



Grace Ellen Olejnik

January 29, 1945 - August 16, 2026

Bakersfield, California

Grace Ellen Olejnik died in Bakersfield on August 16, 2026. She was 81. Born in Bakersfield on January 29, 1945, with Polish-American roots that shaped the table more than the flag. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She treated injections and bedside manners as the same craft. Patients kept the calm she modeled; students kept her laminated card. Colleagues still mention a laminated dosage card in her purse.

She married Robert in 1971. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two daughters through public schools and ordinary weather. After Robert died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember covered dishes that arrived without a speech. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Bakersfield, among streets she never needed to explain. The key is still under the same brick.

Services

A memorial gathering in Bakersfield with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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