



Dora Elaine Tomonelli

December 9, 1928 - November 25, 2025

Dora Tomonelli was born December 9th, 1928 in Merna, NE as Dora Elaine to George and Lola Daugherty. She was the fourth of five children and the only daughter.

Dora graduated from Merna High School in 1946 and began her career in government service at the ASCS office in Broken Bow, Nebraska. In the early 1950s, she moved to Omaha, where she embarked on a distinguished 35-year career in Transportation at Offutt Air Force Base. She retired as Supervisor of Outbound Household Goods. Dora supported troop deployments during both the Korean and Vietnam wars and received multiple Outstanding Civilian Service Awards during her tenure. Her years supporting our country's troops, officers, and foreign advocates provided her a unique perspective of people, cultures and situations around the world.

In the 1950s, Dora briefly married and raised two daughters as a single mother—an uncommon path during a time when women were seldom granted credit or financial independence. Determined and resourceful, she purchased a home on her own and worked tirelessly to provide a stable, loving environment for her girls.

In 1976, Dora married Vito Tomonelli, and together they made their home in Valley, Nebraska, until relocating to Omaha in 2019. Dora embraced

retirement with the same energy she brought to her career, volunteering at the Valley Library and supporting numerous projects at Waterloo United Methodist Church. She was an active member of the “Bag Ladies,” creating scarves, hats, and mittens for those in need, and she generously served at fellowship events, funerals, and church activities.

Dora will be remembered as a loving wife and mother—charitable, loyal, and unfailingly honest. Her word was as steadfast as any contract. She sought the good in everyone and approached the world with kindness and without judgment.

Dora passed on November 25, 2025. She is survived by her daughters, Jacquelyn Spano of Dayton, NV, and Michele Vencil of Omaha, NE; grandchildren Marcella (Jim) Wiegand of Flemington, NJ, Michael (Kim) Spano of Valley Springs, CA, Alyssa (Anthony) Saito of Maui, HI, and Lauren (Kevin) Tirapelle of Carson City, NV; as well as seven great-grandchildren.

In Lieu of Flowers, Memorials are suggested to the Waterloo Methodist Church or the Valley Library.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Reichmuth Funeral Home - Omaha / Elkhorn
21901 W. Maple Rd.
P.O. Box 711
Elkhorn, NE 68022
402-289-2222
services@reichmuthfuneralhomes.com
<https://www.reichmuthfuneralhomes.com/>

Celebration of Life Service

DEC 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Burial

DEC 4. 1:30 PM (CT)

Omaha National Cemetery
14250 Schram Road
Omaha, NE 68138

Tribute Wall

AN

“ So sorry for your loss. Dora & Vito are angels in heaven! They were so kind to me as a kid:) Thoughts and prayers your way. Amy Nieman (Knowlton)

Amy Nieman - December 08, 2025 at 10:21 AM

TR

“ Jackie and Mickie...I am so sorry for your loss. She lived and long a fruitful life. I always enjoyed visiting with her! My dad and mom always talked so highly of her.

Trish (Clark) Rupp - December 03, 2025 at 05:49 PM

BB

“ Our deepest sympathy to Dora's family. What a remarkable and incredible woman. A beautiful obituary reflecting on how special she was. Hugs and prayers to her family.

Bob & Carla Bolter - November 29, 2025 at 10:45 AM

DS

“ She and Vito were so sweet to me when I served as pastor in Waterloo UMC. They welcomed me into their home. Vito worried about my tires being bald. Dora worried that I might not eat enough cookies. LOL! They are together again. They will be missed until we meet again.

Dorothy Smith - November 27, 2025 at 08:31 AM

JB

“ Rest in peace Dora

Joni Byers - November 26, 2025 at 10:03 PM

SS

“ *Dear Jackie and Mickey*

My sincere condolences on the loss of your Mom. She was a very special lady, raising her girls as a single mother.

I would see her now and then in the store and she was always interested in me and my family and was such a joy to talk to.

Her eyes would light up when I inquired about “her girls”..she was so proud of both of you!

May your memories sustain you and bring you peace.

Susie Hayden Sip

Susie Sip - November 26, 2025 at 09:52 PM