



## Mary L. Van Hovel

January 27, 2008

Mary Van Hovel -- Kankakee Visitation for Mary L. Van Hovel, 78, of Kankakee, will be from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, west Kankakee, and from 10 a.m. Friday at St. John's Lutheran Church in Schwer, until the 11 a.m. services. The Revs. Tom Hillertz and Matt Steendahl will officiate. Burial will be in St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, Schwer. Memorials may be made to Prairieview Lutheran Home, Danforth, or to the Kidney Foundation. She died Sunday (Jan. 27, 2008) at Provena St. Mary's Hospital. Mrs. Van Hovel retired from Heritage House. She had also worked at Riverside Medical Center and A.O. Smith. She was born July 15, 1929, in Veedersburg, Ind., the daughter of Cecil and Gurnie Margaret Heath Cushman. She was a member of the American Lutheran Church in Bourbonnais. She enjoyed crocheting and cooking. Surviving are her husband, Franklin Van Hovel, of Kankakee, whom she married Aug. 30, 1945, in Schwer; two sons and daughters-in-law, Michael and Sharon Van Hovel of Watseka, James and Audrey Van Hovel of Momence; two daughters and sons-in-law, Jodie and Roger Forbes of Kankakee, Nancy and William Andrews of Vancouver, Wash.; nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren; one sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and Dennis Rabe of Kankakee; one brother and sister-in-law, Don and Dolores Cushman of Clifton; and special member of the family, Ryan Dayton of Kankakee.

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Album*



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**Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes** - December 07, 2010 at 02:44 PM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Dorothy Jacobsen##imported-end##

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January 28, 2008 at 05:24 PM



“ I met Mrs. VanHolven i ½years ago when I i ½was going to school I met i ½Nancy shewas my best friend. That How met her mom and family. she was a beautiful woman. May God Be with the family. I am thinking of you all. Hang in there Nancy, i ½i ½Love Veda##imported-begin##Veda Malone and FamilyT##imported-end##

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January 28, 2008 at 05:24 PM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Phyllis Jameson##imported-end##

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January 28, 2008 at 05:24 PM



“ To the family of Mary VanHovel  
  
  
  
My deepest sympathies are with Frank and the entire family. I truly enjoyed being her Schwans man for almost 2 years. Mary was always cheerful and never complained when having a bad day. She will be certainly missed. May the peace of the LORD be with you during this time of loss. Please know I am thinking of you.  
  
With deepest regret,  
  
Brian Neukomm###imported-begin###Brian Neukomm###imported-end##

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January 28, 2008 at 05:24 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss of Mary. She was a wonderful lady. Mary had a great smile and laugh!  
  
I know she loved Bodie like a son and he loved her too! I know that Jim and Bodie gave Mary alot of laughs and probably some tears too! HA!  
  
It was always a pleasure to go visit with Mary and Franklin.  
  
No more pain for Mary, thank you Jesus!  
  
I love you all and will be saying a prayer for youn's.  
  
Bonnie or Lou as Mom Raines always called me...HA!###imported-begin###Bonnie Raines###imported-end##

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January 28, 2008 at 05:24 PM



“ To the family of Mary. My deepst sympathies are with you at this time. I remember going to grandma's (Alma's) and walking the neighborhood while Mary and Frank would be sitting out enjoying a beautiful day. I also remember trick or treating at her house when she would pass out the big Pixie sticks and Twinkies. I hope the love and support of your family will get you through this difficult time. Wrap your arms around each other tight. I know that is what has helped us. Blessings to you all!###imported-begin###Jill Levesque(Morgan)###imported-end##

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January 28, 2008 at 05:24 PM



“ What's in a word that makes it think it can adequately describe how much my Grandmother means to me?<br><br> We wait here on this side of the battle field, our weapons drawn. Waiting, just waiting to place our enemy underfoot. Who is this enemy? Death. The scriptures tell us(in Corinthians I believe)that the last enemy to be conquered is death. I saw granda standing there, no longer feeble, no longer weak, and no longer scared. She had a fury in her eyes that burned with zealously, a zealously only known to those who've been spiritually and conceived. Grandma brawled with death since I can remember, and she finally put an end to him when she crossed over into eternity. Grandma understood that in her weakness and vulnerability G-d was strong. <br><br> ½You ask me to write a tribute to my grandmother? I love Grandma. She's the only Grandma I've ever known. I miss her more than anybody knows. Some fool may judge me in his/her ignorance, and look down upon me for trying to be a light in such a dark environment. <br><br> What's in a smile that says "I don't love my Grandmother?" I LOVE GRANDMA and I'll always be her little Tote.<br><br><br><br>P.s. Love. Love were the breadcrumbs my granmother left for us to follow. So go now, in remembrance of her and in remembrance of Jesus, love. We're almost home.##imported-begin##Cody Charles##imported-end##

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January 28, 2008 at 05:24 PM



“ Van Hovel Family you are all in my prayers. My tears of sadness go out to you. For now she is in heaven with Tonie, Richard & Alma. Mary was one beautiful Angel. There was children around her always. Love and Happiness was everywhere. The home on the corner will be there forever and so in Mary's heart. Every time I go by the house I see Franklin outside busy just doing anything, always busy. Mary inside with someone who just stopped by to talk. Her door was always open for everyone. She loved life and all CHILDREN. I can still hear her laughter and see her smile. So Mary, Please give My Tonie a Hug And Kiss for Me while you enter the Gates of heaven. My Love and Prayers  
  
will be with everyone. God Bless.   
  
##imported-begin##Ellen Sharp##imported-end##

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“ As far back as I can remember Mary has always been "Grandma Cookie" to me. Funny thing is, she was actually more of a brownie and cake kind of woman, and come to find out as I have gotten older her cookies were usually store bought, but she still wore the name  $\frac{1}{2}$  of "Grandma Cookie" with such pride. Always a character! Always a smile on her face! Always concerned about others before herself! She truly was someone worth getting to know. One didn't have to be blood related or live the most perfect life..Mary loved all with everything she had. When I lost my own grandparents when I was young, Mary became even more of a grandmother type figure to me. I can still recall the day when I hugged her and she told me that she would never be able to replace my own grandparents nor did she want to...she simply wanted me to know that I would always be counted in her heart as family and if ever I needed anything that a grandmother could give (or a friend for that matter) she would be there for me in a heartbeat! We used to joke that when I became a nurse I could come back and take care of her. I want her family to know that when I walk across that stage in May and become that nurse Mary always knew I could be, I will remember her and all the love she showed towards me. "Grandma Cookie" will always be in my heart. My love, prayers, and thoughts go out to her family.##imported-begin##Allison  $\frac{1}{2}$ "Allie" Treece##imported-end##

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January 28, 2008 at 05:24 PM





“ Just short of 3 years that I visited Mary 1-2 times a week to shower her, as she would say "this old cow". I grew very close to Mary, so close that I would call her my second mother and that is how she treated me. I believe we had a bond, a bond that only true friends could have. We laughed together, shared secrets, she helped me through my hard times and I helped her through hers. She was a lover and a giver. Not one person I knew that didn't love her, such as I. I would always kiss her on the forehead when I would leave and tell her that I loved her, and I did. I will always remember Mary as an angel (just like the angels that she collected). She was beautiful inside and out. There will be a void in my heart in her absence, yet I know that God will greet her with open arms and she will watch over us till the day that we will join her.##imported-begin##Lana Rechkemmer##imported-end##

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“ To My Beloved Mother:  
  
  
I wonder where you are, where is heaven, what are you doing? Do we exist to you (us kids & daddy)? What does God allow you to see hear or know?   
  
The day you left us I died inside. Spirit and flesh had to be separated but somehow grief could not do that.  
  
If I were to write a poem, I would address it as: "They tell me". Because they tell me it will get easier or better with time. They tell me you are in heaven. They tell me you are happy, not sick and with loved ones. They tell me I will be with you again. They tell me the pain goes away. They tell me you are with the Lord.  
  
But my world stopped the day you left me. I remember looking out the window and life was normal for everyone but me. The pain is unbearable. I pick up the phone to call you everyday. I wake early morning and in the night playing that day over and over again in my mind. I lost my best friend that day.  
  
I chose this scripture for you for all the years you fought so hard to live!  
  
  
II Timothy 4:7-8  
  
I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only,but unto all them also that love his appearing.  
  
  
I carry you in my heart always! Love forever and ever! ChiChi###imported-begin###Chi Chi###imported-end##

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January 28, 2008 at 05:24 PM



“ NULL###imported-begin###Dave & Shirley Van Hovel###imported-end##

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“*Mary was my Aunt. She was a great woman. I told my Mom, her sister, that there is a big piece of our family puzzle now missing. To Uncle Frankie and all of my cousins, please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all. Auntie I love you!*###imported-begin###Rhonda Rabe-Smith###imported-end##

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