



## Grazina M. Sommer

May 17, 1936 - October 19, 2022

Grazina M. Sommer, age 86, of Bradley, passed away Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee.

She was born May 17, 1936 in Kretinga, Lithuania, the daughter of Antanas & Ona Cergelyte Kupckevicius. Her and her family became displaced persons (DP's) when they fled Lithuania ahead of the Advancing Soviet Red Army in 1944 during WWII. They lived in a British DP Refugee Camp in Germany from the Late 1944 until they migrated to the USA, arriving at Ellis Island, New York after nearly a two-week voyage by ship. She later was naturalized a USA citizen and was extremely proud of her American citizenship.

Grazina was a graduate of St. Joseph Seminary and Kankakee Community College Nursing Program. She worked many years in the nursing profession. Grazina married Charles Sommer on June 29, 1957 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Kankakee.

She loved and greatly enjoyed her grandchildren and was their #1 fan in sporting events. Grazina also loved her cats, including most recently, Coco. She enjoyed traveling and gardening. She was a devout Catholic and was proud of her Lithuanian heritage.

Surviving are her husband, Charles Sommer of Bradley; one son, Don Sommer of Bourbonnais; one daughter-in-law, Pam Sommer of Bourbonnais; two daughters, Diane (Steve) Schafroth of Kankakee and Joanne (Eric) Woodard of Philo; one brother, Kazys (Jeanne) Kupcikevicius of Bradley; seven grandchildren, Justin (Ashley) Sommer, Holly (Aaron) Knupp, Brianne

Schafroth, Scott (Katie) Woodard, Austin Woodard, Cameron Woodard, Erica Woodard; three great-grandchildren, Charlie Rae and Bear Knupp, and Jack Sommer; niece, Lara Plecas; nephew, Nicholas Kupikevicius; brother-in-law, Donald (Sharon) Sommer of Missouri; and her extended family in Lithuania. Grazina is preceded in death by her parents; one granddaughter, Jodi Lynn Sommer; one brother, Algis Kupcikevicius; one sister-in-law, Janet Kupcikevicius; and one nephew, Danulis Kupcikevicius.

Visitation will be held 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais.

Funeral Mass will be held 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bradley. Rev. Marcin Michalak will celebrate the Mass.

Interment will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Kankakee.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bradley.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary Cemetery

2000 E. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **25**. 5:00 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 Mass

OCT **26**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
211 N. Center Street  
Bradley, IL 60915  
(815) 939-3573  
<http://www.stjosephbradley.org>

# Tribute Wall

BR

“ I worked with Aunt Grazina at St Mary's hospital, she knew I wanted to go to nursing school and she took me under her wing and taught me whole about nursing. She was a very dedicated person, I love her .Please except our condolences and our prayers from the family of Lenorad Sommer Children.

Brenda Sommer Rowell - October 25, 2022 at 12:29 PM

LL

“ Thoughts n prayers for family. She was a sweet lady n will be missed 🙏

linda Schafroth Larrigan - October 25, 2022 at 11:08 AM

BB

“ May she rest in peace

Beth Bisailon - October 24, 2022 at 08:03 PM

LK

“ Your mother was a real fan of swimming at the YMCA. Some of my favorite memories were of the time we waited at the top of the stairs for you all to finish your workouts. You have my sympathy and we wish you all the best. Linda Kerness and family (Carry Keith Kathleen and Bob) Rwmwmbber the good times>

Linda Keerness - October 24, 2022 at 11:53 AM

VA

“ I worked the pm shift at Heritage Village. Grazina came in on midnights to relieve me. Most times we'd have a cup of coffee during shift report and discuss issues and sometimes simply visit. I loved seeing her come. She was reliable and a true friend. My condolences to the family.

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**Vanessa Absher** - October 23, 2022 at 11:48 AM

LS

“ The Kupckevicius Family were great neighbors to my family back in the 50s. I remember when Grazina was probably 16 ,he parents asked me to teach her to drive. Later in life , my daughters were on the YMCA swim team with her daughter Joann, Our deepest sympathy to the Sommer and Kups. Family. Grazina was a beautiful child of God.

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**Larry Skelly** - October 22, 2022 at 02:48 PM

DS

“ Our condolences to Charles and all the family. May GOD be with you and comfort you in this time of sorrow.

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**Donald and Sharon Sommer** - October 21, 2022 at 07:15 PM

MP

“ The Kuckevicius family was a wonderful family to know and remember. I grew up knowing Grazina family Then Kazys & Jenne lived in the family home and raised their children. I also went to school with Algis. The entire family was kind to everyone. My prayers are with the families. Blessings to you and my the love of your families and friends comfort you.

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**Mary Ann Pace** - October 21, 2022 at 10:48 AM

LA



Lara - October 25, 2022 at 11:51 AM

LP

“ *Sending our condolences and love to all of you!*



Lara Plecas - October 21, 2022 at 10:32 AM

AD

“ *Remembering all the great times we had working together at Heritage and vacationing at Dollywood. You were always there for me. I will miss you my friend!*

Angela Denton - October 21, 2022 at 01:44 AM