



Maxine "Max" Kessler

December 25, 1922 - January 3, 2014

Maxine "Max" Dorothy (Soucie) Kessler, of Bradley, was born Dec. 25, 1922, in St. Anne. She was one of seven children born to Emory and Yvonne (Benoit) Soucie. She was the loving wife of John Kessler for more than 50 years. They were married Aug. 21, 1944 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee. He passed away in 1995. Maxine passed from this world Friday (Jan. 3, 2014) after recently celebrating her 91st birthday.

Faith, family and friends were the cornerstones of Maxine's life. She was an active member of St. Joseph Catholic Church for more than 60 years, where she was a member of the Women's Guild, Renew, prayer groups and choir. She enjoyed singing at Sunday celebration of the Eucharist and at hundreds of funerals and helping with the funeral luncheons. She was a member of the Kankakee Women's Club and an avid bridge player for more than 60 years. She also delivered Meals on Wheels until she was 82 years of age.

Maxine loved her family only second to God. She and her husband, John, raised their seven children and she is grandmother to 19 and great-grandmother to nine.

Maxine is survived by five sons, Robert and Judith Kessler, of Mason City, Iowa, James Kessler, of Phoenix, Ariz., John and LuAnn Kessler, of Kankakee, Joseph and Marlina Kessler, of Tempe, Ariz., Thomas and Carol

Kessler, of St. Charles; one daughter, Mary and Joe Vannucci, of New Milford, Conn.; and one daughter-in-law, Pat Kessler of Knoxville, Tenn; 12 grandchildren, Brian, , Sarah, Jonathan, Matt, Nicole, Kathy, Olivia, Will, Scott, Kim, Michael, and Colin; nine great-grandchildren, Luke, Ella, Meah, Brian, Joseph, Baylen, Kayla, Alayna, Brady; one sisters, Sandra Zelazny, of Grayslake, and many nieces and nephews.

Maxine was preceded in death by her son, William; brother, Emory; sisters, Wanita, Marguerite, Betty and Willodine; and many dear friends.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Friday, Jan. 11, at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais. A funeral Mass will follow at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Bradley. Father Tony Nugent will officiate. Burial will be in All Saints Cemetery, Bourbonnais at a later date. Memorials may be made to Mercy Center for Boys and Girls, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, or to The Salvation Army.

Mercy Center for boys and girls - www.mercyhome.org

St. Jude's Research Hospital - www.stjude.org

The Salvation Army - salvationarmyusa.org

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 10. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Funeral Mass

JAN 10. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
211 N. Center Street
Bradley, IL 60915
(815) 939-3573
<http://www.stjosephbradley.org>

Tribute Wall

KR

“ So very sorry to hear this news. She was my childhood 'Second Mom'. All my memories growing up include the Kessler family. All of you are in our thoughts and prayers. Karen Lovell Raymore.

Karen Raymore - January 10, 2014 at 10:13 AM

DB

“ She was one of the best! My thoughts and prayers go out to her family and Uncle John Jay. We love you guys. Doug Baker and family.

Doug Baker - January 09, 2014 at 08:24 PM

EH

“ Maxine was probably the very, very nicest person ever to sit at one of many bridge tables. And she was a good player!! I so enjoyed playing with her. We both "left the tables" awhile back, but I have not forgotten and will always remember the many pleasant hours.

My deepest sympathy to all her family.

Elaine Holtzman

Elaine Holtzman - January 09, 2014 at 04:11 PM

RS

“ "What we have once enjoyed, we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes part of us." Tom, you, and the rest of your family are in my thoughts.

Roger Stelk - January 08, 2014 at 05:13 PM

JU

“ *My sincere sympathy to Mary and all her relatives and friends.*



Justine - January 05, 2014 at 09:34 AM

VL

“ *Vicki Tousignant/Bickford Senior Living lit a candle in memory of Maxine "Max" Kessler*



Vicki Tousignant/Bickford Senior Living - January 04, 2014 at 11:38 PM

JM

“ *In my early days of CCW, Maxine was so kind and helpful. She was a kind and gentle lady. My sympathy and prayers to family and friends.*

Jan Montague

Jan Montague - January 04, 2014 at 08:12 PM

PH

“ *I was really sorry to read of Maxine's death. She was a lovely lady AND a very good bridge player. I know my sister and other players up there will welcome a good fourth. Max leaves a big void in many clubs and groups..She truly will be missed. My sympathy and prayers to her family. Pat Hartman.*

Pat Hartman - January 04, 2014 at 06:37 PM



Your family has my deepest sympathy at this difficult time.

Carol Fritz - January 07, 2014 at 04:36 PM