



Helen Marie McGinnis

October 11, 1929 - July 27, 2023

Helen Marie McGinnis, 93, passed away on July 27, 2023 at Northwest Medical Center in Springdale. She was born on October 11, 1929 in Tontitown Arkansas to Silvio Pianalto and Emelia Taldo Pianalto.

She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Tontitown. She was an avid quilter, crocheter, and crafter. She will be remembered as a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Allen McGinnis; three brothers and three sisters.

Survivors include her eight children, Dorothy White and husband Donald of Springdale, Deborah Patrick and husband Roger of Annandale, Virginia, Richard McGinnis and wife Karen of Springdale, Karen Howard and husband Bill of Cave Springs, David McGinnis and wife Cathy of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, James McGinnis and wife Nicki of Statesboro, Georgia, Pamela McGinnis and wife Carissa of Houston, Texas, and Deanna Vera and husband Steve of Fort Smith; 19 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great grandchild; one brother, Richard Pianalto and wife Antoinette of Springdale, and one sister, Pauline Weathers of Laurel, Maryland.

Visitation will take place on Sunday, July 30, 2023 at 5:00 PM at St. Joseph

Catholic Church in Tontitown. Rosary will follow at 6:00pm. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, July 31, 2023 at 10:00 AM at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Interment will be at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Tontitown.

Online condolences can be left at www.siscofuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery

380 E. Fletcher Ave.
Springdale, AR 72762

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 30. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
136 E Henri De Tonti Blvd
Springdale, AR 72762
<http://www.stjoetontitown.org>

Rosary

JUL 30. 6:00 PM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
136 E Henri De Tonti Blvd
Springdale, AR 72762
<http://www.stjoetontitown.org>

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 31. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
136 E Henri De Tonti Blvd
Springdale, AR 72762
<http://www.stjoetontitown.org>

Tribute Wall



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Helen Marie McGinnis.



July 31, 2023 at 10:03 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Helen Marie McGinnis.



July 30, 2023 at 04:09 PM



“ Linda, Dwane Kim Steven & Brian Swacina purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Helen Marie McGinnis.



Linda, Dwane Kim Steven & Brian Swacina - July 30, 2023 at 04:09 PM



“ Tim & Beverly Graham purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Helen Marie McGinnis.



Tim & Beverly Graham - July 29, 2023 at 11:29 AM

TG

“ Tim & Beverly Graham planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Helen Marie McGinnis.

Tim & Beverly Graham - July 29, 2023 at 11:29 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Helen Marie McGinnis.



July 28, 2023 at 10:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Helen Marie McGinnis.



July 28, 2023 at 07:41 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Helen Marie McGinnis.



July 28, 2023 at 06:30 PM

AH

“ 93 years is a great run. I can't think of Grandma without her smiling and laughing. And not a meek laugh but a full on laugh, probably after a slightly off color joke, teasing someone, or getting the best of someone in a card game. She left a legacy of joy.

A few years ago when Grandma closed down her house, I inherited her canning jars. Every time I can something, I wonder how many seasons of tomatoes or beans have filled these jars. I wonder the conversations she had while the work was being done. I remember her freezer full of sauce and racks of pasta drying. Anyone that has canned things knows that you reach a point where you it is hot, you are tired, the canner is still going...you start to wonder about your life choices. I know how much canning and preserving Grandma did, what an incredible amount of work she did every year to feed her family. She is leaving a legacy of hard work; that you don't stop when you are tired, you stop when the work is done.

You can't talk about flowers without rain, the moon without the stars, or Grandma without Grandpa. Truly a love affair for the ages. There was so much love between them that they had to have a full house to share it. They set the standard for what a loving household looks like. They lived the example of how a husband treats his wife and how a wife her husband. Also set examples for being a parent, brother, sister, and a marriage. They set the standard for hard work, financial prudence, raising children, manners, religion, and doing the right things. I try to live up to those standards, I choose my wife on those standards, I raise my boys on those standards. I don't always live up to those high standards, but I work at it. They are leaving a legacy of family and love.

Christmas with the McGinnis Family is an event and always has been. My earliest memories of Christmas are at the house in Tontitown, but it doesn't matter if it was that house, the one in Springdale, or at Richard's house...it is full of food, people, cousins, presents, and joy. In 43 years the way it makes me feel hasn't changed. I am still a kid, just enjoying the chaos. I know this year

will be different, but I hope is still full of joy.

Like I said, you can't talk about Grandmas life without Grandpa. I know that most of us believe in the eternal life in heaven, but Grandma and Grandpa did such a good job that they will live on forever here on earth with all of us. My sense of humor, how I approach family, work, and life are all directly influenced by the great examples I had growing up in the family they founded. Without even knowing it, my boys and their kids will go through life living the examples of Grandma and Grandpa. And because of that, the greatest love story I have ever seen will live on forever.

Andy Howard - July 28, 2023 at 05:39 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Helen Marie McGinnis.*



July 28, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Claxton Poultry Farms purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Helen Marie McGinnis.*



Claxton Poultry Farms - July 28, 2023 at 04:10 PM

SS

“ Stephen S. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Helen Marie McGinnis.

Stephen S. - July 28, 2023 at 04:06 PM