



Mary Elizabeth Reich

January 3, 1934 - February 16, 2026

Mary Elizabeth Reich, 92, of Bourbonnais, Illinois, passed away peacefully on February 16, 2026.

Mary was born on January 3, 1934, in Clinton IL, the seventh child of Grace and Herbert Harrold. Raised in a large family with humble beginnings, Mary carried throughout her life a deep appreciation for faith, hard work, and family. As a young high school student, she came to Bourbonnais to attend Olivet Nazarene University. It was there that she met the love of her life, Bob Reich. They were married for 67 devoted years until his passing in 2020 — a marriage marked by steadfast love, partnership, and deep commitment. Mary dedicated 36 years of service to Olivet Nazarene University, faithfully serving the campus community before retiring in 2011. Many students and colleagues remember her warm presence during her years working as a university cashier and later as an administrative assistant in the library. She had a remarkable gift of hospitality and a special ability to make others feel welcomed, valued, and seen.

Her faith was foundational in her life. Mary was a devoted 60-year member of College Church, where she worshiped faithfully and formed lifelong friendships within her church family.

Above all, Mary treasured her family. She is survived by her three children: Pam (Ted) of Charlotte, North Carolina; Rob (Caroline) of Alexandria, Virginia; and Beth (Andrea) of Flossmoor, Illinois. She was a proud and loving grandmother to Drew (Cristina), Briana (Samuel), Peyton, Bennett, and

Emerson, and great-grandmother to Teddy and Reese.

A memorial service will be held at Kelley Prayer Chapel on the campus of Olivet Nazarene University on February 28, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Uplifted Care at: <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/1411477/>

Mary's legacy of faith, service, hospitality, and unwavering love will continue to live on in all who knew her.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB **28**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Kelley Prayer Chapel
1 University Avenue
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Tribute Wall

PC

“ *Mrs Reich was a wonderful lady, as an ONC student she took me in to her home with meals and kindness. The entire family is wonderful!*

Pamella Capitanini - May 13 at 08:49 PM

MT

“ *Prayers are with the family of this lovely lady. She always had a sweet smile for everyone and is missed.*



Mary Thomson - February 26 at 01:41 PM

MS

“ *I met Mary and Bob while I was a student at Olivet, and the summer before my senior year they opened their home to me for several months. They gave me a bedroom, welcomed me to their table, and treated me as if I were truly part of their family. It was during that season of my life that I learned, in a very real and lasting way, what generosity and hospitality look like.*

We shared many special memories both before and after that summer, but living with them left the deepest imprint on my heart. I will always be grateful for their kindness and the love they showed me. - Megan Schmitz

Megan Schmitz - February 25 at 03:00 PM

AT

“ Oh sweet Mary, she was the softest hug & most welcoming host. When I was at ONU I spent a lot of time at her & Bob’s home. They’d let us host friends for dinner, do our laundry in the basement so we didn’t have to spend our quarters, and even let me hang out with my then boyfriend, now husband on nights that weren’t open dorm nights. I have fond memories with her, Bob & their little Lucy pup. For our wedding Mary gifted us two blankets & one of those blankets my 3 year-old daughter sleeps with every night & has claimed it as her own. Mary always had a smile on her face and her hugs were gentle and warm. I know she’s just made heaven more beautiful with her smile.

Ashley Taylor - February 25 at 10:52 AM

AT

“ I met Mary when I was a teen my first year at Olivet. She was always a breath of fresh air on campus at Olivet. I am not sure how many checks she cashed for me over the years but she was my life source in so many ways while attending Olivet. Her beautiful smile, her welcoming embrace and opening up her home to so many of us. Not only did she open her home while we were attending Olivet but also (years later) to our kids who were the next generation Olivetians. Over the years, Mary ministered in many ways to our family. She provided guidance with love and understanding. Dan and I are thankful for Bob and Mary. They embraced our family, they provided shelter when visiting Olivet, Mary’s cooking was delicious and Bob provided so much laughter around the table. Dan and I have so many memories over the years it is hard to capture them all. We were truly blessed to love Mary and have Mary love us. Thank you Reich/Wozniak family for sharing your amazing mom, grandmother and great grandmother. ❤️

Anne Taylor - February 25 at 10:39 AM

RE

“ I have known Mary for 50 years. She was so spunky and independent. I was privileged to spend weekly time with her the last 4 years of her life. She loved Bob, her children, but she loved Jesus the most. She is now at peace in the presence of Jesus and Bob.

Rebecca Erwin - February 22 at 11:22 PM

MM

“ MR MRS lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Reich



MR MRS - February 22 at 10:38 AM