



Doris S. Schmersahl

January 25, 1933 - September 5, 2020

Doris S. Schmersahl, 87 years old, of Columbia, IL, passed away on September 5, 2020. She was born January 25, 1933, in Belleville, IL, daughter of the late Elten and Ottilda, nee Beckerle, Schorb. She was married to the late Richard B. Schmersahl. They were married February 6, 1954, in Columbia, IL. He had passed away on February 7, 1991.

Doris was defined by her energy, her work ethic and her effervescent personality. She was a fixture at the Monroe County Courthouse, serving as court reporter and court administrator. Over a 50 year span she worked closely with Judge Maeys, then Judge Jacobson and finally Judge Dennis Doyle.

Doris served as president of the Columbia Public Library Board and was a leader of the Friends of the Library, raising the funds to construct the current Columbia Library. She was a founder and chairperson of the Versteigerungsfest (Library Auction Festival) which, along with a book store and book fairs paid off the library construction debt.

Doris started Tela Tunes (singing telegrams) with Eileen Traugher as singer. A consummate Kloepper player she was the last remaining member of the Amazons Kloepper Club and a current member of the Columbia Woman's Kloepper Club. Doris enjoyed crossword puzzles and reading and treasured her time with the St. Paul Book Club.

Doris loved music and was outstanding on the accordion. She played at parties, dances and in living rooms and never met a polka she didn't like. Her house was filled with art and she took great pride in her friendships with artists Norma Malerich and Amour Krupnik. Doris was a lifelong member of Immaculate Conception Church and a proud graduate of St. Theresa's Academy.

Surviving are her two sons, James Schmersahl, and Mark (Linda) Schmersahl; grandchildren, Nathan, Emilie, Rick, and Ethan Schmersahl; sister-in-law, Elaine Schorb; nieces, Lisa (Terry) Meyer, Laura (Mark) Byrne-Harris, and Christine (Kevin Schmoll) Schorb, great-nieces and great-nephews, along with other relatives and friends.

She was also preceded in death by her brother, Eugene J. Schorb.

Due to public health issues regarding Covid-19, all services will be private.

In lieu of customary remembrances, the family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions be directed to: The Eugene Schorb - Immaculate Conception School Education Fund, 411 Palmer Road, Columbia, IL, 62236, or, Columbia Public Library Fund, 106 N. Metter Ave., Columbia, IL, 62236 . For more information, please access our website, www.leesmanfuneralhome.com. Lawlor Funeral Home, Columbia, IL, handled arrangements.

Cemetery

Immaculate Conception Catholic Cemetery

825 Bluffside Road

Columbia, IL, 62236

Comments



“ I cannot say enough about Doris, known as Mrs. Schmersahl in my adolescent years.

Looking back, after growing up and having kids myself, I realized what a great effort it takes to keep up with your own kids, much less be involved in the lives of the neighborhood kids. By hosting a yearly talent show, she encouraged us to find our creative sides and show-off talents that may have gone unnoticed our whole life! OK, so none of us made it to the big screen, however, that annual creative challenge certainly enhanced my future and the introvert I was.

She also hosted many adult get-together that my parents looked forward to attending. Always lots of musical instruments and singing!

I took the opportunity to catch up with Doris a few years ago, when my sister and her husband moved back to the neighborhood. She invited us in and we enjoyed the tour of her Norma Mallerich and Amour Krupnik art.

Besides sharing my birthday, Jimmy had the coolest mom around. As the obit states, Doris Schmersahl, remembered always for her energy, her work ethic and her effervescent personality. We love you, Doris, young and old.

Janna Lundak - September 16 at 03:08 PM



“ Glorious Grace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Doris S. Schmersahl.



September 10 at 02:47 PM



“ I forgot about the accordion, but I remember talent shows in the backyard! I loved her modern home which she always kept very cool in the summer. I remember her being a working mom when all the rest of the neighborhood moms stayed at home. Was Mrs Mueller the cleaning lady? She is fondly remembered, my condolences to Jim, Mark and family and the Schorb nieces. Love Faith

faith clark - September 08 at 07:44 AM



“ Linda and Mark,
Our thoughts from Owensville Mo are with you all at this time.
Ricky and Gary Hacker

Ricky and Gary Hacker - September 06 at 08:22 PM



“ Doris was such a special friend. I will miss her. God bless Doris.

Janis Rau - September 06 at 02:08 PM