



Helen M. Thomas

September 30, 1923 - July 14, 2017

Our beloved Mother, Helen M. Thomas, life light went out on Friday, July 14, 2017. She was 93 years old. She is now at peace and rejoicing in her eternal life with Jesus and our loved ones and wonderful friends waiting there for her. Helen was born September 30, 1923 in Brookfield, IL a daughter of the late Martin and Anna (née Pergl) Malekovic. She had been a resident of Naples for the past 6 years coming from Salem, IL.

Throughout most of her life, Helen was a homemaker and a farmer's wife. After the untimely passing of her husband Paul in 1970, she went to work at the Marion County Court House and was employed as a secretary in the County Treasurer's Department. She retired in 1990 after 19 years of service to Marion County.

Her hobbies included sewing, playing cards, dominoes, cooking and especially anything with the family. Her family played an important role in her life after her retirement. She enjoyed the many family reunions and always looked forward to the planning of the next reunion.

She is survived by her four children, Nancy Thomas and her companion, Janice Dempsey, Robert "Bob" Thomas and his wife Cheryl, Cathy J. Reuschel and her husband, Dennis and William Thomas; one brother, Al Malekovic and his wife Eileen; one sister, Blanche Plunkett and her husband,

Donald; 7 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Paul Thomas in June of 1970; a son, Gil Thomas who died in infancy; a brother, George Malekovic and her sister, Violet Von Holt.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Lakeside Pavilion, Aston Garden Memory Care Unit at Pelican Marsh and VITAS Hospice for their exceptional care given to their mother in her final days.

A memorial service to celebrate her life will be held on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at 5:30 PM at Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home 28300 Tamiami Tr. So. Bonita Springs. The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM until the time of service.

Additional services will be held on Saturday, September 2, 2017 at the Greenridge Bible Missionary Church 7402 Bilek Road, Alma, IL 62807. Burial will follow at the Martin Cemetery in Alma, IL.

The family suggests that in lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Helen be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America 322 Eighth Ave., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10001 or online at www.alzfdn.org or to the Greenridge Bible Missionary Church 7402 Bilek Rd., Alma, IL 62807.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Martin Cemetery

Alma, IL 62807

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JUL 19. 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM (ET)

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home
28300 Tamiami Trail So.
Bonita Springs, FL 34134
(239) 992-4982
bonitafhbill@comcast.net

Memorial Service

JUL 19. 5:30 PM (ET)

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home
28300 Tamiami Trail So.
Bonita Springs, FL 34134
(239) 992-4982
bonitafhbill@comcast.net

Memorial Service

SEP 2 (CT)

Greenridge Bible Missionary Church
7402 Bilek Rd.
Alma, IL 62807

Tribute Wall



“ *Helen M. Thomas*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



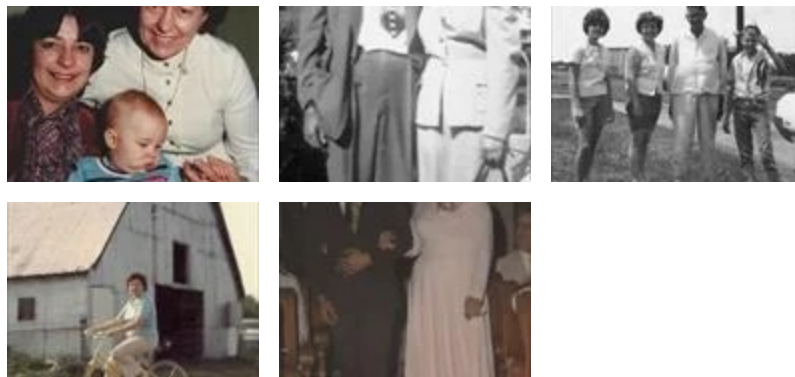
“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Sunny Westerberg - July 19, 2017 at 08:42 AM



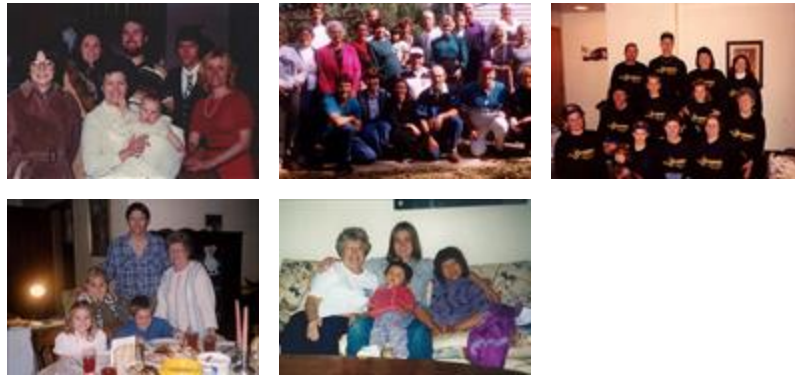
“ *12 files added to the tribute wall*



Sunny Westerberg - July 19, 2017 at 08:31 AM



“ 5 files added to the album Family



Sunny Westerberg - July 18, 2017 at 12:28 PM



“ Grandma was at every baseball game, tennis match and dance recital that she could attend. She was always there for the big moments and the small. For my High School graduation, she gave me a scrap book of every news paper clipping my name was mentioned in. It didn't matter if I won or lost, she was always proud.

Sunny Westerberg - July 18, 2017 at 12:00 PM



“ Helen was such a special person in my life growing up. She was "family" and as children we all spent time together. Growing up in the Green Ridge area all of the neighborhood kids went from one house to the other, Helen made the most delicious pastries and you can be sure she shared them. Until her move to Florida I received a yearly Christmas card from her. A very special person to me. R.I.P. My friend.

Gerri Molina - July 17, 2017 at 05:28 PM

DT

“ Mom told me that she hoped people would look back and say, "She was always cheerful." Despite life's hardships, she always was. What a wonderful, unselfish lesson for us to emulate! I am grateful for her love, caring and support.

Deborah Thomas - July 16, 2017 at 08:23 PM

RT

“ A "sweet" memory I had of Mom was any time I would stop by to see her, she offered a bowl or ice cream right away and we always sat and talked while eating ice cream with chocolate syrup on top.

Robert Thomas - July 16, 2017 at 01:48 PM

RT

“ A memory that stands out for me happened in my childhood. I thought I could win favor with my Mom by helping her discipline my brother and sisters when they were bad. I found a big switch from my favorite tree and took it to her so she could use it on my siblings when they needed a little discipline. Instead, I got a surprise by being the first one to feel the sting of that switch. She said, "I'll teach you to think about your brother and sisters that way." I never tried to tell her how to handle the way she taught us to behave again. Shared by Robert "Bob" Thomas, Helen's oldest son.

Robert Thomas - July 16, 2017 at 01:42 PM

SF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Shikany FH - July 16, 2017 at 12:39 PM



When the boys were about the size they are in this video we would go to see grandma and her face would light up with her beautiful smile and she'd say, "Aren't they dandies!" The run across the room into her arms over and over and she and the boys would giggle while I sat there worrying that they would step on her feet and hurt her.

Julia Imhoff-Thomas - July 20, 2017 at 08:26 AM

SH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Shikany Funeral Home - July 16, 2017 at 12:34 PM

SH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Shikany Funeral Home - July 16, 2017 at 12:34 PM

SH

“ 6 files added to the album Family



Shikany Funeral Home - July 16, 2017 at 11:33 AM