



Doreen A. Collins

March 1, 1931 - December 7, 2025

Doreen A. Collins, age 94 of Bourbonnais, passed away on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at her home. She was born on March 1, 1931, in Kankakee, the daughter of Percy and Margaret (Ader) Loiselle. Doreen married James P. Collins on October 9, 1954, at Maternity BVM Catholic Church. He preceded her in death on November 17, 1999.

Doreen was a graduate of Saint Patrick grade school and high school in Kankakee and the College of Saint Francis in Joliet.

Doreen was a lifelong parishioner of Maternity BVM Catholic Church in Bourbonnais.

Jim and Doreen were presidents of Bishop McNamara high school parents club for two years and served on the school board for seven years as well as several committees.

Doreen managed the Lisieux pastoral center for the local parishes in the Kankakee area for 20 years. She has been a member of Maternity BVM CCW (Council of Catholic Women) for 27 years, a Eucharistic minister for 23 years and she participated in three mission trips to Belize. She was actively involved in many parish committees throughout the years and was the chairman of the outreach committee for 13 years. She was named the Consortium of Catholic Academies (CCA) Woman of the year in 2010.

Doreen and Jim shared a love for sailing, a passion Doreen continued after Jim's passing. For 18 years, she spent her summers on her sailboat "R-Joy" and walking the beaches of Lake Michigan. Growing up, Doreen and her

beloved 5 gaited mare Janet Blaine, rarely left the ring without a Blue ribbon on their bridle. She loved watching her children and grandchildren compete, many who inherited her passion for horses, traveling to Texas, various Midwest venues. She was her team's lucky charm, always ready to travel, even around the world. Active until the end, she nurtured her soul with daily mass, followed by caring for her body through swimming at the YMCA, daily walks along the river, and laps around her property. Her greatest joy, however, was time spent with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren; she adored the babies.

Surviving are seven children, Patrick (Laura) Collins of Lincoln, IL, Dan Collins of Bloomington, IL, Jacques (Tracy) Collins of St. Cloud, FL, Paula (Bob) Knudsen of Millsap, TX, Susan (Mike) Pressler of Meridian, TX, Vickie (John) Walter of Mt. Prospect, IL, Mary (Steve) Smith of Bourbonnais; sixteen grandchildren; and 17 great grandchildren. Doreen is preceded in death by her husband, James; her parents; and one brother, Richard Loiselle.

Visitation will be held from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 21, 2025, at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 22, 2025, at Maternity BVM Catholic Church, Bourbonnais. Burial will follow at Maternity BVM Cemetery, Bourbonnais.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Uplifted Care (founded as Hospice of Kankakee County), Bishop McNamara Catholic Schools, or Maternity BVM Catholic Church.

Cemetery Details

Maternity Cemetery

Corner of Canterbury Lane & William Latham
Dr.
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **21**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Mass

DEC **22**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Maternity B.V.M. Catholic Church
308 E. Marsile
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 933-8285
<http://www.mbvmchurch.org/>

Tribute Wall

CN

“ Carol N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Doreen A. Collins.

Carol N. - January 15 at 01:42 PM

JL

“ .any great memories sailing and your visits to Florida. May you rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon you.

John Lucy - December 21, 2025 at 01:32 PM

TN

“ I enjoyed hearing her stories of going to be with her husband when he was stationed in Germany, and all of her trips. We will miss her.

Teresa Nippers - December 21, 2025 at 01:04 PM

SA

“ Mer Mer was one of the sweetest women we have met. A true woman of faith who loved her family with all of her heart. Rest easy <3

Sending all the love and support to the entire Collins family during this difficult time.

Love,

Sarah & Matt

Sarah - December 21, 2025 at 12:26 PM



SR

“ Sherry R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Doreen A. Collins.

Sherry R. - December 20, 2025 at 07:02 PM

DS

“ David S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Doreen A. Collins.

David S. - December 20, 2025 at 06:28 PM

LL

“ Doreen was beautiful inside and out. I always loved her little giggle and smile. Sending love and prayers to her amazing family. God Bless, Lisa Lillis

Lisa Lillis - December 18, 2025 at 10:06 AM

JB

“ Doreen was a class act. Always willing to share. She was a gracious and joyful woman.
Jackie Brace

Jackie Brace - December 14, 2025 at 01:08 PM

JG

“ Janet Giroux lit a candle in memory of Doreen A. Collins



Janet Giroux - December 13, 2025 at 05:57 PM

JG

“ *Joseph Giacchino lit a candle in memory of Doreen A. Collins*



Joseph Giacchino - December 13, 2025 at 12:10 PM

MM

“ *Marilyn Mulcahy lit a candle in memory of Doreen A. Collins*



Marilyn Mulcahy - December 13, 2025 at 09:01 AM

FS

“ *Worked with Doreen on McNamara. Boards for many years. She was a great lady who helped a lot of people. May she rest in peace.*

francis smith - December 13, 2025 at 08:52 AM

JB

*I was in a card club with Doreen
One more thing she did well
When I was her partner I knew we would win
She was a fabulous lady ☐
Jeanne Benjamin*

Jeanne Benjamin - December 19, 2025 at 09:43 PM