



Marie Buckman

April 16, 1917 - July 29, 2017

On July 29, 2017, Marie Buckman departed this earth joining her Lord in Heaven. Family and friends who gathered in April to celebrate Marie's 100th birthday are among the mourners who are relieved Marie's long passing has now mercifully ended.

Her last five and a half years were spent in Riverside's Miller Center, a skilled nursing facility, where she was well cared for by the dedicated staff. To those who were privileged to know Marie, it is not surprising that her strong heart was the very last thing to fail.

She was born in 1917 and raised on a farm in Aroma Park; the fifth of five sisters. She lived a full and wonderful life accompanied for over 78 years by husband Gerald Buckman who also turned 100 in the last year. Throughout Marie's stay in Miller, Jerry visited every afternoon, missing only on days he was briefly hospitalized.

Married in 1939, Marie was devoted to her family raising four children and supporting Jerry as he started and developed the family business, Home Appliance and Heating in Kankakee. She and Jerry faithfully attended St Paul's Lutheran Church. She was an active volunteer in the church and the Kankakee community where the Buckmans lived for nearly 8 decades. Marie's hobbies included reading and bridge. The couple enjoyed dancing as well as

extensive travel throughout the United States and overseas. Memorable family trips included camping in National Parks and visits to world fairs on both coasts. Marie and Jerry were adventurous travelers taking a long prop plane flight to Hawaii in the 1950s and visiting China in 1988. Other overseas travels included exotic destinations on five continents in the following countries: Russia, the Holy Land, South Africa, Brazil, Ireland, Spain, France, South Korea, Japan and many others.

Marie was preceded in passing by her four sisters Thelma, Mae, Alta and Elmo; and two children Bruce Buckman and Christine Hubert.

Marie is survived by two children, Doris Buckman and Gary Buckman; four grandchildren Dan Buckman, Dana Wilkey, Jackie and Sarah Snow; three great grandchildren Lauren Fox, Aislinn and Norah Kate McGuire; and two great, great grandchildren Jaxon and Archer Fox.

Other surviving members of the immediate family are Wilma Jean Bukowski, Verdelle Salm, Dorothea Buckman, Candice Chandler, Jeff Fox, Keith Wilkey, Peter Snow and Sam Hufnagel.

Services to celebrate Marie Buckman's life will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, August 5th 2017 at Schreffler Funeral Home on 1900 W Court St., Kankakee, IL 60901. Visitation will be from 9:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. prior to the service.

Please sign her online guestbook at www.Schrefflerfuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Gardens

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 5. 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

AUG 5. 10:00 AM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *I love you, Grandma. Thank you for making me feel your smile these years. I miss it.* ”

Daniel Buckman - August 10, 2025 at 09:22 AM



“ *Marie Buckman* ”

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM

“And in the very place where it is said to them, ‘you are not my people,’ there they shall be called children of the living God.”

--Romans 9:26

Many people pray for themselves. They want things and they hope God will deliver them in His UPS truck. My grandmother was no such woman; the Gospel was more than wish fulfillment for a comfortable life. I know because she taught me my prayers and she taught me that courage is fear that has said its final prayer. “Jesus doesn’t want you afraid, Daniel. You must pray and act. You cannot be afraid and walk with Him because His Spirit is about calming other people’s fear. How can you be afraid and calm a scared person?” She was a true American hero who put the spiritual, sustenance, and educational needs of our least ahead of herself every day she lived.

I never saw her shop for herself, drive a fancy car, or have much use for anything “fancy” as she would say. She loved the simple joys of great fiction and a bridge game with her girlfriends. She traveled the world and never boasted. She eschewed the things of this world and showed me courage by example: as a boy, I watched her care for a special needs son, walk by faith through his terrifying seizures, deliver Meals on Wheels with me in the car, give special needs’ kids rides to school whose parents didn’t have cars with me, run coat and boot drives for the needy at Saint Paul’s, feed anybody who was hungry, visit countless numbers of the lonely in nursing homes, and read me Christ’s parables whenever I asked her “why we are helping” as her way of saying “you are not long for this world and you best put your hands and mind to work for His kingdom.” I began to see that grandma prayed so others may dream, get over walls, fences, class, racial, and gender barriers, have enough to eat, a good school to learn, find acceptance if they are different, and experience laughter amongst sorrow. My grandmother was either in training to be an Archangel for the last 100 years or the most beautiful female sheep dog that God created in 1917. She lived her

life "feeding the lambs" by running circles around His least and scaring off the wolves (in her magical way). The woman wasn't afraid to jump into the fray with both hands if she heard His least crying and suffering alone. She led from the front and never wanted notice for doing it. She treated everybody with respect no matter their station or accomplishments because God's kingdom, not Caesar's world, pays little mind to castles and accomplishments made by sinful humans like ourselves. In the paratroopers, we had a saying about beloved leaders like my grandmother: "She won every medal for heroism in the army and she never wore one or liked being saluted."

I will miss you, beloved. I had a Mass said in your name last night, and being that my parish is Latin, the secretary wrote "Maria" instead of "Marie;" I know you would have smiled and laughed when the priest read "Maria Alma Buckman." I also know you are laughing with my Aunt Christine and my wife Rebecca over carry-out Chinese food across the river beneath the shade of the trees. Without you three and the crosses you shouldered, I would have known nothing about love. You are the toughest, most compassionate women I have been honored to know. I am a coward by comparison. I will hear your voices in the wind until I will see you all laughing again. Until then, beloved, there are many sheep to feed because, as you taught me, His last commandment is the reason He came in the first place. I will always love you and talk about you to anybody who will listen.

Your Son,

*Daniel Buckman
Chicago, IL*

Daniel Buckman - August 06, 2017 at 12:08 PM

MH

“ I am so saddened by the passing of Aunt Marie Buckman. I send my thoughts and kindest wishes to Uncle Jerry and family.

I was not able to send my thoughts when dear Christine passed and feel so sad for all of this.

Mary Haslett

Mary Haslett - August 03, 2017 at 11:12 AM

KE

“ To Jerry and all of Marie's family: As a member of St. Paul's Prayer Ministry i have visited Marie almost weekly for the greater part of the last year. What a joy it was to spend time with a person of such strong faith, love and devotion to her family, and always concerned about others. May you be filled with joyful memories of those many years together. Keeping you in prayers.....

Kenneth Ebert - August 03, 2017 at 07:19 AM

MM

“ Marie you will be missed but not forgotten. I so enjoyed our friendship as we read together, we shared so much. Your sense of humor and wit was such a joy to be around. I was amazed at how you always knew any word that would stump me. I learned so much from you, I will always treasure that special time together your friend your volunteer Margaret Miller. I will be lifting your family in prayers.

Margaret Miller - August 02, 2017 at 04:38 PM

LS

“ *Lisa Samuels lit a candle in memory of Marie Buckman*



Lisa samuels - August 02, 2017 at 03:23 PM



“ *A lovely, gracious lady has joined the angels in heaven and will be greatly missed. Hugs and prayers are with the family at this sad time.*



Mary and John Thomson

Mary Quiroz Thomson - August 02, 2017 at 11:51 AM

MC

“ *Sweet Marie. I will miss visiting with you on the weekends. Praying for your family.*

Mary Clark - August 01, 2017 at 07:12 PM

VT

“ *Vicki Tousignant lit a candle in memory of Marie Buckman*



Vicki Tousignant - August 01, 2017 at 05:19 PM

NG

“ *Marie Buckman was one of the kindest, sweetest women I knew. She never had a harsh word for anyone. She and Jerry opened their home every week for Bible study--- I was one of the fortunate ones to attend much of the time. She and Jerry shared a wonderful marriage and a great joy serving the Lord and St.Paul's. Her sweet smile and kindness will be greatly missed. Rest in Peace precious friend!*

Norma Genson - August 01, 2017 at 11:42 AM

AB

“ *Ashley Bunnell lit a candle in memory of Marie Buckman*



Ashley Bunnell - August 01, 2017 at 10:14 AM