



Wanda Jensen

December 10, 1927 - February 4, 2014

Wanda Lee Cecelia Doyle Jensen, 86, of Kankakee, died Tuesday (Feb. 4, 2014) at Presence St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee. Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at the Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, west Kankakee. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Clifton. The Rev. Michael Powell will officiate. Burial will be in Clifton Cemetery. Memorials may be made to St. Peter's Catholic Church.

She was born Dec. 10, 1927, in Clifton, the daughter of Charles Wesley "Pat" and Aldaha Marie Doyle. Her mother was a teacher and Wanda learned to read at home at a very early age. This gave her a head start so that when she started school she was able to skip several grades and graduate from high school when she was 14. She then attended the University of Illinois at Champaign, where she earned a bachelor's degree when she was only 19 years old. After graduation, she worked in Waukegan for Catholic Charities as an adoption agent. She enjoyed helping people so much that her supervisor suggested that she go back to graduate school to be a social worker. So, she returned to the University of Illinois to get a master's degree in social work. She began her career as a school social worker in Joliet. Later, she worked as a school social worker with the Special Education Coop in Kankakee, where she often traveled to more than seven schools. She ended her career working as a school social worker in the Bradley schools. She also worked for a time as a counselor for the Mental Health Department in Kankakee. She dearly

loved and was devoted to all of her students and the staff as well. She was a member and past officer in the Kankakee Retired Teachers. She loved the outdoors, especially the river and her beloved family spot at Timberlawn in Iroquois County.

She married the love of her life, Henry Robert Jensen July 18, 1953, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Clifton. They were married for nearly 53 years when Henry passed away in 2006. They leave behind their children, Kathleen Jensen, of Harristown and Kankakee, Brenda Jensen, of St. Louis, and Alan Jensen, of Kankakee. They also have three grandchildren, Dean Aikens, of St. Louis, Brian Jensen and Kyle Jensen, both of Kankakee. Wanda also leaves behind her brother, Wayne Doyle, of Bourbonnais; and 11 nieces and nephews.

Cemetery Details

Clifton Cemetery

Clifton, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Mass

FEB 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter Catholic Church
450 West 3rd Avenue
Clifton, IL

Tribute Wall

KD

“ Mrs. Jensen worked with my son from the time he was in Bradley East till he was in BBCHS. He had very poor self esteem and did not make friends very well. He was labels with ADHD. One year they wanted to place him in a behavior class room where he would be riding a bus for over an hour before and after school. Mrs. Jensen went to the classroom to observe one day. She called me and said "David does not belong in that class. It is for children that display some really bad aggressive behaviors, and David does not have that problem. She had David building model airplanes while they talked during their time together. She knew just what he needed to feel good about himself and have the confidence he needed to accomplish something that gave him pride in his work. My son is now 44yrs. old and he has traveled across the country several times by himself to visit friends and for work. He had an idea of building a storage/workshop and he did it without any instructions. He was able to ask his cousin (the roofer) for some help on the roof because he didn't know how to put the roof on like the one he had in mind. He has had many compliments on his workshop. It looks like a little one room house, windows and all. Had it not been for The wonderful and most caring person I have ever known at any school, I feel that my son would have not grown into the man he is today. THANK YOU! Mrs. Wanda Jensen. I love you! May you rest in peace. You were an angel here on earth and now in Heaven!

Kathy Douglas - February 07, 2014 at 10:20 PM

CT

“ *The world has lost a saint. I worked with Wanda at school for many years. She taught me what true dedication to children that we work with means. She taught me how to become a better teacher and I used her lessons my entire teaching career. When I would start to lose patients with a student I would remember what she taught me. She was the most caring person I have ever known. God must need some counseling because he called her to him.*

Charles Tracy

Charles L. Tracy - February 07, 2014 at 02:57 PM

MS

“ *Kathleen,*

*So sorry to hear of your Mother's passing.
She is in heaven out of pain and suffering.
Know that she appreciated everything you did for her.
My love and prayers for you and your family.
Marianne Surprenant*

Marianne Surprenant - February 06, 2014 at 07:55 AM