



Violet Ann Sulaski

January 22, 1925 - June 1, 2025

Violet Ann (Sheppard) Sulaski, 100 Years Loved, lifelong resident of Peoria Heights, passed away Sunday June 1, 2025 peacefully at the OSF Richard L. Ownes Hospice Home in Peoria.

Violet was born January 22, 1925 at home to Merle and Bessie (Tegg) Sheppard. Her father, Merle, named her Violet because at birth, her eyes were the color of violets. She was one of six girls. She graduated from St. Bernard's School in Peoria. She married Leo M. Sulaski on November 24, 1942 in St Louis, MO, and shared 45 wonderful, loving years until his passing on October 10, 1987. She was also preceded in death by her parents, one son, Leo Merle Sulaski, four sisters, two grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

Survivors include three children: Robert L. (Elaine) Sulaski of Wyoming, MI, Donald A. (Sylvia) Sulaski of East Peoria, Rose Ann Sulaski-Finney of Peoria Heights, several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, one sister, Vesta Diveley of Casa Grande, AZ, and several nieces and nephews.

Violet worked hard all her life, but she most enjoyed working at Kelly Avenue Elementary School as a custodian and as the lunch program attendant. She endlessly volunteered with numerous school projects throughout the years that her children attended school there and years thereafter.

She served her community with many volunteer projects in which she participated in. The love of God, Family, and Country was of most importance to her. She was proud to have been a 50 year member of the National Society of: Daughters of the American Revolution.

Violet will always be remembered as a loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and sister who lived a life with a giving heart and who will be greatly missed.

She gave endlessly her time, talents, and artistic abilities and to “all children” she gave her loving heart.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Schmidt-Haller Burial and Cremation Services in Peoria is in charge of arrangements. You may view Violet's obituary online at www.SchmidtHaller.com

Memorials may be made in Violet's memory to the OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria.

An endless giving heart to all she met.

Tribute Wall

RF

“ Mom & Dad, I miss you both, so very much, each and every day. As November 24th approaches, I am especially thinking of you both and proud you are my Parents. You both gave everything you had, even during the toughest of times. You taught all four of your children to respect ourselves and others, help others when we see they are in need, be true to your word and have a strong work ethic, because "laziness" does not exist in the Sulaski Family. Just some of the many things you taught us. The Holidays are fast approaching and so many wonderful memories I hold dear in my heart. You both made the Holidays so memorable, for many, many people, not just for our family. You put love in every one of the Holidays and never expected anything in return.

Happy 83rd Anniversary, Mom & Dad! I hope you both will be celebrating in Heaven!

All my love,

Rose Ann (Sulaski) Finney

Rose Ann Sulaski Finney - November 22, 2025 at 05:00 PM

RF

“ I would personally like to thank everyone for taking time, to share your beautiful memories, of my Mom and also my Dad. It warms my heart to read these and further know, how their love and kindness touched our neighbors, friends and relatives. So many, have passed previously, but my memories of each and everyone, I hold dear in my heart and will never forget, how they touched my life and our family.

Sincerely,

Rose Ann (Sulaski) Finney

Rose Ann Sulaski Finney - August 09, 2025 at 11:22 AM

SF

“ Our neighborhood was filled with kids. Every one of us kids new Violet and Leo, since Violet worked at our grade school. In the lunchroom there was a painting Violet had painted and if you looked real close it was filled with hidden letters throughout the painting!\nViolets mom lived next door to their house so our neighborhood really felt tightknit.\nI remember her pulling a wagon delivering the Journal Star newspaper. I took over that route when I turned 15 years old.\nI was just thinking of her this morning and I see this posted.\nRest in Peace Violet. Leo will be playing his mandolin, maybe with my dad on the guitar. Lots of memories that bring a smile.

Shelly \"Whitworth\" Farmer - July 22, 2025 at 07:33 PM

KF

“ I remember Mrs Saluski as our custodian and lunch lady. Always kind and helpful. A beautiful soul in Peoria Heights. \nI attended grade school at Kelly from Second grade- 8th grade. Graduated in 1974. \nGod Bless her family. She lived a long life! \nKim (Koga) Fiers

Kim Fiers - July 22, 2025 at 11:59 AM

LS

“ I grew up next to Violet and Leo and remember many afternoons sitting on the front porch with Violet watching the world go by. She never yelled at us even after our ball would go into her yard one million times. When I got older I enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren who were visiting from out of state. Her late husband Leo was a sweetheart and I will never forget watching him ride my 10 speed that I got as a birthday present for my 10th birthday. He just wanted to try it out! Leo and Violet are back together again. My condolences to the family.

Lori Marfell Strenk - July 21, 2025 at 09:29 PM

RF

“ This my beautiful Mom: I shared this photo with friends and family, for it was taken at her "100th Birthday Celebration" January 22, 2025. Throughout the years, she would casually say " I am going to live to be 100." She kept her word and 100 years loved and appreciated, she achieved. Although her body was fragile, the beauty of her face remained. Never did she complain, throughout the years I was honored, to care for her. Missing and loving my Mom, who made so many beautiful memories, for me, to keep close to my heart.
Rose Ann Sulaski-Finney

Rose Finney - June 18, 2025 at 10:52 AM

NM

“ Growing up next door Aunt Violet was like a third mom to us four. She didn't miss our birthdays. We did all outside sports together as double family. Those being ice skating in the valley between us. Snow sledding. Roller skating at the rink. Clip on skates being a present. Her neighbor hood picnics. Her home made delicious pies and cakes. She will be missed greatly.
Norma Lee Munson

Norma Lee Munson - June 13, 2025 at 02:48 PM

BS

“ My early years were filled with memories of Aunt Violet and Uncle Leo ! Friendly family visits with them and their children were always fun in their home ! Aunt Violet spent many hours on the history and heritage of the Sulaski family and she provided all our families copies , which I treasured ! What a loving wife and Mother she was and lived a long life to share it ! Thank you Aunt Violet !

Bill Sulaski - June 12, 2025 at 08:13 AM

RS

“ Violet: She was very artistic, I remember a small oil painting of a house, barn and an out building, with a few trees in the foreground. In the midst of a field of wheat. In the background was a collection of autumn trees with a blue sky of clouds.\nPainted of \"A Farm On Rt.29\" in Sept. 1966. Violet sold some of her art & others she gave to friends.\nThank You Mom -One who cared & shared. Ps. Don't let the gift of life pass you by. Love Robert Sulaski

Robert L. Sulaski - June 11, 2025 at 07:19 PM

RF

“ My mother touched many lives, with the love in her heart. She gave before even thinking about herself. I look back on my mothers' life and all she did. I have no idea how anyone could measure up, to all she accomplished. God blessed her with many, many talents and for all the things she made for me, with her love, I felt like the richest person in the world. You are my diamond in the sky at night and the beautiful butterfly, I see in the light of day. Missing and loving you, forever,\nRose Ann

Rose Finney - June 08, 2025 at 11:03 AM

CA

“ I will hold my Aunt Violet's memory close to my heart. I will always remember her sweet voice and her sweet nature. She lived an amazingly long life. She lived it well.\nChad Allen (son of Anne Sulaski)

Chad Allen - June 06, 2025 at 01:14 PM

AS

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Schmidt Haller Burial and Cremation Services

A Memorial Tree was planted for Violet Ann Sulaski - June 04, 2025 at 02:49 PM