Irene E. Hepler

December 2, 1934 - September 23, 2021

Irene E. Hepler, 86, of Gratz, passed away peacefully on September 23, 2021, at her home. She was born in Gratz, the youngest daughter of the late George I. and Flossie M. (Stiely) Sitlinger. She was preceeded in death by her parents and siblings: Robert Sitlinger, Jacob Sitlinger, Herold Sitlinger, Blair Sitlinger, George Sitlinger, Martha Wiest, and Elwood Sitlinger.

Irene retired from the Upper Dauphin Area School District, and later, from the Gratz VFW. For many years, she worked at the former Reed's Inn in Gratz.

Irene was a member of the Gratz VFW Post #2385 and served on both the Gratz Borough Council and the Gratz Parks and Recreation Committee. She was also instrumental in the planning of community events such as the Gratz centennial celebrations.

Irene loved playing cards, especially euchre, with her friends and family. She also enjoyed trips to Atlantic City and Hollywood Casino where she specialized in the penny slots. Her cooking skills were top-notch, and her family rarely missed a Sunday dinner at her home. Her motto was "a little sugar and butter never hurt anyone."

Irene was married to the late Jack A. Hepler for 68 years before his passing in July of 2020. She is survived by her children, a daughter, Deborah (Raymond)

Glosek of Williamstown; three sons, Stan (Gail) Hepler of Ashland, Robert (Crystal) Hepler of Gratz, and William (Leslie) Hepler of Gratz; six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

As per Irene's wishes, there will be no services. The family would like to personally thank Irene's longtime friend, Faye Hand, and Irene's granddaughter, Callan Whery, for the care they showed her in her last days. We simply could never repay you for the compassion and love you gave to our mother in her time of need.

Donations in Irene's memory can be made to the Gratz VFW Post #2385, 424 Specktown Rd, Lykens, PA 17048; Hospice of Central PA, 1320 Linglestown Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17110; or by supporting the fight against Parkinson's disease by visiting www.parkinson.org/ways-to-give.

Tribute Wall

MB

My husband was diagnosed of Parkinsons disease 2 years ago, when he was 59. He had a stooped posture, tremors, right arm does not move and also a pulsating feeling in his body. He was placed on Senemet for 8 months and then Siferol was introduced and replaced the Senemet, during this time span he was also diagnosed with dementia. He started having hallucinations, lost touch with. Suspecting it was the medication I took him off the Siferol (with the doctor's knowledge) him on PD natural herbal formula we ordered from TREE OF LIFE HEALTH CLINIC, his symptoms totally declined over a 3 weeks use of the TREE OF LIFE HEALTH Parkinson's disease natural herbal formula. He is now almost 61 and doing very well, the disease is totally reversed! (w w w. treeoflifeherbalclinic .com)

Mary Belinda - April 09, 2022 at 03:24 AM

PL

Deepest sympathy to Irene's family. Seems like Pap & I knew her & Jack forever. Then when I started working at UDA cafeteria, she became my mentor. She taught me a lot while working with her. It wasn't just work that connected us though. She was a good friend and I will miss her. I was so happy that I talked to her just a couple weeks ago. Love you, Irene! Patticakes

Patti Lower - September 30, 2021 at 12:04 AM

RK

Robert@Lillian Kissinger lit a candle in memory of Irene E. Hepler

Robert@Lillian kissinger - September 28, 2021 at 07:21 AM

LS

I have many fond memories of Irene through the years, all in service to her family and community. Our little community could use many more "Irenes." She will be missed.

Lynn Schadle - September 27, 2021 at 09:18 AM

AE

I have many fond memories of Irene. She was a good friend of my parents too. Condolences to all the family that are now suffering. 🙏

Audra Eyster - September 26, 2021 at 10:02 PM

PG

Wishing you comfort and peace to face the days ahead and loving memories to hold in your heart. With Deepest Sympathy, Pam and Mike Geisler.

Pam Geisler - September 26, 2021 at 08:47 PM

TE

Tim And Dianne Enders lit a candle in memory of Irene E. Hepler

Tim and Dianne Enders - September 26, 2021 at 05:13 PM

MC

So sorry for the loss of Irene. Your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Mike and Vicki Cobaugh - September 26, 2021 at 12:00 PM