



## Helen B. McKenna

November 12, 1928 - June 7, 2018

Helen B. McKenna, 89, of Kankakee, passed away on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at Riverside Medical Center. She was born on November 12, 1928, in Louisville, KY, to Francis and Marguerite Kilkenny Benoit. She married Clark D. McKenna on June 19, 1954 in Kankakee. He preceded her in death on August 10, 1986.

Helen was employed by Knights of Columbus for 20 years. She was also a homemaker. She was a member of the alumni association at Bishop McNamara High School. Helen was a member of the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary. She was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church and also a member of the Council of Catholic Women there.

Helen is survived by two sons and two daughters-in-law, Patrick (Patti) McKenna, of Kankakee and Kevin (Robin) McKenna, of Overland Park, KS; five daughters and three sons-in-law, Jo (Martin) Smalter, of Melbourne, FL, Sue Marcotte, of Phoenix, AZ, Peggy Edwards, of Overland Park, KS, Carol (Tom) Mohler, of Bonfield, and Mary (Michael) Larocca, of Oak Park; eighteen grandchildren; nineteen great grandchildren; one sister, Margaret Billadeau, of Kankakee; one brother, James Benoit, of El Paso, TX; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Clark; one

grandson, Mathew Clark McKenna; and three brothers, Frank, Martin, and Patrick Benoit.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial visitation will be held from 9:00 am until 11:30 am on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee. A memorial mass will be celebrated at 12:00 pm on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee. Inurnment will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Kankakee.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Patrick Catholic Church or Bishop McNamara High School.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary Cemetery

2000 E. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

JUN 12. 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home  
1480 W. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

## Memorial Mass

JUN 12. 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church  
428 S. Indiana  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-6716

# Tribute Wall

BI

“ Our condolences to the entire McKenna family. I have many fond memories of your mom and your childhood home. May the memories you hold in your heart bring comfort at this difficult time.  
*Beth & Randy Irps*

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**Beth irps** - June 12, 2018 at 09:07 PM

SR

“ Condolences to the whole family. What a great lady, mom, grandma and GG. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

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**Sheri Reed** - June 10, 2018 at 03:17 PM

DS

“ My heart goes out to all of Helen's children and grandchildren at her passing. What a wonderful woman and what a wonderful legacy she left. God's blessings to you all in your sweet memories! *Dorci*

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**Dorci Schoolman** - June 09, 2018 at 03:14 PM

TD

“ I couldn't have asked for a better 2nd mom. I spent just as much time at her house as I did mine growing up. She always treated me like family. She could be intimidating with her sharp tongue, but that is one of the things I loved about her. She didn't hold anything back. What you saw is what you got. I have way too many memories to share. I will never forget her and thank God that she was a part of my life. She's left such an incredible legacy that will keep her alive in all our hearts. Thanks for everything ma and letting me a part of your awesome family. Love ya! *Tam*

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**Tammy DiOrio** - June 08, 2018 at 02:58 PM

PL

*My thoughts & prayers go out to the McKenna family. I spent years of good times at the KC with Helen when my kids were little. We had many good laughs !*

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**Patty Lamie** - June 10, 2018 at 04:06 PM

RB

*I am so sorry to hear about Mrs McKenna. We had lots of fun at the McKenna's. She always made us feel welcome. Prayers to the entire family. Ruth McGrath Bohlmann*

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**Ruth Bohlmann** - June 13, 2018 at 01:28 PM