



## Lena M. Merlo

March 6, 1923 - November 16, 2020

Lena M. Merlo, age 97, of Dixon died Monday Nov. 16, 2020 at her home surrounded by her family. She was born March 6, 1923 in Amboy the second of 3 daughters born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank and Fannie (Mule') Merlo. She attended St. Anne Grade School in Amboy graduating in 1936 and Amboy Township High School to which she graduated in 1940. For 50 years Lena worked as a secretary. She worked at Sauk Valley College from 1967 to 1990 when she retired. Her entire life was dedicated to her faith, family, and friends. Lena was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dixon, IL, the Catholic Women's Club, and was active in the Loaves and Fishes Ministry. She was also the last surviving member of her Bridge Club.

Lena is survived by her 10 nieces and nephews; Kathleen (Steven) Gardner, Don (Diane) Mekeel, Frank (Kathy) Mekeel, Mary (Roland) Derksen, John Mekeel, Theresa Mekeel, Patrick (Brigette) Mekeel, Michael Mekeel, and Thomas Mekeel, and also Judy (Larry) Meyers. She is also survived by many great and great-great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and sisters Alice Finn and Margaret Mekeel, brother-in-laws A.H. "Joe" Mekeel and LeRoy Finn and nephew Paul Mekeel.

Visitation will be from 10:00 am to 11:00 am Saturday Nov. 21, 2020 at St. Patrick Church in Dixon. Mass of the Christian Burial will be 11:00 am at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dixon, IL.

Interment will follow at Oakwood Cemetery in Dixon.

Memorials to St. Mary School and to the Food Pantry at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dixon, IL.

Arrangements by the Jones Funeral Home in Dixon

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood

416 S Dement Ave  
Dixon, IL 61021

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dixon  
612 S. Highland Ave.  
Dixon, IL 61021  
office@stpatrickdixon.comcastbiz.net  
<http://www.stpatrickdixon.org>

## Service

NOV 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dixon  
612 S. Highland Ave.  
Dixon, IL 61021  
office@stpatrickdixon.comcastbiz.net  
<http://www.stpatrickdixon.org>

# Tribute Wall

MW

“ Lena was a patient of mine at KSB Foot & Ankle Center. She was always pleasant and a joy to serve. rest in Peace, my friend.

*Michael Wessels*

Michael Wessels - November 23, 2020 at 08:08 PM

BJ

“ I met Lee while teaching at Sauk. Lee was a delightful person. She was gracious and kind, and so pleasant. She did her job so well and always with a smile. When I began teaching she made sure that my office was stocked with everything needed and did everything possible to make me feel welcome. One holiday season she had a lovely ladies luncheon at her home. It was as lovely as she was.

Beverly Ohda Julien - November 20, 2020 at 10:15 AM



“ We remember fondly chatting with Lena at St. Anne's, both when her friend, the late Art Mills, and later us, his widow, Jane, and daughter, Andrea, would see her at church. It was always a treat to talk to her. And we did look for her. She'll definitely be missed.

*Jane and Andrea Mills*

Andrea Mills - November 19, 2020 at 04:02 PM

JS

“ The warm heart, the kindness she displayed toward everyone, her faithful love for her Lord, and dedication to her family. Lena was the most beautiful woman who had a heart of gold, and loved by all who knew her. Lena often called the school and would ask if anyone of the children needed anything. Was there anyone who didn't have lunch money or needed a coat? Her generosity was plentiful. I learned the true meaning of caring for others through this most gracious woman. She will rejoice in her heavenly home....but we will miss her dearly.



jean Spohn - November 19, 2020 at 02:45 PM

GB

“ I worked with Lena during much of the time at Sauk Valley Community College. She was an inspiration to many young people, a truly independent person. We were blessed to exchange notes through this past year, and I was amazed at her ability to write so well at her age and with limited sight.

Glenn Bailey - November 18, 2020 at 10:00 PM

CS

“ I worked with Lena for many years at Sauk Valley Community College. She was quite a lady!

Cathy Seagren - November 18, 2020 at 06:39 PM

DS

“ I met Lena years ago while working at and attending Sauk Valley College. She was pure class in the way she dressed, carried herself, and work smart ethic. Ms. Lena certainly knew more than the bosses at the time.

*Our deepest sympathies Mekeel family.*

*Joe, Diane Stewart and family*

Diane Stewart - November 18, 2020 at 02:42 PM

MB

“ Marilyn Braida lit a candle in memory of Lena M. Merlo



Marilyn Braida - November 18, 2020 at 12:57 PM

SD

“ My heart is filled with sadness but knowing Lena was such a blessing. We can go on knowing Lena is one more angel among us along side Alice. How I will miss them but they are together which brings a smile to my face. I always enjoyed visiting with her, our few lunches, amazed by how she never complained even tho she couldn't see or hear well among other things. Very caring and so loving. May she rest In Peace.

*Sincerely, Sara Donnelly and family*

sara Donnelly - November 18, 2020 at 12:55 PM