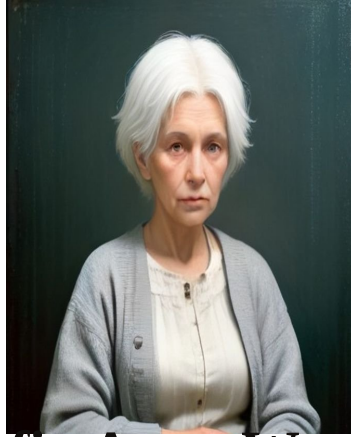




Zofia Anna Wrobel

August 17, 1942 - September 3, 2026

Rock Island, Illinois

Zofia Anna Wrobel died in Rock Island on September 3, 2026. She was eighty-four. Born there on August 17, 1942, she grew up in a house where Polish was for the kitchen and English was for the street, and she kept both. She became a clerk at a farm-implement office because the river was hiring and because she had already learned, at home, how to stand next to a ledger without making it a performance.

She spent most of her working life in a brick office that did not look like the brochures. She typed the parts list, the overdue list, and the quieter list of farmers who needed a part and would not ask twice. She retired later than she meant to because the floor was short and she did not like leaving a shift in worse shape than she found it. She never put her title on her checks. She put her name.

She married Stanley Wrobel in 1963. He worked at the plant until the plant became a story people told about other decades. They raised a son and a daughter in a double that needed a new porch every twenty years. Stanley died in 2012. Zofia kept the garden of tomatoes against the garage and the habit of bringing kolaczki to the clerks who had once been her students. She watched the river with a loyalty that did not require winning.

Friends remember a woman who would sit with a stranger's mother until the daughter arrived from Davenport, who hated a messy stamp pad, and who said we are fine in a way that actually meant the work would get done. She died in Rock Island, in a late-summer week that still had heat in the shade. The river continues. She always said that was the city's way of telling you to button your coat and go to work anyway.

Services

A funeral Mass on the Illinois side, then a reception with coffee and sweets. A gift to a hospital auxiliary or a

parts-desk scholarship is welcome.

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