



## Mary Hayes

October 13, 2011

Age 79, of Shorewood Died peacefully October 11 A joy to all who were blessed to know her, she was born and raised in Kenwood, Minneapolis where she made friendships that lasted her entire life. She raised her children in Edina and spent her last 24 years at her special home on Christmas Lake. Her hard work, kindness, generosity and grace have been a blessing to numerous charitable organizations. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Jerry; parents, Ray and Helen Riley; and brother, Jim Riley. Survived by her brothers, Roy and Phillip; sister, Kathy; children, Thomas (Sheila), Jean Cottington (Scott), Joseph (Kris) and Molly Morawczynski (Jeff), Abbie Christian (Wayne); and grandchildren, Katie, Patrick, Ryan, Kelly, Lauren, Sean, Jack, Danny, Jerry; and many, many loving nieces and nephews. Memorials are preferred to Church of the Ascension's Pastoral Ministry, 1723 Bryant Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55411. Mass of Christian Burial 12:30 PM Friday, October 14, at the Basilica of Saint Mary, Hennepin Avenue at 17th Street, Minneapolis, with visitation one hour before service at the church. Reception afterwards. Visitation from 5-8 PM Thursday (TODAY) at: Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel 952-920-3996 West 50th Street & Hwy 100

# Tribute Wall



“ *My first visit to Christmas Lake this year wasn't the same without Mary Helen around. We miss you and think about you often!*Michael

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May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *I had the pleasure of doing Handyman work for Mary Helen the past year or so. A very special person.*

~

*Al Schafer,*

*Tonka Bay, Minnesota*

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**Al Schafer** - November 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ I had the pleasure of seeing the Genesis ladies at my mom's house last spring when my mom was home from her assisted living home in Milwaukee. What fun it was to see Mary Helen and experience her typical, cheerful, fun, beautiful personality. We laughed, and the ladies told stories -- many stories were about days on Christmas Lake. What a treat to spend time with these Genesis women, and I'm sad to know that my mom's good friend is gone. Sending Mary Helen and her family many prayers, Gina Seppi

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November 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ Dear Hayes Family, On behalf of my mother Judy Ryan and myself, it was with a great loss when I heard of your mother's passing. I wanted to let you know that you have my greatest sympathy, and my heart is truly saddened. Mary Helen was more than a wonderful woman; she was always so kind and considerate to me that I always welcomed seeing her at every opportunity. And, I know that her passing will not only leave a void in our lives, but in the hearts of all those who knew her. Mary Helen will always remain within our hearts, and I will include all of you in my daily prayers. If there is anything that I can do to help you in anyway, please do not hesitate to contact me at anytime. With my deepest sympathy, love and God's strength, Barb Ryan (and Judy Ryan)

~

Barb Ryan,

White Bear Lake, Minnesota

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Barb Ryan - October 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ We were so blessed to get to know Mary Helen as a dear neighbor. I can't imagine Spring without her warm voice and beautiful smile. Our hearts and our prayers go to the family in their loss. Cyrus and Edna Zulgad

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October 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ I worked with your mom on the South Shore Senior Center Board. She was good friends with my mother, LaVonne. When my mom got sick, I took her place on the Board. Mary Helen always gave me a hard time for being the youngest person on the Board. I did a lot of volunteer work with her. She was always so fun! I will miss her. No one can fill a mom's place in our hearts. Take care of each other.

~

*Marietta Jacobsen,*

*Excelsior, Minnesota*

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**Marietta Jacobsen** - October 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RR

“A joy to all who were blessed to know her”. The obituary author has that right. I've known the Rileys all my life (I'm 77), and much the same may be said of each of them. Her loss will be keenly felt, but she is at rest after a life of great value. What a fine person!

~

*Richard Regan,*

*Honolulu, Hawaii*

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**Richard Regan** - October 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *mary helen was my wonderful, dear godmother, my shining star! i always looked forward to going to minneapolis and christmas lake to see her. i will truly miss her!sadly, i could not make the service today, so i celebrated her life today in seattle! when i went to watch the sunset tonight, the sky was golden, pink, and truly lit up! i know she was shining down on me and all.i will surely miss her so!*

~

*barbara bourassa,*

*kirkland, Washington*

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**barbara bourassa** - October 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ I will always remember Aunt Mary Helen with her warm and wonderful smile that would light up any room. She was an amazing lady and I was so sad to hear of her passing. May the comfort of loved ones help you and your family during this difficult time. I'm sorry that I won't be able to be back in Minnesota for her services to say a proper goodbye to this truly lovely lady. Fondly,

~

*Dana Baasen Rosenthal,*

*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

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**Dana Baasen Rosenthal** - October 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ *hi joe, we are so sorry about the loss of your mother. we did not know her but knowing you, i am sure she was a great lady. god bless*

~

*mike norman,*

*eden prairie, Minnesota*

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**mike norman** - October 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

FK

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*Frank Kiesner,*

*Corona del Mar, California*

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**Frank Kiesner** - October 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

FK

“ Dear Hayes-Riley-Kiesner Family, I wish to extend my deepest sympathy to you for the loss of Mary Helen. Her life should be a model to all who knew her. What remains most vividly in my childhood memories is the extended family gatherings at the home of Grandma Abbie with the Riley's, Potvin's, and Kiesner's all there. Mary Helen had a bond with Abbie that was unique in its joy, laughter and depth. To me, Mary Helen was always Irish eyes, Irish spirit and a loving heart. She made this world a much, much, much better place for all that her life touched. With Deepest Sympathy, Frank J. Kiesner

~

*Frank J. Kiesner,*

*Corona del Mar, California*

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**Frank J. Kiesner** - October 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ How sad to lose our northern star so early in life. Now she can light up our lives from a different place. May you have peace during this difficult time. Know you are in our thoughts and prayers each day. Pat and Diane Kiesner Hammill

~

*Diane Hammill,*

*Crawfordsville, Indiana*

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**Diane Hammill** - October 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I feel your pain. I am very sorry... I just realized moments ago that the service was tonight. God Bless. ~  
Carey

~

Carey Shandley,

Bloomington, Minnesota

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Carey Shandley - October 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ On behalf of the Charleston family, your mom was a beautiful, bright, smiling, warm, mom to us all. We have so many great memories growing up together on Sunnyside, your mom was a big part of our lives. Our prayers and thoughts are with you through this difficult time. Love, Carrie Charleston and family

~

*Carrie Charleston,*

*Minnetonka, Minnesota*

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**Carrie Charleston** - October 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ To all the Hayes "kids", please know that I am so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. The memories of babysitting you all, the time watching her be a wonderful wife to your Dad and mother to all of you left indelible marks on me. May your wonderful memories of her hold and comfort you at this difficult time.

~

*Patsy Johnson Bernhjelm,*

*Outing, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Patsy Johnson Bernhjelm** - October 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ A GRAND AND CLASSY LADY WHO ADDED GOOD TO THIS EARTH.FRED & ELAINE KIESNER

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October 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mary Helen could light up a room with her beautiful smile. She was so generous to annually host our Ridge Road Book Club, always keeping up with the books we discussed monthly. She was a kind, caring, beautiful woman who was genuinely interested in everyone's families, accomplishments and happenings. I will sincerely miss her cheerful presence at book club and Christmas Lake events.In sorrow, Victoria Szalapski and Family (Christmas Lake, MN)*

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October 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

WW

“*Mary Helen was the bright star in the greater Riley/Kiesner/Hayes family. Of all our relatives, she and Jerry were the royal couple. She was ever gracious and glamorous, warm, caring, and fun. Her smile and attention made everyone feel that they were the most important person on the planet. We lost her too early. She leaves a huge void in our lives, and we miss her terribly. We were just so lucky to have her. Sadly,*

~

*Winnie and Ken Willcox,*

*Wayzata, Minnesota*

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**Winnie and Ken Willcox** - October 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dearest Hayes Family, The thought of your warm, loving mother-- Mary Hellen--brings a smile to my face and warms my heart. Mary Ellen (Kunz) so enjoyed Mary Helen..the two had many many memorable times together. I send kind regards to all of you. You are in my thoughts. Best, Janet Kunz DeFrino*

*Contact Me*

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October 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM