



## Helen M. Chigaros

May 22, 1944 - February 12, 2017

Helen M Chigaros passed peacefully on February 12, 2017.  
She was born in Kankakee on May, 22, 1944.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, Maxwell and Olive Tuttle and her most beloved grandson, David Miller.

In 1973, she married the love of her life, William “Bill” Chigaros, and for the past 44 years, the two have been inseparable.  
Helen is also survived by two step-daughters, Donna (Bill) Adams, Katie Martinez and two grandchildren, Jacqueline and William Martinez.

As a longtime parishioner of St. Teresa Catholic Church, Helen founded the Azzarelli Outreach Clinic to serve the needs of all who walked through the door. As the Nurse’s Nurse, she was the Co-Founder and coordinator of the Parish Nurse Network of the Kankakee River Valley. In these positions, as well as being a teacher and mentor, Helen took care of all those who came into the orbit of her healing love.

And a lover she was!! She loved everything Disney because she saw the world as it should be and could be...A Magic Kingdom...if only we shared our God Given gifts and talents, and this she did with every

ounce of her being.

Her parish family and friends will come together to celebrate her life at St. Teresa Catholic Church, Saturday, February 18, with a gathering at 9:00 am followed by a 10:00 am funeral mass.

In lieu of flowers, donations may made to the Azzarelli Outreach Clinic, 361 N. St. Joseph Ave., Kankakee.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

FEB 18. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Teresa Catholic Church  
333 St. Joseph Avenue  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 933-7683

## Memorial Mass

FEB 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Teresa Catholic Church  
333 St. Joseph Avenue  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 933-7683

# Tribute Wall

AZ

“ Was so shocked to hear of the passing of my good friend Helen. I first met her when I visited from England to met my future husband's family. During that visit I also met her and her mother Olive. Over the years we became almost like sisters. She visited my family in England many times and when my mother was over in the US for a visit, Helen arranged a trip to Disney World for all of us. What fun that was. In fact when my mother was dying she spent a week in England helping to take care of her. That was just who Helen was. We haven't seen so much of Bill and Helen in recent years but whenever we come to Illinois we also try to fit in a visit and it is like picking up were we left off. Isn't that the way with old friends. I will really miss her.

*Ann Ziemer, Fayetteville PA*

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**Ann Ziemer** - February 28, 2017 at 09:55 AM

MF

“ *RIP Helen. So sorry for your loss Bill.*

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**Marc Falkenhan** - February 18, 2017 at 10:52 AM

LD

“ *I have known Helen a long time as a friend and colleague. I pray her light will continue to shine through every life she has touched.*



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**Linda Davison** - February 18, 2017 at 08:36 AM

AH

“ I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Helen Chigaros... Although it's been many years since I've actually seen her but have fond memories of her from my youth. I went to school with daughters Donna and Katie. And remain in contact with Katie from time to time. God has gotten another Angel. God Bless the Chigaros family. I'm planning on attending the service Saturday morning to pay my respects to all. R.I. P. Helen Chigaros



*Sending my Love*

*Alexia "Chambers" Helm*

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**Alexia Helm** - February 17, 2017 at 10:08 PM

KC

“ Mrs. Chigaros was my C.N.A. Instructor 20+ years ago at K.C.C. she was a awesome teacher. she had a very caring way about herself and helped you to believe in yourself I have always been so grateful for having her in my life. Heaven received an amazing woman. My sympathy to the family. God bless you all sending angels of comfort and healing of the heart. Karon Charbonneau



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**Karon Charbonneau** - February 17, 2017 at 09:15 PM

 Teri Dahn

“ She was my teacher 20+ years ago, and I carry her teachings with me every single day. She was an amazing teacher and a wonderful woman. Rest In Peace.

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**Teri Dahn** - February 17, 2017 at 07:03 PM

PB

“ Mrs. Chiagras was my NA teacher in which she was nice and very informative. She was the only one at that time did not show or acted prejudice in the nursing program. Later on about 10 years ago I was unemployed and with no health insurance. I went to St. Terse as I call the free clinic. She helped me get all my medication. She took care of me and my illness until I later on got a job and then health insurance. I would go back to see get every now and then, the other day I was thinking that ok it's time to go see her. Wow!!!! to the family be encourage I am praying for your strength. Also I remember when got her new car; she loved that vehicle her husband brought her.

Priscilla Bolton - February 16, 2017 at 09:14 PM

SC

“ Helen was a nursing inspiration to me throughout the years and her dedication to the profession will always inspire me. Blessings to your family through this difficult time.  
Scott and Kim Couch



Scott and Kim Couch - February 16, 2017 at 04:02 PM

TD

“ Thoughts and prayers are with the Chigaros family.



Tom Dandelles - February 15, 2017 at 07:34 PM

MW

“ Our deepest sympathy to Bill and the family of one of the kindest, most giving people we have ever met. She was truly one of God's finest and she will be missed by all who knew her. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



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**Mike & Dianne Williams** - February 15, 2017 at 06:44 PM

SD

“ Helen was an AWESOME servant of God! I was blessed with her compassion and gentleness. I cherished her smile and graciousness each time I visited with her at the clinic. She made this world a better place being the witness of justice to ALL people. I thank God for her gift of life and rejoice that she now enjoys her eternal rest in the fullness of God.

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**Sr. Denise** - February 15, 2017 at 03:29 PM

JP

“ My deepest sympathy to Helen's family. I only meet her once, but it was obvious what a quality person she was. Her husband Bill played a big part in seeing me through my adolescent years and was a big part of my life, and another old Marine. God bless and keep Helen and all she touched.

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**Jim Puswaskis** - February 15, 2017 at 12:45 PM

DF

“ Chief Chigaros, I hope that the faith that has guided you in so many difficult times will strengthen you as you mourn the loss of your wife. She was a good woman and a servant of God in all that she did. Our faith teaches us that those that mourn are blessed. I know that is true and that you will receive the special blessings that you so richly deserve. Please know that I will be praying for you and the family that you will all find the peace and comfort in this tragic time. I know that God will answer our prayers. May you be guided by your faith.

*In Friendship & Faith,  
Dan, Tami Vaughn and family*

*Dan was Liutenant / EMT. on Kankakee Township Fire and  
FireFighter / EMT for Bourbonnais Fire.*

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**Dan, Tami Vaughn and family** - February 15, 2017 at 11:37 AM

BD

“ Helen was my teacher, mentor, friend. She was such a kind loving person. I can not express how much she inspired me. Thoughts and prayers



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**Beth Davison** - February 15, 2017 at 11:11 AM

MS

“ Mary & Jackson Smith lit a candle in memory of Helen M. Chigaros



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**Mary & Jackson Smith** - February 15, 2017 at 09:14 AM

CW

“ *She was my CNA instructor for KCC .She was such a nice person .  
My condolences , to the family . Cheryl Wilson*

Cheryl Wilson - February 14, 2017 at 11:03 PM

Mary  
Morgan

“ *RIH On Angel's Wings til we meet again*



Mary Morgan - February 14, 2017 at 08:58 PM

JG

“ *Dear and Beautiful Helen! We've not seen you or kept in touch as  
we should have since we left Kankakee, but always treasure the  
friendship you and Bill shared with us. Many happy memories.  
You are surely resting in peace.  
God bless  
The Potter kids*

Jane & George - February 14, 2017 at 11:22 AM

KG

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I, too, worked in the same office with  
Helen many moons ago at Riverside. We became friends and my  
husband became friends with Bill. We even took a fishing trip  
vacation with them to Minnesota. I still have that memory. She was  
a wonderful person and will be missed.*

Kathy Goers - February 14, 2017 at 10:18 AM

CS

“ I will miss you my friend, remember save me a seat in the choir. Love you!



Cheryle Strother - February 13, 2017 at 09:31 PM

LJ

“ Helen was a gift send to me from God during a very difficult time in my life. Being able to volunteer at the Azzarelli Clinic and have her as a mentor saved me from a dark road. She was truly a miracle and I will always be grateful for the time I had with her!

Lisa Jordan - February 13, 2017 at 08:39 PM

SI

“ Sister Inga lit a candle in memory of Helen M. Chigaros



Sister Inga - February 13, 2017 at 08:21 PM

EM

“ I got to know Helen when I volunteered at the clinic after I had been temporarily disabled. She loved the clinic, patients and staff! She always made me feel welcome and I will miss her dearly.

Emily - February 13, 2017 at 07:11 PM

KL

“ I met Helen years ago when she worked at Riverside. She was a delight to work with.

*Karolyn Hunt Lambert*

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**karolyn lambert** - February 13, 2017 at 06:52 PM

FZ

“ With a sadden heart that I write this. Helen and I were together from 1st grade through high school. Our bond was always close and we were best friend (Helen's mother and my father worked together for many years). After high school graduation, Helen attended college and I began a long career in the U.S. Air Force. Upon Helen's graduation from college she travelled to England and stayed with my wife (Ann) and I for six month as a graduation present. Helen became a close and welcome part of Ann family and Helen and Bill visited their English adopted family many time though out the years. Even though Helen and Bill's life path was totally different than Ann and mine, we were still able to get together on occasion and had a great time.

*I will miss Helen's positive spirit and her giving attitude, but most of all, I will miss her friendship.*

*Fred Ziemer*

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**Fred Ziemer** - February 13, 2017 at 05:42 PM