



Mrs. Hannelore Schafer Nichols

June 18, 1941 - March 15, 2026

Hannelore Nichols, 84, passed away peacefully on March 15, 2026 in Sylvester, GA. Born June 18, 1941, in Kaiserslautern, Germany, Hannelore lived a life marked by resilience, humor, and a deep love for her family and heritage.

Hannelore grew up in Kaiserslautern, the youngest child of Arthur and Karoline Schafer. She married Robert Nichols in her hometown before embarking on a courageous journey to the United States. Hannelore embraced the challenges of adapting to new language and culture. Despite never fully mastering English-often asking whether “i” or “e” was “the one with the dot”- she approached this challenge with humor and determination. Her tenacity and ability to laugh at herself endeared her to all who knew her. Hannelore and Robert raised their family in Ionia before retiring to Sylvester, GA in 1994.

Hannelore leaves her children Sabine (Bruce) Schafer, Ed Nichols, and Lisa (Jeff) Stewart; grandchildren Emily (Rich), Nicolas (Krista), Justin, and Olivia; ten great-grandchildren, as well as her husband. She instilled in her family a deep appreciation for their German heritage through traditions and stories. Hannelore had a passion for creating beauty with her hands. She spent countless hours knitting, crocheting, needlepointing, and tending to her beloved flowers. Her creations were not only works of art but also expressions of love that brought joy to those around her. She also found delight in watching birds and appreciating the simple wonders of nature.

She was predeceased by her parents; siblings August Schafer, Dieter Schafer, and Hildegard Tokas; as well as sisters-in-law Pat Hose and Nancy Dieterle. Their memories remained close to her heart throughout her life. Hannelore's strength and humor were hallmarks of her character. She faced life's challenges with grace while maintaining a sense of humor that brightened even the toughest days.

May Hannelore's memory bring comfort to all who loved her and inspire them to carry forward the values she held dear: resilience, laughter, creativity, and an enduring connection to family roots.

A private service will be held at a later date.

Tribute Wall

CB

“ *Tante Hannelore - my favorite Aunt. Steve and I were very sad to hear of her passing. My favorite memory is of Hannelore visiting our home while I was a little girl in Germany and she looked so glamorous in her beautiful camel dress with the brown fur collar - very Jackie'O.
You will be missed and remembered fondly.*

Christine Babcock - March 21 at 11:00 AM

PS

“ *Rest in peace dear Hannelore. So many wonderful memories, beginning from the when your wonderful children and I were still in high school. The years have flown by, but the love for you and your family will last forever. ❤️*

Patrick Steele - March 19 at 12:22 PM

PG

“ *Hannerlore was my neighbor and close friend. We had many good times and laughs together. I missed her when she moved away. God grant her peace. and comfort to her family..*

Pat Gustafson - March 18 at 03:23 PM

LF

“ *I only got to met Hannelora a few time but on those occasions she welcomed me with love and grace. My heart goes out to my cousin Bob and their children , grand children and all those who knew and love her. I am sure she will be greatly missed. R.I.P on Angles wings.*

Lois Frantz - March 17 at 04:19 PM