



## Helen Kearns

January 11, 1928 - April 3, 2023

Helen Kearns (nee Marrali) born January 11, 1928 passed peacefully in her home, comforted by the love and support of her four daughters, extended family, wonderful caregivers and hospice team, on the morning of April 3rd, 2023.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio the daughter of Jean Scalise and Joseph Marrali, she was fifth of six children including Angelo, Marie, Phillip, William and John (Raymond). She is survived by her brother Raymond who lives in the Cleveland area with his wife and family, and her dear cousin Catherine Calabretta and her family.

Helen was married on January 25, 1958 to Edward Leo Kearns (who passed on March 13, 2007) for 49 years. She has four daughters, Camille Kearns Rudy (Robert), Colleen Foraker (Jacob), Marie Ritland (David) and Christine Gelman (Jeffrey). She was blessed with eight grandchildren including: Morgan Rudy McCloskey, Dillon Edward Kearns Rudy, Blake Ritland, Victoria and Alexandra Foraker, Arielle, Tommy and Samantha Gelman, and one great granddaughter, Grace McCloskey.

Having lived a long, healthy life focused primarily on family, her greatest joy was her daughters whom she adored. She was proud of all of them and their accomplishments.

She was a strong, resilient woman who survived breast cancer in her 70's and who was a wonderful role model for her family.

As a lifelong learner and avid reader, she enjoyed books, music, travel,

flowers and creating beauty in her surroundings. She studied philosophy in the Great Books program at the University of Chicago. She loved living in Tokyo, Japan in the mid-60's where she learned Ikebana, and where her youngest daughter Christine was born.

Visitation will be from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 16, 2023 at Burnett-Dane Funeral Home, 120 W. Park Avenue (One block West of Milwaukee Ave.) in Libertyville. A funeral mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Saint Joseph Catholic Church, 121 E. Maple Avenue, Libertyville, IL.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her name to Mercy Home for Boys & Girls, 1140 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60607 [www.donate.mercyhome.org](http://www.donate.mercyhome.org) or Little Sisters of the Poor, 80 W. Northwest Hwy. Palatine, IL 60067 [www.littlesistersofthepoor.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoor.org) For info: 847-362-3009 or share a memory at [www.burnettdane.com](http://www.burnettdane.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **16**. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Burnett-Dane Funeral Home  
120 West Park Avenue  
Libertyville, IL 60048  
(847) 362-3009

## Funeral Mass

APR **17**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
121 E. Maple Avenue  
Libertyville, IL 60048

# Tribute Wall



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Helen Kearns.*



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April 16, 2023 at 11:43 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Helen Kearns.*



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April 13, 2023 at 07:37 PM



“ *Helen,  
I saw the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet and thought of the brightness of your inner beauty. You always loved fresh cut flowers. I believe these would have made you happy. Wish we could have seen each other more, but it was difficult due to the distance and getting older. Still, I am glad that we were able to talk often. I will miss and cherish our chats and checking in with each other.  
With love, your brother Raymond & family.*

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**Raymond Marrali** - April 13, 2023 at 07:29 PM



*Thank you Uncle Ray❤️*

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**Marie** - April 22, 2023 at 11:49 PM

MR

“ *...but on a more serious note, a lot of learning and loving on those shopping adventures!* ”

Marie Ritland - April 13, 2023 at 03:37 PM

MA

“ *I'll never forget food shopping so many times with mom in my youth. Once I said, "Look mom, they have red green peppers!" She said, "Marie those are red peppers." I was stunned!* ”

marie - April 12, 2023 at 10:13 PM

EF

“ *Elizabeth Rudy and Family purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Helen Kearns.* ”



Elizabeth Rudy and Family - April 06, 2023 at 09:04 AM

KA

“ *Camille, God did it right when he created your moms soul. What a beautiful legacy she has left. Every time I was in her presence she made me feel loved. Like I was the only one in the room. I loved spending time with her on the 4th of July. Your mamas greatest accomplishments (along side your father) was an example of what a loving 😊 Christian marriage looks like, raising her beautiful daughters (that will miss her dearly), her example to your children and in turn the lives of her great grand children. Your mama is a beautiful soul that will be hand and hand with our lord and savior. Love 💕 you giving you and your family a big hug ☐ Kristen Andersen* ”



kristen Andersen - April 06, 2023 at 08:47 AM