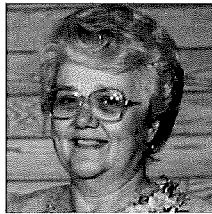


Duffy-Baier-Snedecor Funeral Home

Our life lived is our message sent.

(v)

Helen M. Donovan | 1925 - 2018 | Obituary



Helen M. Donovan

January 13, 1925 - March 18, 2018

Share this obituary



Send Flowers (http://www.ftd.com/bv10960/?enc_str=KlkEQR%2FR1tSa1Y6Kz)

Sign Guestbook | Send Private Condolences (/condolence/4714819) |

bccstring=RCwcNi9YTTcxNDgxOSZmaF9pZD0xMDk2MCZmYV9mbmFtZT1LYXJ

Helen Margaret Donovan (nee Masching), 93, of Pontiac, died peacefully on Sunday, March 18, 2018 in her daughter's home in Pontiac, Illinois.

She is survived by her children, Judith (Terry) Maguire, John (Judy) Donovan, Kathleen (Rod) Paolini, Elaine (Randy) Sommer, Karen (Donita Duffee) Donovan, Marge (David) Roach, William (Mary) Donovan, Timothy (Lori) Donovan, Mary (Greg) Zappa, Jeannie (Joe) Rasmussen, and James Donovan; 28 grandchildren; and 29 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ernest Donovan, in 1997; and her son, Michael Donovan, in 1969.

Born in Emington, Illinois, on January 13, 1925 to John and Mary (Rabe) Masching, Helen was the youngest of eight children. She helped maintain her family's farm until she married Ernest Donovan on February 27, 1943. They moved to the Odell, Illinois area and raised 12 children. Helen moved to Bloomington in 1980, and worked first as a home health aide and later in the student health center at Illinois State University.

Family was the cornerstone of Helen's life. After retiring from ISU, Helen enjoyed visiting her children and grandchildren across the country. She hosted her grandchildren in the summer, and her kitchen table was often full of family. She was an avid quilter and made a quilt for each grandchild for their high school graduation. Helen was a diehard Chicago Cubs fan

and a devout Catholic. She loved to dance and sing and passed her love of music on to her children and grandchildren. Later in her life, she took to traveling, visiting France, Germany, and Ireland, tracing the history of her family's journey to the United States.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Chenoa, Illinois with Father Carl Lopresti officiating. A visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service at the church. Duffy-Baier-Snedecor Funeral Home, Pontiac, is in charge of arrangements. Burial will be at St. Mary's Cemetery in Loretto, Illinois. The family suggests memorials be made to the Livingston County Community Pantry or a charity of the donor's choice.

Online condolences may be made at duffyfuneralhome.com or visit our page on Facebook.

 [Print Obituary \(/obituaries/print?o_id=4714819\)](/obituaries/print?o_id=4714819)

Sign Guest Book

Name: *

Name (required)

Location:

Location

Email: *

Email (required)

Personal Message: *

Personal Message (required)

Send Flowers

Required Confirmation: *


☐ I'm not a robot

reCAPTCHA
Privacy - Terms

[http://www.ftd.com/bv10960/?enc_str=KlkcEQR%](http://www.ftd.com/bv10960/?enc_str=KlkcEQR%2FR1tSa1Y6KzoxUBOPXg0LTyNBNIUoUXMYJT86UBtTWCOTUI55AWRqEnQ50hhADQsKKg8W%0APihKVhMvYnEXFhxNN0ozDCNEPss0ch4hCOYNWCADCS0HPVEBRnxmeBcFHVYgE15FKVU4LDk14)

[2FR1tSa1Y6KzoxUBOPXg0LTyNBNIUoUXMYJT86UBtTWCOTUI55AWRqEnQ50hhADQsKKg8W%](http://www.ftd.com/bv10960/?enc_str=KlkcEQR%2FR1tSa1Y6KzoxUBOPXg0LTyNBNIUoUXMYJT86UBtTWCOTUI55AWRqEnQ50hhADQsKKg8W%0APihKVhMvYnEXFhxNN0ozDCNEPss0ch4hCOYNWCADCS0HPVEBRnxmeBcFHVYgE15FKVU4LDk14)

[0APihKVhMvYnEXFhxNN0ozDCNEPss0ch4hCOYNWCADCS0HPVEBRnxmeBcFHVYgE15FKVU4LDk14](http://www.ftd.com/bv10960/?enc_str=KlkcEQR%2FR1tSa1Y6KzoxUBOPXg0LTyNBNIUoUXMYJT86UBtTWCOTUI55AWRqEnQ50hhADQsKKg8W%0APihKVhMvYnEXFhxNN0ozDCNEPss0ch4hCOYNWCADCS0HPVEBRnxmeBcFHVYgE15FKVU4LDk14)

 Submit guest book entry