



Beatrice J. Smietanski

October 24, 1924 - June 9, 2018

Beatrice J. Smietanski (nee Green), 93, of Bourbonnais died June 9, 2018, peacefully in her home, surrounded by family.

Bea was born and raised in the Bradley area with the exception of the few months she moved with her husband, Roman “Smitty” Smietanski, to Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina. Smitty and Bea were married at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bradley on June 2, 1945. He preceded her in death on February 25, 1993. She worked as a telephone operator in downtown Kankakee in her twenties. Later the couple owned The Sports Shop, Skelgas, and S & M Gas. Later in life, she volunteered at St. Mary’s Seconds To Go. Bea loved to spend time with friends and family, often having back to back plans back in her heyday. She loved to travel and she did, she saw 6 of the 7 continents, opting out of Antartica because she didn’t want to cruise or be too cold on vacation. She loved to play cards with anyone who would sit down for a game. She loved crossword puzzles and would complete them perfectly in pen everyday. Bea, along with Roman, were heavily involved in St. Theresa School and Parish volunteering innumerable hours and countless donations. Bea’s philanthropic work continued long after her husband passed, and until she could no longer physically volunteer. She gave to so many charities and those she loved over the years. She donated part of the land to the Bourbonnais Park District, which is known today as Willow Haven..

Loved ones left behind by Bea are her sons, Brian Smietanski of Bourbonnais

and Blake Smietanski (Bill Fraher) of Chicago as well as her grandsons Liam Smietanski and Roman Smietanski.

Visitation will be held from 4- 8 p.m. Friday, June 15, 2018 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 16, 2018 also at the funeral home. Deacon Patrick Skelly will officiate the service. Burial will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Kankakee.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital or Hospice of Kankakee Valley.

The world truly lost a great woman and she will be dearly missed.

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary

2000 E. Court St.
Kankakee, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 15. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Funeral Service

JUN 16. 10:00 AM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Tribute Wall

BB

“ Thinking of you Blake, Brian and everyone on this day of celebrating your mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, friend. Sending much love, peace and light. May perpetual light shine upon Bea. God bless. All our love, Beverly and Bill.



Beverly and Bill - June 16, 2018 at 01:42 PM

JB

“ Our prayers and sympathies go out to all of you, Bea was a great lady.

From Riverview Pharmacy

John Bourrell - June 16, 2018 at 08:29 AM

RM

“ Our community has another loss of a great lady to mourn. I worked at BTPD when she donated the land for what is now Willowhaven. She and her sister, Dolores LeBeau, were able to make a difference in the lives of so many with thoughtful donations and their generosity of spirit. Rest in peace Mrs. Smietanski. You will be missed by so very many.

Rose Devine Mitchell - June 12, 2018 at 08:21 AM



Thank you

Liam Smietanski - June 14, 2018 at 08:35 PM

EC

“ My mother Mary Mayotte Martin always loved Bea They were close friends throughout elementary and high school. When mean girls in their class way back in 7th and 8th grade gave Mary the cold shoulder, Bea was always a faithful friend. Smitty and my dad Shakey Martin were business partners and life-long friends. They worked hard, loved Bradley, and enjoyed a huge circle of friends along with Bea and my mom. After Mary died and dad married Theresa Dubois, Bea, Theresa and Theresa Bade had great times hanging out together. It saddens me to see this great generation of people passing from the scene. My condolences at the passing of a truly wonderful woman!
Emily "Sue" Martin Clott

Emily Clott - June 11, 2018 at 05:21 PM



Thank you.

Liam Smietanski - June 11, 2018 at 08:15 PM