



Alona Kay Rathfon

February 10, 1945 - January 28, 2026

Alona Kay Rathfon, age 80, of Saline, Michigan, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, with her family by her side.

Alona was born February 10, 1945, to the late Harold C. Frey and Helen M. (Bredernitz) Frey. Alona is survived by her two children, Craig (Lisa) Rathfon and Carrie (Rodney) Eschelbach; four grandchildren; Samantha (Austin) Moorhouse, Danielle (Alex) Archambeau, Ryan Eschelbach, and Joshua Eschelbach; 3 great-grandchildren; Hazel & Hunter Moorhouse, and Everett Archambeau. She is also survived by siblings David (Jeanine) Frey and Cindy Frey.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Harold & Helen Frey and her brother, Michael Frey. Alona was a longtime employee of R&B Machine Tool and then retired from Liebherr. She was a lifelong member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Saline. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, especially attending their sports and other events and enjoyed quilting with her friends at church. Alona was a lifelong resident of Saline and was crowned Miss Saline in 1962. She remained active in the Miss Saline Association for many years.

Friends are invited to join the family for a time of visitation on Thursday, February 5th, 2026, from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the Robison-Bahnmler

Funeral Home in Saline. Visitation will continue on Friday, February 6th, at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Saline from 10:00 A.M. until the time of the Funeral Service at 11:00 A.M. Rev. Ralph Stuebs will officiate. Burial will follow the service at Oakwood Cemetery, Saline. A luncheon will also follow and will be held at the Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Alona's name may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church – Saline, or to the American Heart Association. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home and the Church.

To leave a memory you have of Alona, to sign her guestbook, or for directions please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

227 West Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 5. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Visitation

FEB 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
195 East Michigan Avenue
Saline, MI 48176

Funeral Service

FEB 6. 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM (ET)

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
195 East Michigan Avenue
Saline, MI 48176

Luncheon

FEB 6. 12:00 PM (ET)

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
195 East Michigan Avenue
Saline, MI 48176

Graveside Service

FEB 6. 12:20 PM - 12:45 PM (ET)

Oakwood Cemetery
227 W Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176

Tribute Wall

BC

“ *Saddened to hear about your mother passing. Thoughts and prayers to your family .*

Brad Clark - February 05 at 02:56 PM

CB

“ *Dear Craig, Carrie and entire Rathfon family.*

I am saddened to see that your mother has passed. Losing those that gave us life is one of life's most difficult times. I'm hoping that a lifetime of wonderful memories can soon replace the grief and sadness that is all too present at this moment. Sending kind thoughts and prayers your way.

carter III bishop - February 05 at 07:23 AM

GE

“ *Rest in Heaven Alona. I will always remember you for your kindness & how much you loved your kids. I worked w/ Alona for a short time at K&F Electric. To Alona's family & friends, I'm so sorry for your tremendous loss.*

Gail Estes - February 02 at 05:51 PM

EG

“ *I am so fortunate to share so many times together working on quilts through our church Women's Fellowship. Working beside or in the same group. chatting as we worked. This morning in the Sunday service I really missed you sitting beside me. Every time I sew a quilt top together, you will be in my thoughts.*

Esther E. Gross - February 01 at 01:02 PM

JW

“ *Saline Queen 1962*



jean wegner - January 31 at 04:16 PM

KK

“ *3 files added to the album Liebherr Retiree Ladies*



Karen Klemm - January 31 at 12:13 PM

BW

“ *Alona and I were cubicle neighbors for a few years and thanks to our friend Paula we got to see each other once a year after our retirement. She will be greatly missed. My condolences to Alona's friends and family.*

Beate Williams - January 31 at 12:11 PM

KK

“ Alona was such a Godly woman and a great friend! I've known Alona for many years and have shared so many memories with her; Antiquing with her and Sue Frey, and friends from Liebherr - Enjoying Lake Time with our Liebherr Retiree Ladies (pics are attached) - Meeting her and Sue for Tea Time at Christmas with Trinity Lutheran Church. Alona was a saint in my eyes and we shared many prayers together and stories of our time with precious grandchildren. Alona LOVED her family and always spoke very highly of her children; Craig and Carrie, and all those precious grandchildren!! I will miss my friend immensely but I am comforted knowing she is now with Jesus our Savior and her family who has gone before her. She is now living the ULTIMATE LIFE ETERNAL with our Lord, as a perfectly healthy woman.

Karen Klemm - January 31 at 12:02 PM

KK

Alona's family are all in my prayers for their huge loss!!

Karen Klemm - January 31 at 12:05 PM

LM

I moved to Saline School district when I was a freshman. On my first day Alona stopped me in the hall and commented that I was new and that her name was Alona Frey. I felt so welcomed as I had quite a different experience from the school I left. She never realized how her act of kindness had on me. I am so thankful that our 50 Reunion I was able to speak of how grateful I was for that kindness. She said she didn't remember but I assured her I did. She was always so gracious. We will miss her laughter and beautiful smile at our class luncheons. Rest in peace sweet friend.

Lois Milkey - January 31 at 09:57 PM

LS

Reading about all of Alona's adult services and friendships, I want to share that she also was the kind of childhood friend we hope to have. I'm not sure when we first met but certainly by 4th grade we were adventure buddies - if we were told not to play in the barn in her grandmother's backyard, that's where we played. Yes, we did chase Queenie (the Shetland pony) in the meadow hoping for a ride. And yes, we did play in the creek below the railroad trestle in the field that seemed so far away. Alona always was kind, accepting, ready to laugh. We are all better people by having shared a part of her life. Best to you all. Lois Sutton

Lois Sutton - February 06 at 11:31 AM

BL

“ *So sorry to hear this. Condolences and Prayers for Strength and Comfort to all who loved Alona. Rest in Perfect Peace. 🙏❤️*

Barbara Schmid Losee - January 30 at 07:20 PM