



Darlene Betty Bilyeu Wheelock

April 10, 1933 - September 16, 2013

Darlene Betty Bilyeu-Wheelock, 80, of Bourbonnais, passed away Monday (Sept. 16, 2013) at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

She was born April 10, 1933, in Alhambra Township, Madison County, Ill., the second daughter of Cecil A. and Pearl (Sehnert) Bilyeu. Her family moved to Bourbonnais in 1940 and she received most of her elementary education at Notre Dame Academy in Bourbonnais. She graduated from Bradley High School with the Class of 1951.

Darlene began her working career at David Bradley Manufacturing Co., also worked at Armour Pharmaceutical when it first located to the area. She retired from General Mills/Henkel Corporation after working as a secretary in several departments and for many executives for 34 years.

Darlene and Daniel E. Wheelock were married Nov. 5, 1955, at Central Christian Church in Kankakee. Daniel survives.

She was preceded in death by her parents of Edwardsville; brother and sister-in-law, Donald E. and Nancy Bilyeu and a nephew, Michael K. Bilyeu, all of Seneca; and an infant sister, Helen.

Darlene is survived by niece, Jennifer Bilyeu, of Seneca; nephew, Dana P.

and Jerilyn Bilyeu and their five children: Jessica and Phillip Stever, of Dover, Del., McKenzie, Jacob, Ryan, and Bryce, all of Marseilles; nephew, John P. Bilyeu and Deb Williamson, of Seneca; and niece, Melissa and Dr. Marc Hodroff and their daughter, Kylie, of Portland, Maine; the LeVeque family of Chicago and Bloomington; two brothers-in-law and four sisters-in-law and spouses; many cousins and friends.

She was a member of Grace Community United Methodist Church, Bourbonnais and has held various offices on the church board and worked on and headed many committees. Traveling, reading, and genealogy were her favorite pastimes. She belonged to the Red Hat Society. She loved her extended family and friends.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday at Grace Community United Methodist Church, where services will be held at 6 p.m. that evening. A funeral dinner will be held at the church following the services. Burial will be at 11:30 a.m. Friday at Sunnyside Cemetery in Sorento. Memorials may be made to Grace Community United Methodist Church or to Hospice of Kankakee Valley.

Memorials may be made to Grace United Methodist or Hospice of Kankakee Valley - hkvcare.org

Cemetery Details

Sunnyside Cemetery

Sorento, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 19. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Grace Community United Methodist Church
735 Main St. NW
Bourbonnais, IL
(815) 932-4011
<http://www.bourbonnaisgrace.org/>

Service

SEP 19. 6:00 PM (CT)

Grace Community United Methodist Church
735 Main St. NW
Bourbonnais, IL
(815) 932-4011
<http://www.bourbonnaisgrace.org/>

Graveside Service

SEP 20. 11:30 AM (CT)

Sunnyside Cemetery
Sorento, IL

Tribute Wall

MH

“ *Uncle Dan:
We were so sorry to hear about Aunt Darlene! She was such a lovely lady and so caring. She will be missed by so many!*

*Jr & Marilyn Heath & Family
Bill Mckinley*

Marilyn Heath - September 20, 2013 at 08:04 PM

KB

“ *Danny, When I read in the paper that Darlene had passed...I cried. She was such a kind and caring person so sweet and soft-spoken. I will never forget the time I spent the night, which was probably 50? some years ago! And I will never...EVER forget how much of a true friend she was to my mom, Dixie Williams. Always there for her, willing to do whatever she asked or get her whatever she needed even if she only needed that friend (Darlene) to talk to. Forever will I be thankful to her for that closeness she shared with my mother. Immediately after I read that she passed and the sadness overwhelmed me, I realized that I also felt I should rejoice in the fact that now my mom has gained the best friend she had on this earth and grabbed her and hugged her so tight. Sincerely..Kelly Brownfield (Dixie Williams daughter)*

Kelly Brownfield - September 19, 2013 at 02:42 PM

NF

“ Danny:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Darlene will be missed by many. There are too many things for me to write regarding our long term friendship to even begin to share with others; only Dar, would understand the following, God Bless you Charlie, I know you are safe and in God's hands.

Nat/Ralph Ferrari

Nat & Ralph Ferrari - September 18, 2013 at 04:22 PM

PB

September 21, 2013

Dan,

We know the days are going to be long and lonely for a while, but rest in the fact that she now has back perfect health and is at home with her heavenly father. One day you will join them and that will be a very happy day. We love you and are praying for you and thinking of you during these days of adjustment.

Lovingly,

Pat (Darlene's cousin) and Jack Bartlett

Pataricia A. Bartlett - September 21, 2013 at 01:47 PM