



Ardelle Norgaard

December 20, 1923 - February 3, 2023

Ardelle Norgaard passed away on February 3, 2023 under the compassionate care of the staff at Bourbonnais Grove and Riverside Senior Living. Born on December 20, 1923 in the home of her parents, Francis and Agnes (Fritz) Ruder, Ardelle enjoyed a pastoral childhood with her beloved younger sister, Celeste, on the family farm near Herscher, Illinois. She was a child of the Great Depression as experienced by a family working the fertile land in Kankakee County. Educated initially in a nearby one-room schoolhouse, she later attended Herscher High School where she met many friends, including her handsome future husband, Kenn. Having completed business school in Kankakee, Ardelle worked in Chicago for several years, while Kenn attended the University of Illinois and served in the US Army during WW2. Upon reuniting, they married at St Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Herscher. After Kenn completed dental school, they settled in Kankakee, raised 5 children, and enjoyed a long and rewarding life together. Social by nature, Ardelle loved ballroom dance, bowling, golf, and bridge, as well as traveling and visiting with friends and family. She was active in her community and church and served on the St Mary's Hospital Auxiliary, to include one year as President, participated often as room mother at St Martin of Tours Elementary School, and assisted with the Brownie and Girl Scout activities as well as attending countless Little League baseball and basketball games. She participated for many years as a scorekeeper at tournament time at the Kankakee Country Club. Her sense of grace and style pervaded every activity and was the envy

of her grown daughters. Ardelle is preceded in death by her parents, her sister Celeste Ruder Healy, and her spouse Kenneth O. Norgaard, DDS. Surviving to cherish her memory are her five children: Constance N. Pries, Patrice Fortin (Randall), Jeanne N. Tramm (Michael Hooker), K. Scott Norgaard (Barbara Hymer), and Jill N. Roberts. Also surviving are ten beloved grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. The children of her dear sister also are holding her in their hearts. The family would like to express our sincere gratitude to the medical professionals in the Riverside Healthcare Network who cared for her with skill and sensitivity during her declining years as well as her many friends and supporters within the Kankakee community and within her church St John Paul II.

For those in the community who remember Ardelle, we extend an invitation to a memorial visitation scheduled on Saturday, March 4th from 9 – 10:45 a.m. at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in West Kankakee. A memorial Mass, in her honor, will follow at 11:00 a.m. at St John Paul II West Campus. For those considering a memorial gift, suggestions include flowers, a memorial to St. John Paul II Parish, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, or the charity of one's choice.

Cemetery Details

Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery

Herscher, IL 60941

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

MAR 4. 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home
1480 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Memorial Mass

MAR 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John Paul II - West Campus
953 South 9th Avenue
Kankakee, IL 60901

Tribute Wall

JB

“ *My Sympathies to the family. I grew up across the road from the Ruder family. I lived with my parents Frank & Cecelia (Fritz) Hebekeuser. Although I did not know Ardelle at that time because there was 15 years difference in our age. When I married we moved to Kankakee and joined St Martin Martin of Tours Church. That is when we became friends. I'll never forget the day she asked me to be her partner in a golf outing at the Kankakee Country Club outing. No we didn't win any prizes but had a lot of fun. I did get to visit her a couple of times at Miller Rehab Center. May she rest in peace.*

Janet Brill - February 16, 2023 at 02:51 PM

JT

Janet, I remember hearing your name when I was young on Grandma and Grandpa's farm. Thank you for sharing your memories.

jeanne tramm - February 17, 2023 at 06:26 PM

CM

“ *My sympathies to the family. I knew Mrs Norgaard from church and CCW. She always was so sweet and pleasant. May she rest in peace.*

Cynthia McBarnes - February 10, 2023 at 07:40 AM

JR

Thank you for your words. Alicyn and Sam Fischer, my children, appreciate your thoughts as well!

jill roberts - February 12, 2023 at 07:49 PM