



## Carol Cressman O'Connor

August 16, 2025

Carol Cressman O'Connor, 89, passed away Saturday, August 16, 2025. She was born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania to the late Mervin and Hester Cressman.

Carol graduated with a Masters from Kent State University and pursued a career as a teacher and as an entrepreneurial small business owner. She came to Sarasota 20 years ago, returning to the public school system in Sarasota. Carol was passionate about gardening, sharing her artistic abilities through stamping, making her own greeting cards and sewing. She was a member of the Sarasota Garden Club and Sarasota Baptist Church.

Left to cherish her memory are her daughter Colleen Gutschenritter and her husband Daniel; grandchildren Caitlin, Annie, David and Jack; her son Shaun O'Connor and his wife Traci; and nieces Jessica Allen and her husband Jim, Christina Cressman, Nan Mertz, Suzanne Mertz and nephew Greg Mertz.

In addition to her parents, Carol is preceded in death by her brother Len Cressman and her sister Betty Mertz.

Memorial contributions may be made in Carol's honor to the Sarasota Garden Club online at <http://www.sarasotagardenclub.org>. Memories and condolences may be left for the family online at <http://www.MFHcares.com>



# Tribute Wall

LC

“ *Linda A Connelly lit a candle in memory of Carol Cressman O'Connor*



Linda A Connelly - October 13, 2025 at 11:52 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Maloney Funeral Home - August 18, 2025 at 09:06 PM

JO

*Carol was my sister-in-law but more importantly, she was one of my best friends over many years. Our children shared lots of fun times together when they were young. I will always remember Carol's smile, laughter and caring for family. We shared lots of great times together. She will always be a cherished memory for me and will remember her with much love and adoration.*

*Joy O'Connor*

Joy O'Connor - August 19, 2025 at 09:35 AM

NO

*Sending our love to Cousins Colleen, Shaun, and your families. I will always remember the hand made Christmas cards she would send and how helpful she was after our Mom Betty passed away. So many good times growing up visiting you all in Carmel, and wish we had more time to visit her in Florida these last years. I know Len and Betty were waiting for her with hugs. She is already missed. Nanette, Greg, and Suzanne in Minnesota.*

Nanette Ottoson - August 19, 2025 at 02:55 PM

BH

*Carol will always be remembered for her creative work whether sewing, stamping, cooking, gardening or teaching. She was a master at so many creative things! I will miss her laugh, her stories about her grandchildren, and her fun spirit. We were blessed by her love and care over decades!*

*Beth OConnor Harveson ( Peter too)*

---

**beth Harveson** - August 19, 2025 at 05:06 PM

JS

*Sending our love to Shaun and Tracy, while we did not know Carol, we do know that she raised an amazing Son and we have greatly benefited from Carol being an outstanding mother. Jerry & Leonor Skillett*

---

**Jerry Skillett** - August 20, 2025 at 11:23 AM