



Mary Ellen Kuntz Hoover

August 15, 1932 - October 19, 2025

Mary Kuntz Hoover, age 93 of Kingwood, Texas, passed away after a short illness on Sunday October 19 th, 2025, peacefully with her family by her side. Mary was born on August 15, 1932, to Leslie and Valeria Dalton in Buckingham, Illinois. In 1952, she married Wayne (Tony) Kuntz and had three children, Dale, Julie, and David.

Mary worked as a server for twenty years at Blue's Café in Kankakee, Illinois. During her earlier years, Mary had a passion for horses. She was a quarter horse barrel rider and raised and showed Arabian horses.

Mary is survived by her son Dale (Jacqueline) Kuntz of Kingwood, Texas. Grandchildren Daren (Trisha) Kuntz of Bennington Nebraska, Danielle (Joseph) Mazurkiewicz of Grayslake, IL, Rachel (Shawn) Diaz of Bradley, IL , Kyle (Arley) Kuntz of Beloit, Wisconsin. Great granddaughters Ava and Addison Kuntz, Natalie and Reagan Mazurkiewicz and Lydia Diaz. Mary is also survived by her sister Waneta Scott of Panora Iowa and brother Gail Dalton of Mesa Arizona and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mary was preceded in death by her son David Kuntz, her daughter Julie Hesner, her parents, Leslie and Valeria Dalton, and her sister Lesla Anderson.

A wake will be held on Friday November 21 at 5:00-7:00 pm and Saturday November 22 at 8:00 – 9:30 am at Clancy Gernon Funeral Home 1480 W Court Street, Kankakee, Illinois. Graveside services for Mary will be held on November 22 at 10:00 am in Kankakee, Illinois at Memorial Gardens, 15 Lowe Road.

Reverend Matt Pratscher from St. John Paul II Catholic Church will be presiding over the services. Mary will be laid to rest next to her daughter Julie Hesner and near her son David Kuntz.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Mary's name may be made to the American Cancer Society, donate.cancer.org or St. Jude's Children's Hospital, stjude.org.

Cemetery Details

Kankakee Memorial Gardens

15 S. 3000 E. Rd.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

NOV **21**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Memorial Visitation

NOV **22**. 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM (CT)

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

Graveside Service

NOV **22**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Kankakee Memorial Gardens
15 S. 3000 E. Road
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2318

Tribute Wall

JB

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you. I have know Mary Ellen since high school. We had many adventures with your Mom and Dad and Dale and Julie. Wonderful memories!*

Joan Butz - November 21, 2025 at 05:10 PM

CM

“ *I'm so sorry she's gone. I remember her as the spunky girl who could walk a battery across the barn yard with a 22 rifle and she was one of the confident cheerleaders when I was in 8th grade. I was proud of her. She was my pretty cheerleader cousin. I will miss her just being here Dale. She had an amazing laugh.*

charles Masters - November 02, 2025 at 05:28 PM

AD

“ *I remember working with Mary at Blues for many years,she was always caring and hard working to make sure give the best to customers she waited on day after day.... She will be missed.....
Angie Devine*

Angela Devine - October 26, 2025 at 05:45 PM