



## Dorothy R. McNeeley Coffman Hester

December 9, 1916 - November 11, 2011

God called Dorothy Rowena McNeely Coffman Hester, 94, of Toano, Va., formerly of Bradley, home Friday (Nov. 11, 2011) in Williamsburg, Va. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. Saturday until the 11 a.m. funeral services at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais. The Rev. Andrew Anthony will officiate.

Burial will be in Kankakee Memorial Gardens, Aroma Township. Memorials may be made to Wesley United Methodist Church in Bradley.

Ms. Hester was a secretary for State Farm Insurance for 23 years. She was born Dec. 9, 1916, in Davison, Mich., the daughter of Lewis Franklin and Amanda Julia Maloney McNeely. She grew up in Chatsworth, Ill. She was a lifelong Methodist who loved gardening and entertaining her family and friends. She was a member of American Legion Auxiliary Post 766 for 35 years.

Surviving are one son, Darryl Coffman, of Normal; two daughters, Joyce Coffman Robbins, of Bourbonnais, and Shirley Coffman Long, of Virginia; and one stepdaughter, Jane Hester Hirt, of Bourbonnais.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husbands, Ernest Delmar Coffman and Leonard Hester; three sisters, Myrtle McNeely Read, Ruth

McNeely Kesler and Dolores McNeely Friedman; an infant daughter; two stepdaughters, Susan Hester Dermody and Betty Hester Clough; and five grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Wesley United Methodist Church - [www.bradleywesley.org/](http://www.bradleywesley.org/)

# Cemetery Details

## Kankakee Memorial Gardens

15 S. 3000 E. Rd.  
Kankakee, IL 60901

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 19. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

## Funeral Service

NOV 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.  
295 Main St., NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
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# Tribute Wall

SM

“ When I was about 9 years old, I officially decided I wanted to grow up to be just like my favorite grandma.

*Grandma always smelled so good wearing her White Shoulders perfume.*

*And she had a beautiful, bright pink wool coat with a fluffy fur collar that I thought looked so very expensive. And lots of shiny jewelry! Her purse was always full of interesting stuff, too - a pretty gold and silver beaded coin purse, Roloids, Certs, and Juicy Fruit gum. I didn't even know what Roloids were at the time, but that didn't stop me from spending my allowance on them and carrying them around in my purse along with my Certs and Juicy Fruit. I adored my grandma and even named my baby doll, Dorothy.*

*To me, I had the grandma every young girl would want. She certainly knew how to spoil!*

*Her little green house was always so cozy; with pretty pastel rooms, the soothing sound of a humming air conditioner, and colorful pansies planted out on the lanai. She drove this enormous burgundy Bonneville that she somehow magically squeezed into the narrowest of garages. It wasn't until several years later that I realized my grandma lived a very modest lifestyle. She seemed rich to me! There was always plenty of yummy treats stashed away in the kitchen drawer, homemade chocolate chip cookies in the cookie jar, RC Cola and Dr. Pepper in the fridge, the best ham sandwiches in the state of Illinois, an endless supply of bubbles, and a Yahtzee game sitting on the kitchen table just waiting for our arrival. I could never figure out how grandma won so many Yahtzee games. It was as if the game was made just to bring her pleasure! Several decades later we were still playing the game together and she was still winning.*

*Grandma never forgot a birthday. Even as I grew older the cards kept coming and the 'XOXO's were always abundant. When she learned that I was working for Hallmark Cards in Kansas City after college, she started sending me only Hallmark-brand cards. She*

wanted me to know that she cared enough 'to send the very best'. I still have many of those cards to this day. Yes, I'm a keeper of mementos, just like grandma. In fact, I can point to more than a few ways in which grandma influenced my life: my fondness for Fannie Mae Pixies and the color pink, my love of peonies, my tendency to hug those I love just a little bit too tight, my need to wave goodbye from the front door to loved ones and friends until they're absolutely, undeniably out of sight, and the list goes on. But one of the most important ways in which grandma influenced me was the day she shared her poetry with me when I was a young adult. As I recall, she had written most of it as a young adult herself. The words reflected her love of our Lord, her search for her purpose in life, and her desire to be a faithful servant of God. I believe in Philippians 1:6: *Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. God was still performing his work in grandma until her last moment with us. She now rests peacefully with Him, and I find comfort in the faith that I will see her again one promised day. I was blessed to have had such a special grandma share in my life in a very active and meaningful way. Soar like an eagle, grandma. Soar like an eagle!!*

XOXOXOXO,

Sherri

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**Sherri Murray** - November 30, 2011 at 09:36 PM

AL

“ May her soul be at peace and in everlasting bliss with God our Father in Heaven. I remember playing seemingly interminable Uno games with her in the basement, and whenever I would visit, she would smile widely and chat a little. She taught me in her own way to be thankful, and I remember her this Thanksgiving.

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**Amy Long** - November 24, 2011 at 08:25 AM

KL

“ Grandma was loved by many. She adopted kids and animals in the neighborhood as her family. She was always there to share her love with them and they could always go to her for something good to snack on. She would tell you stories about her life and she would always be up for many games of Yahtzee and Uno. I will never forget her quick wit of solving “Wheel of Fortune” puzzles, her love for the Cubbies, her honest, witty remarks, and the laughs we shared. She was a wonderful grandmother who showed me the importance of family and always having a sense of humor about life.

Kelly Long - November 18, 2011 at 05:38 PM

KL

“ 10 files added to the album Grandma



Kelly Long - November 18, 2011 at 05:22 PM

DB

“ Debbie Beer lit a candle in memory of Dorothy R. McNeeley Coffman Hester



Debbie Beer - November 18, 2011 at 09:14 AM

KS

“ Grandma,  
I still remember the "chockie" milk and orange circus peanuts you had waiting for us when we came to your house as a kid. ;) Your words still ring in my ears as though you spoke them to me yesterday - "1-2-3 The devil's after me. 4-5-6 Always playin' tricks. 7-8-9 He misses every time. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Amen! 9-8-7 I'm on my way to heaven. 6-5-4 There's always room for more. 3-2-1 Now my victory is won. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Amen!" I'll see you in heaven someday, Sweet Grandma.  
XOXO,  
Kimberly Coffman Schippert

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**Kimberly Coffman Schippert** - November 17, 2011 at 05:00 PM

SM

*This is beautiful, Kim. I had forgotten that grandma used to sing this song. I'm so glad you reminded me. I do remember that she also sang, "I love you, a bushel and a peck, a bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck ..."*

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**Sherri Murray** - November 17, 2011 at 08:11 PM

SM

“ Soar like an eagle, my precious grandma. I love you so ... XOXOXO

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**Sherri Murray** - November 16, 2011 at 08:38 PM

DD

“ I worked with Dorothy at State Farm. She always called me DeeDee. She was a wonderful woman and I really enjoyed working with her. I went to school with her grandson Don's wife Janet so we used to visit all the time. May she rest in God's peace and my sympathy to her family. Diane Denault

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**Diane Denault** - November 16, 2011 at 01:18 PM

SL

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Shirley Coffman Long** - November 16, 2011 at 12:59 PM

TR

“ *To Joyce, & Family*  
*May pease be with you & your family In your lost.*  
*Uncle Tommy Robbins*

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**Tommy Robbins** - November 16, 2011 at 11:14 AM