



Helen "YiaYia" Barnes

July 8, 1931 - August 5, 2019

Helen "YiaYia" Barnes, age 88, of Kankakee passed away Monday, August 5, 2019 at St. James Manor and Villas in Crete. She was born July 8, 1931 in Kankakee, the daughter of Nicholas & Bertha "YiaYia" (Tourlentes) Thanos. Helen married Gilbert Barnes on September 28, 1957 in Kankakee. He preceded her in death on June 11, 1991.

Helen retired from restaurant management in the Kankakee area. She had worked at Sullys, Hunks Pancake House, River Oaks Banquet, and Chicago Heights Banquet Hall. Helen loved doing word search puzzles, playing bingo, and bowling. She enjoyed gardening and listening to music.

She was a member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, where she was also served as a member of their women's group.

Surviving are one son, Bill Barnes of Bourbonnais; two daughters, JoAnna "JoJo" Armstrong of Bourbonnais and Beth Barnes of Texas; five grandchildren, Stefan (Effie) Fox, Kiara Fox, Isaiah Armstrong, Gabrielle Barnes, and Nicholas Barnes; two sisters and one brother-in-law, Rita & Chris Brukas of AZ and Sylvia Trout of TX; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband, Gilbert Barnes, Helen is preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, George Thanos and Bill Thanos; and infant sister, Rita Thanos.

Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 10:15 on Saturday, August 10, 2019 at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Kankakee. Entombment will follow at Mound Grove Gardens of Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church or to the family wishes.

Cemetery Details

Mound Grove Gardens Cemetery

1000 N. Greenwood
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 933-6726

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 10. 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM (CT)

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
296 N. Washington
Kankakee, IL 60901
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Chur

Funeral Service

AUG 10. 10:15 AM (CT)

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
296 N. Washington
Kankakee, IL 60901
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Chur

Tribute Wall

SG

“ Hi Bill and family. I am no longer in the area however, I wanted you to be assured of my prayers for all of you at this difficult time of grieving.
Sr Denise

Sr Denise Glazik - August 10, 2019 at 08:53 AM

MP

“ Dear Beth & Joanna,

Our sincere condolences for the loss of your mother. You are in my prayers.

With love & friendship,

Jeff & Maureen (Schott) Powell

Maureen Powell - August 09, 2019 at 08:44 PM

GL

“ Sissy My prayer goes out to you and your family know I'm here for you n always keeping you in my prayers..God Bless You for being the woman God made you to be .. for being there going over n beyond n the love n support you showed for your mom .. I know how much you loved her as much as she loved you the love you both shared shall never be forgotten God Bless you sissy I luv you n May God Bless you n your family with lots of love n comfort 🙏💕

Gloria - August 08, 2019 at 04:57 PM

DA

My dearest friend Jojo... my heart is heavy for you and your family. We're sending you many prayers of peace and comfort. I'm so very sorry for your loss, there are no words to fill the emptiness in the separation from your Mom. But God knows and He will comfort your soul, with memories, laughter and special secrets that you shared 💕 for the love of a Mother and her Daughter has no end. Rest in Heavenly Peace Yia-Yia...Jojo I'll see you soon my friend 🙏😊

Diane Alexander - August 10, 2019 at 09:38 AM



“ Prayers for God's peace and comfort at this sad time.



Mary Quiroz Thomson - August 08, 2019 at 02:58 PM

PB

“ Sorry for your loss she was my neighbor and a great person



Pollyanna bishir - August 07, 2019 at 03:14 PM

MT

“ Condolences to the Family. .



Mark Tedford - August 07, 2019 at 12:14 PM



“ With Deepest Sympathy Gift Basket was purchased for the family of Helen "YiaYia" Barnes.



August 07, 2019 at 10:39 AM



“ I have so many childhood memories and many, many fun times that we've shared through the years. I will never forget all of the family get-togethers, how much fun we had, the love and laughter.

I will miss you, Thea Helen.

Love you always.

Diane (Bruskas) Berry

Diane (Bruskas) Berry - August 06, 2019 at 07:29 PM



*Christine Soulias, daughter of Anthony and Collette Poulos of Kankakee. Cousins of Helen.
My deepest sympathies.. Helen was my Mom's first cousin .
Will always remember the "good " old days and the church picnic.*

Christine Soulias - August 07, 2019 at 06:32 PM