

Mary Schechinger, 83

Feb. 20, 1933 - July 21, 2016

WATERLOO — Mary Jean Holler Schechinger, 83, of Waterloo, formerly of Westphalia, died Thursday, July 21 at Windsor Specialty Care in Cedar Falls.

Mary was born February 20, 1933 in Waterloo, daughter of John and Gertrude Morrow Shea. She married John W. Holler, Sr. on October 15, 1955. He died January 27, 1981. She then married Michael Schechinger on April 8, 1989 in Walker and moved to Westphalia.



Mary worked at the State Desk for the Waterloo Courier for 20 years. Once in Westphalia, Mary worked at Schechinger Seed helping provide noon meals to the workers of the seed company. She also supported her husband, Mike, as his territory for Stine Seeds grew. Mary and Mike spent much time supporting the Westphalia Firefighters Department and participated at the state level for the Iowa Volunteer Firefighters Association.

Mary really enjoyed helping Mike with their yard work and landscaping. They enjoyed cooking and were always open to entertaining friends or hosting family gatherings. They loved to spend time with the grandchildren and would organize a yearly Easter egg hunt for them. Mary did the shopping, and Mike created the clues and hid the baskets. They also looked forward to setting up their Christmas light display every year.

Mary was preceded in death by her first husband, John W. Holler Sr., her second husband, Michael Schechinger, her parents, sister, Colleen Coston and a brother, Richard "Dick" Shea. Mike and Mary were able to lovingly blend their families for almost 24 years which include her daughter, Linda Gaul and her husband, Kevin; her son, John W. Holler Jr. and his wife, Vicki both of Waterloo; step-daughters, Susan Schechinger and her friend Ron Yockey of Westphalia, Bonnie and her husband Tony Cairney of Westphalia, Sherry and her husband Steve Holland of Glenwood, and step-sons Michael Schechinger and his wife Karen of Adel, Bob Schechinger and his wife Carol of Treynor, Roger Schechinger of Menifee, CA. Mary and Mike had 24 grandchildren and a growing number of great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at on Friday, August 19, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia.