



Wanda Ruth O'Connor

February 20, 1934 - March 4, 2014

WANDA RUTH O'CONNOR returned home to her Lord on Tuesday March 4, 2014. She is preceded in death by her husband James S. O'Connor, Jr. and her father Donald R. Darnell. She is survived by her mother Roberta Meads Darnell, her children Patrick, wife Diane and their children Kari Vanek and Patrice White; Michael; Terry, wife Joan and their children Kyle, Erin and Kevin; Peggy Holewinski, husband Mark and their children Toni and Anna of Pittsburgh, PA, along with many nieces, nephews and sisters-in-law, brother Dwayne Darnell of Aurora, Ill. and her beloved dog Mitzi.

Born February 20, 1934 in Chicago, Ill., she spent her youth growing up in Downers Grove, Ill. before moving to Houston. Here she met her husband James S. O'Connor, Jr. at the St. Anne's adult social club. The two were married in 1954. Wanda spent most of her life as a wife, mother and homemaker. She was happiest when her home was full of family and friends with a good meal on the table. Her laughter, compassionate heart and hospitality will be missed by many who found comfort in her home. Wanda loved a good game of bridge and spent many days surrounded by friends at the card table and countless nights playing spades, hearts, Uno & SkipBo. Wanda worked as a cashier at the Bellaire Drive-In Theatre in the 1960's. Later she served as a well recognized school crossing guard at Bellaire Boulevard and Osage. Her love for children lead her to be certified as a Director of Religious Education at St. Francis de Sales Catholic School. Here

she found great joy in the classroom teaching her Catholic faith to young students. She also logged time as a travel agent and wrapped up her work life at American General Insurance.

The family would like to pay special recognition to her extraordinary care giver Giva Rollins who was her guardian angel on earth. Giva's love and compassion brought Wanda through many struggles on her journey home. In addition, her spiritual strength was bolstered by long time friend and true minister of the Lord Rosemary Bach.

The O'Connor family will be present to receive friends Wednesday, March 12, 2014 from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM with a Holy Rosary being recited at 7:10 PM at Dettling Funeral Home, 14094 Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77079. The Funeral Mass will commence Thursday, March 13, 2014 at 11:00 AM at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, 8200 Roos Rd., Houston, TX 77036. Committal services will follow mass via motorized cortege at Forest Park Westheimer Cemetery. A reception will take place immediately following the burial at Dettling Funeral Home.

Serving as pall bearers are Kyle O'Connor, Kevin O'Connor, Jeff Wannamaker, Jack Carnes, Joseph Berry and Matt Kresse.

In lieu of flowers the family would like to honor Wanda's giving nature by asking friends to make a contribution to their favorite charity.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 12. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Dettling Funeral Home
14094 Memorial Drive
Houston, TX 77079
(281) 497-2121
david@dettlingfuneral.com

Rosary

MAR 12. 7:10 PM (CT)

Dettling Funeral Home
14094 Memorial Drive
Houston, TX 77079
(281) 497-2121
david@dettlingfuneral.com

Funeral Mass

MAR 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church
8200 Roos Road
Houston, TX 77036

Graveside Service

MAR 13. 12:30 PM (CT)

Forest Park Westheimer Cemetery
12800 Westheimer Road
Houston, TX 77077

Reception

MAR 13. 12:45 PM (CT)

Dettling Funeral Home
14094 Memorial Drive
Houston, TX 77079
(281) 497-2121
david@dettlingfuneral.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Wanda Ruth O'Connor*

October 08, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ *Wanda Ruth O'Connor*

October 06, 2023 at 01:12 AM



“ *Wanda Ruth O'Connor*

October 05, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *Wanda Ruth O'Connor*

October 05, 2023 at 01:54 AM



“ *Though I have no personal ties to the deceased or to the family, I would still like to leave a comforting message...It is a great tragedy to lose a cherished loved one. However please know that you will have the opportunity to see your loved one again (John 5:28,29). God will call and your loved one will answer.*

A Concerned Reader - March 16, 2014 at 05:54 PM



“ *Revelation 21:4 "Death will be no more, neither will mourning or outcry, nor pain be anymore" How comforting for the family.*

Ms Ruby - March 13, 2014 at 10:24 PM

CK

“ My deepest sympathy goes out to the O'Connor family. Mrs. O'Connor was a remarkable woman. She always knew how to put a smile on your face. I will always cherish the memories that we have made. It was truly an honor to have been your Goddaughter. We will meet again someday. Love always, Charissa Ann Kresse (Matt Kresse's daughter)

Charissa Kresse - March 12, 2014 at 02:40 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wanda Ruth O'Connor.



March 12, 2014 at 02:36 PM

TK

“ Tom & Beth Knapik lit a candle in memory of Wanda Ruth O'Connor



Tom & Beth Knapik - March 11, 2014 at 09:54 PM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Wanda Ruth O'Connor.



March 11, 2014 at 01:33 PM