



## Martha Helgeson

June 29, 1924 - December 8, 2013

Martha L. Helgeson, 89, of Bourbonnais, passed away Sunday (Dec. 8, 2013) at Riverside Medical Center, Kankakee.

She was born June 29, 1924, in Earl Park, Ind., the daughter of James E. and Lydia Bedore Shumaker. She married Harlan B. Helgeson at St. Joseph Church in Manteno on Nov. 26, 1942.

Mrs. Helgeson retired from Manteno State Hospital when it closed. She was a member of Grace Community United Methodist Church, a founding member and first president of the Grace's Red Hats Ladies group, the Manteno Women's Club, former member of Eastern Star, and past president of the Women's VFW Auxiliary. She was very generous and caring and loved to spend time with her children and grandchildren. She also loved to travel with her husband and was a terrific baker, particularly of pies, as well as an accomplished seamstress and a quilter.

Surviving are son, Wayne (Debbie) Helgeson, of Bourbonnais, daughter, Wendy (Carl) Crays, of Kankakee; grandchildren, Daniel (Paula) Crays, Carolyn (Jeff) Whitaker, Marc (Annie) Helgeson, Lindsey Helgeson, Erin Helgeson, Andrew (Megan) Helgeson; nine great-grandchildren; nieces, Sandra Powers, Lisa Menon; nephew, Roger Helgeson; sister, Verna Ruth Shumaker, of Zion; and three grand nieces.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Paul Edward Shumaker; and brother and sister-in-law, Auldon and Cleo Helgeson.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais and again on Thursday at Grace Community United Methodist Church in Bourbonnais from 9 a.m. until the 10 a.m. funeral services. The Rev. Mary Brady will officiate. Burial will be in Elmwood Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley or Grace Community United Methodist Church.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley - [www.hkvcares.org](http://www.hkvcares.org) or to Grace Community United Methodist Church in Bourbonnais, IL - [www.bourbonnaisgrace.org/](http://www.bourbonnaisgrace.org/)

# Cemetery Details

## Elmwood Cemetery

9000 E. Road  
Manteno, IL 60950  
(815) 468-7891

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 11. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.  
295 Main St., NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

## Visitation

DEC 12. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Grace Community United Methodist Church  
735 Main St. NW  
Bourbonnais, IL  
(815) 932-4011  
<http://www.bourbonnaisgrace.org/>

## Funeral Service

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DEC 12. 10:00 AM (CT)

Grace Community United Methodist Church  
735 Main St. NW  
Bourbonnais, IL  
(815) 932-4011  
<http://www.bourbonnaisgrace.org/>

# Tribute Wall

DL

“ Harlan, I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your beloved wife. I will always remember your soft spoken words of your life together and may those memories carry you through this time of sorrow and bring some peace to it all. Love and prayers are for you and your family.

*Dawn Lamie*

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**Dawn Lamie** - December 12, 2013 at 02:15 PM

RB

“ Harlan Wayne and the Helgeson family, Please accept our condolences are thoughts and prayers are with you. Bob and Anita Belik

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**robert beli** - December 10, 2013 at 06:19 PM

PB

“ Harlen, Wayne and Wendy so sorry to hear about Martha. I so enjoyed your visits when you would come to Az.. My prayers are with you all. Love ya Pixie

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**Pixie Bureson** - December 10, 2013 at 06:00 PM

JH

“ Harlan, Jeannie and I are so sorry to hear of the passing of Martha. We will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.



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**Johnny & Jeannie Holt** - December 10, 2013 at 05:25 PM

VD

“ Harlan, Windy, Wayne I'm so sorry about Marth. What a great lady. I'm sure Marth and Don are going to have a good visit, and I bet they will have a pizza like we did for so many years on Saturday nite. My prayers, thoughts and love are with all of you .Virginia Dominick




Virginia Dominick - December 10, 2013 at 03:46 PM

KM

This brought back a smile. Thoughts and prayers are with you all. (Virginia and Don's) Daughter.. Kim and Rick Magruder

Kim and Rick Magruder - December 10, 2013 at 07:55 PM

 Becky Draper

“ Harlan,

Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

Jim and Becky Draper

Becky Draper - December 10, 2013 at 02:29 PM

DS

“ Harlan, Our sincerest sympathy on the passing of your wife. Our prayers are with you and your family.

Dick and Peggy Streeter  
Formally from Chebanse

Dick and Peggy Streeter - December 10, 2013 at 01:43 PM