





Helen Rose (Gerber) Markham

March 5, 1929 - February 10, 2011

Helen Rose Markham, age 81, of Brodhead, passed away on Thursday, February 10, 2011, at the Monroe Clinic Hospital. She was the youngest daughter of Fred and Louise(Kueng) Gerber, born March 5, 1929 in Brodhead, Wisconsin. Helen was proud of her Swiss heritage, grew up on a cheese factory, and attended the Jordan Prairie School, a one-room, country grade school. She graduated from Brodhead High School in 1946 where she was active in band and cheerleading. She earned her nursing degree in 1950 from the Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in Madison. In 1951, Helen married Marshall  Danny  Markham. She worked as a registered nurse at UW Hospital in Madison before returning to Brodhead in 1952. Helen retired from the former St. Clare Hospital, currently the Monroe Clinic Hospital, in 1994 where she had worked as a nurse for many years. In addition to her nursing career, she also set type and read proof at the Markham family-owned newspaper, The Independent Register, for over 30 years, retiring in 1999. Helen loved singing and was a former member of the Down Beats barbershop quartet, Sweet Adelines, and church choir. She was an avid sports fan of the Brodhead Cardinals, Oostburg Flying Dutchmen, Badgers, and Packers. She had volunteered with the after-school reading program at Albrecht Elementary School. She enjoyed attending her grandchildren's music, drama, and sporting events. She also loved fishing with the family in Minocqua. Until her recent illness, Helen was an active member of the Brodhead United Methodist Church. She enjoyed participating in a YMCA swimming exercise class, her

bridge card club, her jigsaw puzzle group, Red Hat Society, and outings with friends. Helen is survived by her three sons: Marshall ♦Kim♦ (Kathy), Kurt (Barb), all of Brodhead, and Kent (Vicki) of Oostburg, Wisconsin; two daughters: Colet (Gary) Cook of Oregon, Wisconsin, and Colleen (Fred) Jennings of Lake Stevens, Washington; AFS son and family Drs. Julio and Marissa Rodriguez, David, Gabriel and Elizabeth, all of Brodhead; grandchildren: Emily (Nathan) Broome, Angela (Kevin) Geiwitz, Andy, Neil (Michelle), Adam (Nikki), Brandon, Derek, Caleb, Amanda, Miranda, and Isaac Markham, Cody and Alex Cook, Cassandra and Jessica Jennings; great-grandchildren: Brittany and Megan Broome, Camaron and Leilah Markham, Ayvah King and Rhiannon Keen; sisters-in-law Anita (Jerry Reed) Gerber and Annette Markham; and brother-in-law Urban (Rosalie) Miller. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, in 2008; her sisters Gertrude Miller and Annabel Ganshert in 1955; her brother Werner in 1994; brothers-in-law Paul ♦Joe♦ Ganshert in 1955 and Dick Markham in 1996. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, February 14, at the Brodhead United Methodist Church, with Pastor Steve Groves officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, Brodhead. Visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday, February 13, at the D.L. Newcomer Funeral Home, Brodhead and from 10 a.m. until time of services at the church Monday. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Brodhead E.M.S., Albrecht Elementary School library, and the Brodhead United Methodist Church.

Tribute Wall

CC

“ We are so sorry to hear of Helen's passing. We can't be there because we are still in Florida, but our prayers are with the whole family. She was a wonderful lady.
Chuck & Shirley Christman

Chuck & Shirley Christman - May 10, 2021 at 11:27 AM

SH

“ We are so sorry to hear of the Passing of our good friend Helen. We would all be there without a doubt if we were physically able too! She was a lifelong friend to all of us especially Lou, who had been friends since childhoods .
With Love,
Lucille & George W. Hrivnak Sr. and Susan & George Hrivnak

Susan & George Hrivnak - May 10, 2021 at 11:27 AM

LF

“ Please accept our sympathy in the passing of a lovely lady, your Mother and Grandmother Helen Markham.
Loren & Cynthia Bagley and Family

Loren & Cynthia Bagley and Family - May 10, 2021 at 11:27 AM

RS

“ Please accept our sympathy on Helen's passing. While we are distant relatives the one thing many of us kids had in common is having slept in the old family cradle that Helen kept track of.

Rich & Susan Schilt - May 10, 2021 at 11:27 AM

AL

“ I am so sorry to hear of Helen's passing. My prayers and thoughts are with all of Helen's family. I always appreciated it when Helen included me in the afternoon bridge group.

Arlene Lorch - May 10, 2021 at 11:27 AM

LC

“ May God keep you and Bless you give you strength. May his guiding light be a path unto your feet & may all your memories bring you joy!!!
In him
Mc Cains

Lyn & Jerry Mc Cain - May 10, 2021 at 11:27 AM

HV

“ Our sincere sympathy to the family of Helen Markham. She was always such a nice, pleasant lady to everyone, very much a people person, and visiting with everyone. If she did not personally know them, she would make it a point to get to know them. She was truly one of God's servants and enjoyed Life. Helen will be missed by many.

Hubert and Rita Vickers - May 10, 2021 at 11:27 AM

VD

“ I just learned of Helen's passing this evening. She was such an active vibrant person, very kind to everyone. I will remember her fondly. My family and I deeply appreciate the visits she made to our father, Ralph, during his illness. Our sympathies and prayers are with you. With love from your cousins,

Vicki (Bohren) DeGruy and siblings, Pat, Kris, and Kevin.

Vicki (Bohren) DeGruy - May 10, 2021 at 11:27 AM

CK

“ We send our sympathy to Helen's family. I remember Helen as the keeper of the cradle that my children and many other family member slept in as infants. She was a lovely and generous person, a cousin of my dad, Fred Schilt.

Cheryl (Schilt) Kocian - May 10, 2021 at 11:27 AM

NB

“ Sorry to hear of your loss. My Mother, Dorothy Wicklund and Helen were best of friends while working together at St Clare hosp. Mom says everyone called them sisters and alot of the time couldn't tell them apart! So they had fun with that. Helen drove up to St Germain to see my mother in the recent years as well. My mother talked very frequenting about times with Helen. Sincere sympathies to your family from Dorothy as well. Nancy

Nancy Wicklund Bracco - May 10, 2021 at 11:27 AM