Linda was preceded in death by her parents Marvin and Marjorie Freestone; her brother Spencer Scott Freestone; her parents-in-law Dr. Richard and Julia Schaftenaar; her brother-in-law Doug Knapp; and her sister-in-law Jane Walton.

She is survived by her husband of 59 years, Richard Schaftenaar; her daughter, Tonya (Art) Tolsma; her grandchildren, Nola (David) Julian, Areal (Jonathan) Vanden Akker, Avery Tolsma, and Megan Tolsma; her siblings, Nola Freestone (Bob Levitan), Ken (Lorma) Freestone, and Mike (Deanne) Freestone; her sisters-in-law Margie Knapp and Becky (Rick) VanEenenaam; and many beloved cousins, nieces and nephews.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the caring staff at Quincy Place

Senior Living in Holland for their compassion and love shown to Linda in her final months.

Visitation will be 6-8 pm Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at Langeland-Sterenber  
Funeral Home: 315 East 16th Street, Holland. The funeral service honoring  
Linda will take place at 11 am Thursday, May 21, 2026, at Calvary on 8th, 995  
East 8th Street, Holland. Burial will be in Graafschap Cemetery. [www.langelan  
dsterenberg.com](http://www.langelan<br/>dsterenberg.com)

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to:

Fisher House Michigan

<https://www.fisherhousemichigan.org/legacy-gifts/freestone-arenas>

P.O. Box 130466

Ann Arbor, MI 48113

Or

Emmanuel Hospice

<https://emmanuelhospice.networkforgood.com/>

401 Hall Street SW Suite 263

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

# Cemetery Details

## Graafschap Cemetery

32nd Steet at Graafschap Road  
Holland, MI 49423

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **20**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home  
315 E 16th St  
Holland, MI 49423  
(616) 392-2306  
[info@langelandsterenberg.com](mailto:info@langelandsterenberg.com)  
<http://langelandsterenberg.com/>

## Funeral Service

MAY **21**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Calvary on 8th  
995 East 8th Street  
Holland, MI 49423

# Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar*



**Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes** - May 21 at 01:05 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar.*



May 20 at 10:13 PM



“ *Mark & Kristi purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar.*



**Mark & Kristi** - May 20 at 03:10 PM



“ *Prayers to you Dick and family . Was so sorry to hear the news. Was nice to have you as neighbors on college for so many years.*

**Crystal Slag McGrath** - May 20 at 07:58 AM

AM

“ Linda was my neighbor and the sweetest lady. I always enjoyed talking to her. She will be missed, Dick. I have you and your family in my prayers.

Audrey Mills - May 19 at 03:16 PM

TV

“ Dear Dick and family, So sorry to hear the news of Linda's passing. We were not aware of her struggles, thinking of you all as she has now found her peace...  
In Sympathy, Julie & Terry VanKampen

Terry & Julie VanKampen - May 19 at 11:15 AM

PH

“ Pat Hoeksema lit a candle in memory of Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar



Pat Hoeksema - May 19 at 10:11 AM

MA

“ Mike A. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar.

Mike A. - May 18 at 11:15 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar.*



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May 18 at 08:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar.

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May 18 at 08:08 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar.*



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May 18 at 04:10 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Linda Lou (Freestone) Schaftenaar.

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May 18 at 04:10 PM