



Ruth C. Henderson

December 16, 1931 - June 22, 2018

Ruth Chaney Henderson, age 86, of Kankakee, passed away peacefully in the arms of her children at home on Friday, June 22nd, 2018. She was born on December 16th, 1931 in Reading, OH to James R. and Ivy R. (Kincer) Chaney. Ruth married Charles L.(Chuck) Henderson, Jr. on October 16, 1949 in Middletown, OH. Chuck passed away on May 6th, 2002.

Ruth is survived by two daughters, Becky (Gary) Wilson of Montello, WI and Nancy Henderson of Kankakee, IL; two sons, Charles L. Scott (Donna) Henderson of Kankakee and Tom (Valerie) Henderson of Rockford, IL; one sister, Esther C. Johnson of Middletown, OH; two sisters-in-law, Joyce Henderson of Manteno, IL and Loretta Henderson of Loveland, OH; Cousin Bob Bray of Cincinnati, OH; five grandchildren, Amy Kukuck, Andy Henderson, Zachary Wilson, and Emily and Molly Henderson; six great grandchildren, Seth and Mya Kukuck, Rylee and Ezekial Wilson, Lucy and Phoebe Henderson; neices Marsha Robinson and Donna Bryant; nephews Hank Henderson, Rueben Johnson, and Mark Johnson. Ruth was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Chuck, and twin granddaughters, Hannah Rebecca and Sarah Ashley Wilson.

Growing up in Middletown, OH, Ruth loved playing violin, tennis and swimming at Sunset Pool. In high school, she was a Middletown (Middies) High School cheerleader, (Class of 1949), sang in the school and church

chorus, and was a member of First Church of the Nazarene. In later years, following her marriage to Chuck, Ruth and family built their lives in Dallas, TX, La Puente, CA, Cedarburg, WI and Kankakee, IL. When her daughters were young girls she was a Brownie and Girl Scout Leader, room mother, and PTA member.

Upon settling in Kankakee, she became a member of Kankakee Women's Club, Tuesday Book Review, and a volunteer of Riverside Hospital Woman's Auxiliary (TWIG). She enjoyed modeling in the annual St. Mary's Style Show, Woman's Club Jr's Style Show, and for Alden's Department Store. She and husband, Chuck, were members of Asbury United Methodist Church, 20th Century Club, and were in several Kankakee Valley Little Theater productions and McNamara Madcaps shows. She loved playing tennis and was a member of the Kankakee Racquet Club. Ruth loved, and was skilled in, Ornamental Handwriting, was a member of The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrossers, and Teachers of Handwriting. A homemaker during her child-raising years, Ruth later became Social Director of Bon Vivant Country Club in Bourbonnais.

Visitation will take place Saturday, June 30th, 2018, from 9:30 am to 10:30 am at Asbury United Methodist Church in Kankakee. A 10:30 service will be officiated by Pastor Scott Henley, followed immediately by graveside services at Kankakee Memorial Gardens. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley, Aroma Fire Protection and Asbury United Methodist Church.

Cemetery Details

Kankakee Memorial Gardens

15 South 3000 E. Rd.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 30. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Asbury United Methodist Church
196 S. Harrison
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 933-4408

Funeral Service

JUN 30. 10:30 AM (CT)

Asbury United Methodist Church
196 S. Harrison
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 933-4408

Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth C. Henderson*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *Ruth and I were Very Best Friends in high school in Middletown. We had so many good times together. We both sang and acted in school plays and musicals. We spent a lot of time just laughing together and comparing notes about your "boyfriends!" We took voice lessons from the same teacher and shared a recital once year. We reconnected at a few Class of 49 reunions and kept in touch for many, many years, mostly through Christmas cards, for she moved all over the place and so did I. After I retired to Michigan in 1994, my husband and I paid a visit to Ruth and Chuck in Kankakee and had a delightful overnight stay with them on our way to Texas for a convention. I loved her so much and I am so sad that she has passed away. I was going to give her a call today, and then I thought about the fact that we hadn't been in touch for a year and maybe there was a reason - so I looked up obits in Kankakee only to find I missed her by just a month. I am heartbroken for your loss but love that you have described her so perfectly in the obituary. My deepest sympathy to all of the family.*

Sally Pomeroy Trabulsi - July 30, 2018 at 09:09 AM

JR

“ *The Henderson Family:*

I was sad to hear that Ruth Henderson had passed away. She was always a good neighbor and friend to my mother. The Reynolds Family offers its condolences and best wishes to the Henderson family.

Jim Reynolds. of Kankakee and Chicago

Jim Reynolds - July 02, 2018 at 06:15 PM

MH

“ *I met Ruth and Chuck many years ago when we moved to Kankakee. They were patrons of the theatre and symphony, just as we were. They both had roles in Kankakee Valley Theatre, and supported me as President and a Director for many years. Ruth always wrote gracious notes to me after she saw one of my productions, and I have kept many of them. Her hand writing was so very lovely! She was a lady in all sense of the word...the way she dressed, wore hats, complimented people, and spoke. May these gracious memories be a comfort to her family, as she was to me.*

Marsha Hill

Marsha Hill - June 30, 2018 at 07:34 AM

GK

“ *I will always remember Ruth as a very classy and talented lady. May she rest in peace. Greta Kramer - Valparaiso, IN.*

Greta Kramer - June 28, 2018 at 07:22 PM

JD

“ Sending prayers to the Henderson family!
What a beautiful legacy she left!



Johnie Dandridge - June 27, 2018 at 11:49 AM

DC

“ To Scott Henderson and family, Paul and I want you to know that our caring thoughts are with you during this difficult time. With Sympathy, Paul and Donna Cardosi

Donna Cardosi - June 27, 2018 at 08:57 AM

NR

“ I knew Ruth almost my entire life, since I was six. To me she was Nancy's, Tom's, Scott's and Becky's mom. She personified grace and good taste. It's funny the things that come to mind, like Ship 'N' Shore blouses, perfectly pressed slacks, white statuettes in the living room, blue Christmas balls on a white tree, a glimpse of Ruth and Chuck having a romantic kiss in the kitchen when they thought no one could see them. After I grew up and moved away, I visited when I could. She let me call her Ruth, surely a sign I was an adult. Sometimes I visited and it'd be just the two of us. One time we shared a little plop on her bed that was sweet. From her time in Ohio with her beloved sister and her family to time spent with her youngest great grandchild, family was very important to Ruth. She valued her friends, the woman's club, church and time on the tennis court, but her family was integral to her. I am glad I got to share her. I can't imagine a world without her.

Nancy Reynolds - June 25, 2018 at 02:26 PM

CO

“ I loved Ruth like a 2nd mother. I enjoyed our after church lunches and making her laugh. She always looked so beautiful. She will be missed terribly by Mom (Rita Bowsher) and all of our family. Rest in peace, Ruth. ❤️

Chris Orenbas - June 24, 2018 at 01:02 PM

KS

“ Ment Ruth and her family at Miller Rehab she was a very nice lady and has a lovely family our thoughts are with you all. Kenny Tunks and daughters

Kennetha Sauberli - June 24, 2018 at 12:28 PM