



Helen Emily Riehl

FEB 3, 1929 - NOV 24, 2019



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Helen Emily Riehl

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Helen Emily Riehl, 90, of Spring Lake, formerly of Muskegon died Sunday, November 24, 2019 at American House Living Center. She was born February 3, 1929, the daughter of Leland Rose and Ola O’Dessa Rose. She grew up in Knoxville, TN and met her husband, Bill Riehl, on a blind date in 1946. They married on December 19, 1947 in Knoxville, TN. Together they raised five children and lived in Tennessee, Kentucky, Michigan, Texas and Maryland. Helen was an active member of Lake Harbor United Methodist Church, including the Singing Sisters. She enjoyed aqua aerobics, skiing, traveling, reupholstering, wood working, solving cryptograms, and baking. Her smile, her hugs, and her laughter were loved by all who met her. As an overall enthusiastic participant in life, she was devoted to her family and had an excellent sense of humor. Known as the “Head Moose”, she was at the head of many family gatherings at the beach and the ski slopes where everyone enjoyed her famous bran muffins and “favorite cookies”.

She is lovingly remembered by her family: children, Linda Riehl of Spring Lake, Susan (Carl) Schilleman of Spring Lake, Karyn (Gary) Gillan of Grand Haven, Bernie (Sarah) Riehl of Montague and Lee (Lynne) Riehl of Muskegon, 15 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren, as well as her siblings, Wanda “Faye” Hickle and Mayford (Audra) Rose, sisters-in-law, Lois Rose, Ruth Locke, Eleanor (Richard) Leary and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Bill Riehl, her daughter-in-law Anna Riehl and her brother Charles Rose.

There will be a visitation on Thursday, December 5, 2019 from 6 p.m.- 8 p.m. at The Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 6291 S. Harvey St Norton Shores, MI 49444. A Memorial Service will be held at Lake Harbor United Methodist Church, 4861 S. Henry Street, Muskegon, MI 49441 on Friday, December 6, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.



Obituary

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In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Lake Harbor United Methodist Church or The Michigan Parkinson's Foundation, 30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 150, Bingham Farms, MI 48025.



Events

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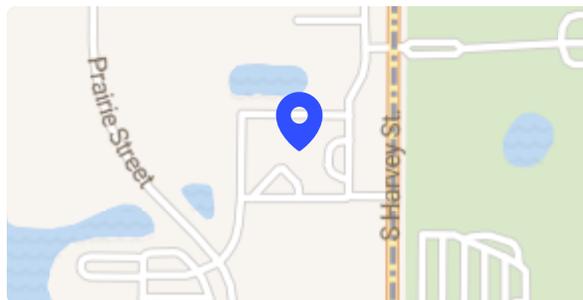
Visitation

 **Thursday**, December 5, 2019

 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

 **Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



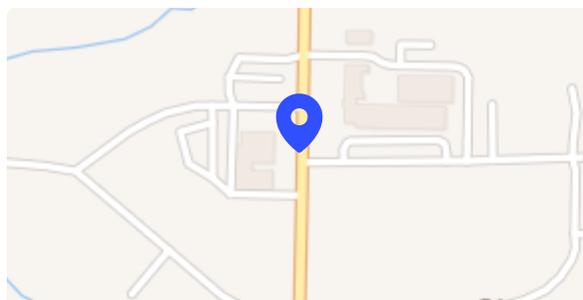
Memorial Service

 **Friday**, December 6, 2019

 11:00 AM ET

 **Lake Harbor United Methodist Church**

4861 S. Henry St., Muskegon MI 49441





Tribute Wall

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SK

Sharon Kieft posted:

Dear Riehl Family: My thoughts and prayers go out to you in the passing of sweet Helen. I truly enjoyed getting to know her at Stoneybrook of American House. Even though she never asked for very much help, I always had to stop to say HI. I loved her southern accent. I will miss her lots and she will always have a special place in my heart. Take Care and God Bless. Love & Hugs, Sharon Kieft Resident Assistant/Stoneybrook

December 9 at 1:45 PM

AC

Alice M. Clark posted:

Below is a tribute from my dear Mom, Ruth Riehl Locke, sister in law to dear Auntie Helen, Sister of her late husband William Riehl: "When we would visit aunt Helen and uncle Bill in Caberfae, everybody went skiing. But on Sunday Bill would make us watch a church service on tv first. He said you are going to enjoy this whether you like it or not! He took Rita (his niece, my sister) out on the slopes, She was 3 years old, and came back saying she was a natural! She's better on one leg than others are on two! What a wonderful relationship their family has been to us. I know my mom loved Helen as much as she did Bill. I think if they had a problem, she would have sided with Helen before Bill!"

December 1 at 8:46 PM

AC

Alice Clark posted:

My precious Auntie Helen - It is hard to know where to even begin. See that beautiful smile she has on the photo? That was real! She was that kind, sweet and loving. Some of my favorite childhood memories were with her, my Uncle Bill and my dear cousins on Stebbins street. I would get so excited when we were driving up the hill to turn onto Stebbins. Picnics and swinging on the robe swing over the gully in the summer will remain in my heart forever. The best memories of Auntie Helen and her fabulous family was of all of the joyful, heartfelt laughter. It was authentic and contagious. One just had to become happy around them. I will miss greatly the cups of teas, overnights, sharing my heart with my dear Auntie Helen. It only makes it manageable for me to know that she is having a blast rejoicing with our Savior in heaven.

November 27 at 2:48 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Helen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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