



Elva Suprenant

July 25, 1921 - January 22, 2007

Elva Suprenant -- Kankakee Elva J. Suprenant, 85, of Kankakee, died Monday (Jan. 22, 2007) at Riverside Medical Center. Cremation rites were accorded by the Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Crematory, west Kankakee. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorials may be made to the First Church of God, 3403 W. Route 17, Kankakee, IL 60901, where she was a member. Mrs. Suprenant owned and operated Johnnie's Pancake House in Kankakee from 1961 to 1979. She then worked at Manteno State Hospital until it closed. She was born July 25, 1921, in Paducah, Ky., the daughter of Russell and Cora Swinford Vickers. Her husband, Jerome Suprenant, whom she married April 1, 1939, in Valparaiso, Ind., is deceased. She was known for her pies and never turned anyone away when they were hungry or needed a place to stay. She was an avid Bears fan. Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, John and Renee Suprenant of Kankakee; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Deceased are two sisters, Ina Dandurand and Dorothy Kleeb; one brother, James Vickers; and one granddaughter, Stephanie Sue Suprenant.

Tribute Wall



“ *Tribute to My Precious Aunt Elva*
I just want to start by saying that I loved my Aunt Elva with all of my heart!! ĩ½*She was so very special to me! ĩ½She was like my second Mother.*
I always looked up to her. ĩ½She was so beautiful inside and out! ĩ½She was so pretty with those blue sparkling eyes and big smile (as a child I always thought she looked like a movie star). ĩ½*She also had such a great sense of humor and could make anyone laugh and feel better about themselves. ĩ½She had one of the most loving and giving hearts of anyone I have every known! ĩ½She was so good-hearted ? giving love, caring, and when needed, money or gifts to those in need. ĩ½She was so giving that if you complemented her on something you liked ? she end up giving it to you! ĩ½I remember complementing her on a pretty top she was wearing and she ended up insisting I take it!*
As a child I remember going to her house to play and she would let me play with some of her most beautiful nic-nacs. ĩ½She never seemed worried about me breaking them. ĩ½She was quite a good decorator. ĩ½Her homes were always so nice ? she had excellent taste, however, she didn?t care about things as much as she did making people feel comfortable, relaxed and happy in her home.
Aunt Elva was not only beautiful but she was also a very keen, sharp, and outstanding business woman! ĩ½She had an incredible work ethic and great business sense as well as a wonderful ?People Person?! ĩ½She was very successful in her restaurant business. ĩ½I remember people standing in line outside her restaurant to get in! ĩ½She was a great cook and she also had a special gift of being able to show love and caring for everyone who came in her restaurant! ĩ½I remember at Christmas how she and Uncle Jerome would buy her employees children gifts and give to those who didn?t have much and Uncle Jerome would get in his ?Santa Clause? suit and off they would go! ĩ½Her heart was gold! ĩ½I?m sure there must have been moments when she was mad or sad, but I never saw those moments. ĩ½My brother, Steve, and I never heard a negative work from her ? ever!
The joy of her live was her precious son, Johnnie - (she always told me what a

wonderful son he was) and her wonderful Grandchildren! ½She also told me how good Renee was to her and what a good mother and wife to Johnnie she was! ½She loved them all so much! ½We would get on the phone and tell each other how great our children and grandchildren were! ½Family was the most important thing to her ? her husband, Jerome, her Mom, sisters, brother, nieces and nephews. ½She always made us all feel to very special and we all looked up to her! ½She made her friends feel just as loved as well!

I remember when she gave me a job in her 1st ?Johnnies Pancake House? after I left college. ½I?m sure she really didn?t need extra help but she just wanted to give me a job because I needed one! ½She made all of her delicious food homemade from scratch. ½That included her pies which she made in a big oven in a small building next to her restaurant. ½She asked me to go get her pies one day for the lunch crowd. ½Well, I put all her pies on 1 big tray, came in the restaurant and slipped and spilled every pie all over the floor ? right in the middle of the lunch rush not to mention all the hard work and money all over the floor. ½½I cried but she just said, Sandy that?s OK ? they are just pies! ½Don?t worry, Sweetheart! ½She was amazing!

I remember how Aunt Elva and Uncle Jerome helped me after my divorce ? financially and emotionally! ½They would take me and Bobbie out with them for dinner every Saturday night! ½When I was lonely, Bobbie and I would come up to see her at her restaurant she would say, ?Sandy, you go downtown shopping ? I?ll watch Bobby!? ½She gave him the run of the restaurant. ½He loved her so very much!

I remember when I met Ron ? our first date was with Aunt Elva and Uncle Jerome at a fa

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ Hi Johnny-

I'm so sorry to hear about your mom. I hadn't seen her in several years, but the last time I saw her in a restaurant, she remembered me and talked to me for awhile.

I haven't seen you in many years. Hope everything is well with you and your family. I saw the twins at Betty's wake, can't believe how grown up they are and both in college!! From your mom's obituary, it sounds like you have had more kids and grandkids now too?? That's great. Take care of yourself and your family.

Jenny###imported-begin###Jennifer Wadley###imported-end###

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ NULL###imported-begin###NULL###imported-end###

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ Elva was a wonderful woman and would do anything for anyone. She was a wonderful mother and cherished her son, John, deeply. John, my heart goes out to you and your family at this time of loss. Her and Jerome will be greatly missed.###imported-begin###Sheryl Sutherland###imported-end###

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ Elva was my aunt and I will always remember her for her love of family and friends. She would always help people in need and never asked for anything in return.

Her kindness and love will be missed, but we all know she is with God and beginning her eternal life with our Lord.

Today, I will be celebrating her life as I remember all the good times I was blessed to have shared with her.##imported-begin##Steve Loughry##imported-end##

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ john sorry about your loss thinking about you and miss hearing from you call me i;½ll miss your mom she was always more than a second mom and loved dearly miss you call me Jack 694 3068##imported-begin##jack g glenn and family##imported-end##

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ John & family,

So sorry to hear about Elva. I had only talked to her a couple of times myself and realized immediately what a sweet & special lady she was. Mark on the other hand, had known her well and always had good things to say about her, especially all the treats he received from her either at your house or the restaurant. She was a wonderful person and will be missed by all who knew and loved her. Take care and please get in touch someday, would love to see you and reminisce about old times.##imported-begin##Connie Lemenager##imported-end##

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ Johnie, I am very sorry to hear that you have lost your Mom. Just remember had after school with your Mom and Dad at the Pancake House. She and I know she will be missed from all of you. I still see Debbie (burrow, summer at the river. Take care and I'm very sorry.

 I

 I
 I

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ She was My Grandmother, and I was in the hospital hour or two before she passed away... She taught me a lot of stuff, she was the greatest person I knew, I got the Phone Call from my mother while I was on the Computer that she had passed away. I will always miss her, she somewhat raised me to be who I am today. I remember sitting in her little house drawing pictures and going up to show her "Your gonna be an Artist some day" she would always tell me. Even though she is gone physically, In our Hearts she'll always be. ##imported-begin## Sarah M. Suprenant ##imported-end##

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ My deepest sympathy goes out to Elva's family. She was a wonderful woman and she will be sorely missed by many. I knew Elva from the time she and her husband, Jerome, ran Johnnie's Pancake House where I was a customer very often. I Again, my deepest condolences to her family. Sincerely, August Jordan, Sr. ##imported-begin## August Jordan, Sr. ##imported-end##

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ I still have my little bible Elvie gave me when I was a little girl when we went to the First Church of God and she was my Sunday school teacher!! I will never forget her and the First Church of God Family!! We had alot of fun @ youth group!!###imported-begin##Beth [Griffith] Schafer##imported-end##

January 23, 2007 at 03:47 PM