



Mary Harper

February 13, 1935 - August 25, 2019

Mary Faith Sanders Harper, born February 13, 1935, departed this life on August 25, 2019, at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. Mary left this world just as she lived her life, surrounded by her family that loved her dearly.

Mary was born in Vienna, Illinois, the daughter of Tilford and Elzora Grace Sanders, 45 minutes after her twin sister Myra Fay. Mary graduated from Vienna High School in 1954 where she was active in school, cheerleading, and was the Homecoming Queen.

Following high school, Mary married Bobbie Gene Harper on June 12, 1954, in a double wedding with her twin sister Myra & Howard Ray Powell. Through 65 years of marriage, Bob and Mary lived the great American love story, living each day side by side. The Lord blessed them with a daughter, Kathy René and son, Bob Kelly. Bob and Mary were further blessed with five grandchildren, Jerrah René, Kyler Harper, Kelsey Ann, Keeley Faith, Robert "Bob" Kelbey, and one great granddaughter Milianah Maryn, named after her. Mary was "Meme" to her grandkids and was the center of her entire family. She loved to watch her kids and grandkids grow and enjoyed seeing them active in sports, recitals, and watched their graduations. Mary was proud of her family, something she instilled in each of her children and grandchildren.

Mary is survived by her husband, Bob, her daughter, Kathy (and son-in-law Jerry Stevens), Kelly (and daughter-in-law Shelia Harper), granddaughter Jerrah (and grandson-in-law Jason Henson), grandson Kyle (and granddaughter-in-law Miranda Stevens), granddaughters Kelsey and Keeley Harper, grandson Kelbey Harper, great granddaughter Milianah Maryn Henson, sisters Jane McClellan, Judy Nutty, Sally Taylor, Sharon Folkman, and Myra Powell, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and her dog Lil' Bit. Mary was predeceased by her parents, brothers Jim Sanders and George Sanders, sisters Betty Daniels, Connie Garner, Vicki Webb, and Holly Colleen Sanders.

Mary loved her church, Reynoldsburg Church, where she led the choir and shared her gift of singing each Sunday. Mary was an accomplished baker and cook, her peach cobblers and chocolate pies were always the first to go at family reunions and potlucks. Mary's favorite pastime was being Meme to her grandkids and great granddaughter.

For friends and those she loved, a funeral service honoring the life of Mary will be held at the Reynoldsburg Church, 1065 Reynoldsburg Road, Tunnel Hill, Illinois, at 11 AM Friday, August 30, 2019. Pastor David Nelson and Pastor Jerry Schell will officiate. Burial will follow in the Reynoldsburg Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Thursday, August 29, 2019, from 5 PM – 8 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna and from 10 AM – 11 AM Friday, August 30, 2019, at Reynoldsburg Church.

Memorials may be made to the Reynoldsburg Cemetery and may be left in care of Bailey Funeral Home, P.O. Box 695, Vienna, Illinois 62995.

To share a memory of Mary or to leave an online message of condolence for her family, please visit www.baileyfh.com

Cemetery Details

Reynoldsburg Cemetery

Reynoldsburg Road
Tunnel Hill, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 29. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home
705 North First Street
PO Box 695
Vienna, IL 62995
(618) 658-2311
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com
<https://baileyfh.com>

Visitation

AUG 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Reynoldsburg Church
Reynoldsburg Road
Tunnel Hill, IL 62972

Service

AUG **30**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Reynoldsburg Church
Reynoldsburg Road
Tunnel Hill, IL 62972

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Harper*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *My heartfelt sympathy & Prayers to her family*

Carol Bryant - August 30, 2019 at 07:27 PM



“ *Sherryl Case lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Sherryl Case - August 30, 2019 at 12:42 PM



“ *Faye Mize lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Faye Mize - August 29, 2019 at 05:20 PM



My heartfelt sympathies for your loss. Prayers for the entire family.

Faye Mize - August 29, 2019 at 05:23 PM

MS

“ Mike And Nancy Solomon lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Mike and Nancy Solomon - August 29, 2019 at 01:25 PM

JS

“ John Slack sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Harper



John Slack - August 29, 2019 at 12:03 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Harper.



August 29, 2019 at 10:09 AM

ER

“ Elaine Rotan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Harper



Elaine Rotan - August 29, 2019 at 10:01 AM

TF

“ Terry B. Felty lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Terry B. Felty - August 29, 2019 at 09:24 AM

CT

“ Carla Tapley lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Carla Tapley - August 29, 2019 at 08:55 AM

JT

“ JACK TRAVELSTEAD lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



JACK TRAVELSTEAD - August 29, 2019 at 08:45 AM

JT

SO VERY SORRY. SHE WAS ALWAYS KIND AND ALWAYS HAD A SWEET SMILE.

JACK TRAVELSTEAD - August 29, 2019 at 08:48 AM

MR

“ Mike And Teresa Richerson lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Mike and Teresa Richerson - August 29, 2019 at 08:03 AM

DP

“ Davis And Pat Prewitt lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Davis and Pat Prewitt - August 29, 2019 at 07:58 AM

MW

“ Marie And Ralph Wirtel lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Marie and Ralph Wirtel - August 29, 2019 at 07:47 AM

JH

“ As Sally's classmate, I remember the Sanders family and looked up to her older sisters.. I still remember when Mary was Homecoming Queen. From her picture, I still see that girl who became more lovely with time. The obituary is a beautiful tribute to a lady who led an exemplary life. Sorry for your loss!
Jeanette Lawrence Hoeinghaus

Jeanette Hoeinghaus - August 29, 2019 at 07:06 AM

JF

“ Jim & Ruth Flanagan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Harper



Jim & Ruth Flanagan - August 29, 2019 at 12:59 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Harper.



August 28, 2019 at 11:31 PM

BR

“ Bobby Rentfro lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Bobby Rentfro - August 28, 2019 at 10:33 PM

DH

“ David And Ellen Hill lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



David and Ellen Hill - August 28, 2019 at 10:06 PM

KH

“ *KathyBlack Holt lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



KathyBlack Holt - August 28, 2019 at 07:22 PM

LM

“ *Linda And Jeff Mathis lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Linda and Jeff Mathis - August 28, 2019 at 07:12 PM

VA

“ *Vickie Adams lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Vickie Adams - August 28, 2019 at 07:07 PM

MW

“ *Marilyn & Everett Whitnel lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Marilyn & Everett Whitnel - August 28, 2019 at 06:11 PM

PS

“ *Peggy Jean Smoot lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Peggy Jean Smoot - August 28, 2019 at 05:27 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mary Harper.*



August 28, 2019 at 04:14 PM

SG

“ *Sondra Goins lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Sondra Goins - August 28, 2019 at 03:58 PM

AB

“ *Anita Bullock lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Anita Bullock - August 28, 2019 at 01:07 PM

BM

“ So sorry for your loss. Mary was a wonderful neighbor for many years.



Brenda Dalton Mullins - August 28, 2019 at 12:56 PM

RR

“ Rosemary & Jim Rouse lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Rosemary & Jim Rouse - August 28, 2019 at 11:24 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Harper.



August 28, 2019 at 11:10 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Mary Harper.



August 28, 2019 at 11:00 AM

SL

“ Steve & Kathy Lay lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Steve & Kathy Lay - August 28, 2019 at 10:51 AM

TM

“ Tom & Carmen Murrie lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Tom & Carmen Murrie - August 28, 2019 at 08:58 AM

TO

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family. She was such a wonderful lady. God bless you all.

Tom - August 28, 2019 at 08:59 AM

VA

So sorry for your loss. Mary was such a loving person. May she rest in peace.

Vickie Wilson-Adams

Vickie Adams - August 28, 2019 at 07:07 PM

WF

“ Wanda Flatt lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Wanda Flatt - August 28, 2019 at 08:13 AM

LG

“ *Lora Goddard lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Lora Goddard - August 28, 2019 at 07:26 AM

SR

“ *SHERI ROBINSON lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



SHERI ROBINSON - August 28, 2019 at 06:23 AM



“ *Elizabeth Kerley lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Elizabeth Kerley - August 28, 2019 at 12:26 AM



Sorry for your loss sending prayers for the family Roy and Elizabeth Kerley

Elizabeth Kerley - August 28, 2019 at 12:29 AM

DP

“ So sorry for your loss for the whole family.
She was a very thoughtful lady to all the
Stevens family. Debbie Poe



Debbie Poe - August 28, 2019 at 12:24 AM

KH

“ Kenneth And Rosie Hartline lit a candle in
memory of Mary Harper



kenneth and Rosie Hartline - August 27, 2019 at 11:29 PM

JH

“ Justin & Tricia Hartline lit a candle in memory
of Mary Harper



Justin & Tricia Hartline - August 27, 2019 at 09:51 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of
Mary Harper.



August 27, 2019 at 07:54 PM

PJ

“ So very sorry for your loss, prayers for the family, Patti Jobe Stahl

Patti Jobe - August 27, 2019 at 07:50 PM

AM

“ So sorry to hear of Mary’s passing! I am so sorry I can’t be there but I am praying for all of you!

Alicia Duncan McDaniel - August 27, 2019 at 07:35 PM

JB

“ Jim & Pat Blankenship lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Jim & Pat Blankenship - August 27, 2019 at 07:29 PM

BR

“ Bill & Debbie Rigsby lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Bill & Debbie Rigsby - August 27, 2019 at 07:28 PM



“ So sad to hear of Mrs. Harper's passing. My heartfelt sympathy go out to her family, especially Kathy.

DEBBIE HORN - August 27, 2019 at 07:26 PM

JP

“ Sorry to hear of Mary's passing, she was a wonderful person and a good neighbor. May God comfort her family with strength and peace. Love and sympathy, Jerry, Judy and Jay Phelps.



J Phelps - August 27, 2019 at 07:04 PM

CW

“ Sorry to hear of Mary's passing. A very fine and friendly lady. She will be missed. May God comfort the family.
Clearon and Jane Ross Wright



Clearon & Jane Wright - August 27, 2019 at 06:45 PM



Theresa McKenzie

“ I'm So Sorry for your loss Sending Prayers to ALL of the Family

Theresa McKenzie - August 27, 2019 at 06:44 PM



“ Jeannie McCall lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Jeannie McCall - August 27, 2019 at 06:30 PM

WF

“ Wanda Florey lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Wanda Florey - August 27, 2019 at 06:12 PM

LK

“ Linda Koehler lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper



Linda Koehler - August 27, 2019 at 06:03 PM

Monda Hill

“ Prayers for the family and their loss. The Kreutzer Family



Monda Hill - August 27, 2019 at 06:02 PM

DB

“ Prayers for the family. So very sorry for your loss.



Dorothy Bacon - August 27, 2019 at 05:57 PM



“ *Mike Crews lit a candle in memory of Mary Harper*



Mike Crews - August 27, 2019 at 05:54 PM

PK

I am so sorry. Mary was a beautiful person. As children and teenagers, we hung out together back in the 1950's.

Pat Gray Kitner - August 28, 2019 at 05:21 PM