



Rita DesMarteau

February 21, 1930 - October 4, 2020

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our loving and devoted mom and friend to all whose life she touched, Rita DesMarteau, age 90, of Kankakee peacefully departed into the arms of Jesus on Sunday, October 4, 2020 at her home. She was born February 21, 1930 in Kankakee, the daughter of Charles & Mabel (Farber) Ortman. Rita married Jean W. DesMarteau on August 9, 1952 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee. He preceded her in death on February 1, 1992.

Rita was a former employee of Roper Corporation and the Love Christian Center in Kankakee. She was a graduate of St. Patrick High School in Kankakee. Rita attended several pilgrimages over the years. She belonged to a prayer group for many years.

Rita was a lifelong parishioner of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee. Surviving are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Marc & Kathleen DesMarteau of Darien, John & Alicia DesMarteau of Bourbonnais, and Paul DesMarteau of Bolingbrook; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Michelle & Ken Barrie of St. Anne, Diane DesMarteau (Rich Olmstead) of Kankakee, and Janine DesMarteau-Morris & David Morris of Springfield; thirteen grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; one brother-in-law, Ira Lawless of Kankakee; and one brother and two sisters-in-law, Jacques & Maxine DesMarteau of Lafayette, IN and Denise Rilott of Rockford.

In addition to her husband, Jean W. DesMarteau, Rita is preceded in death by her parents and three brothers and one sister, Francis Ortman, Catherine

Lawless, Robert Ortman, and Richard Ortman.

Visitation will be held from 10-12:45 p.m on Friday, October 9, 2020 at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 1 p.m. also, on Friday, October 9, 2020 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee. Please wear a face mask and practice social distancing guidelines. Her grandson, Father Giles Barrie C.F.R. will officiate the mass. Burial will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, St. Jude Children's Hospital, St. Patrick Catholic Church, or for masses at your home parish in honor of Rita DesMarteau.

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary

2000 E. Court St.
Kankakee, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 9. 10:00 AM - 12:45 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Mass

OCT 9. 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church
428 S. Indiana
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-6716

Tribute Wall

MW

“ We wish to send our condolences and prayers to the family of Rita who will be truly missed. She always was so friendly, kind and had a smile for those she met.
Michael & Virginia Wayer

Michael Wayer - October 09, 2020 at 11:45 AM

JD

“ Aunt Rita will be missed...always smiling and positive. Happy that she had such a long love filled life. I'm happy for her as she's with Jean in heaven.

Jay DesMarteau - October 09, 2020 at 08:51 AM

SH

“ Sr. Martha lite a candle in memory of Rita DesMarteau. She was God's blessing for us with her beautiful smile. God blessings and prayers.

Sr. Martha Harrington,sscm - October 08, 2020 at 09:20 PM

BH

“ Michelle and family...I am so very sorry for the loss of your Mom. I will forever remember what a truly lovely person she was when we all worshipped at St. Patrick's. It will be so nice to have Andy preside over the service. Will keep you all close as you grieve.
Bonnie (Mackin) Harpin

Bonnie Harpin - October 08, 2020 at 02:53 PM

MB

“ Rita always had a smile when coming to Mass, always greeted me, and was a loyal and inspirational member of St. Patrick Church. She was a special part of our parish family and will leave a place that will be missed and very hard to fill.

-Max & Monica Brigham

Max Brigham - October 07, 2020 at 05:40 PM

SG

“ I worked with Rita for several years at the LOVE store. She was a pleasure to be around. I was in her home once for a party and got to see her angel collection. She was a nice lady.



Susan Grizzle - October 07, 2020 at 01:25 PM

J“

“ Ms. Rita, was such a sweet and very Jazzy woman. I will miss her beautiful smile, God bless all of you and May she RIH
Jolan Shell & Family



Jolan “Jodi” - October 06, 2020 at 10:47 PM

KR

“ We will all miss her very much. A true woman of faith and love.
Kevin and Donna Rilott

Kevin Rilott - October 06, 2020 at 03:23 PM

CJ

“ We lived across the street from Rita and her family . Such a wonderful family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family.
Carlene & Dean Jester

carlene jester - October 06, 2020 at 12:32 PM

CR

“ So sorry for your loss. I worked with Rita at Roper for many years. She was an inspiration to us all. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Colleen Regnier

Colleen Regnier - October 06, 2020 at 11:43 AM

JO

“ Was sad to see Rita passed away. Such a sweet person. Will miss seeing her at mass each week.

Jackie Oconnor - October 06, 2020 at 10:31 AM

TM

I was fortunate enough to have met Rita while I was volunteering at St. Mary's. She came to mass there each morning that I worked. She was kind , independent and so classy. She will be missed 😭

Theresa Martin - October 06, 2020 at 12:08 PM

LO

Rita and I go back so many years. We were just a year apart at St. Patrick High School, then worked together at Commonwealth Edison for 5 years. After we both married (I was in Rita's wedding) and had families we lived only a block apart and got together often. After my husband and I left Kankakee Rita and I kept in contact. She was such a classy lady and I treasured our Lifelong friendship. My condolences to her wonderful family. .Leta Mc Cormick Orlando

Leta McCormick Orlando - October 08, 2020 at 03:32 PM