



Ruth Elvira Genke

October 6, 2019

Ruth Elvira Genke

(nee Keranen) Passed away peacefully with family present October, 6 2019 at the age 89. She was born 1929 as Ruth Keranen in Onela, MI. Which is located in Michigan's UP. Raised on a farm, one of eight children. After graduating high school, she left for Detroit, and then Denver where she worked as a waitress and met her first husband, Roy French. She was married to Roy 12/19/53 in Chillicothe, Ohio. They moved to Philadelphia where Roy earned his MBA at Wharton School of Business. They drove across Canada to San Francisco, CA where Roy started at Bank of America. Their son Steven was born in San Francisco, CA and their son Frank in Modesto, CA following a job transfer with the Bank. Moving back to San Francisco, CA they bought their first house in Mill Valley, CA. In 1960 they were transferred again to Lagos, Nigeria for 4 years, and then to Izmir and Istanbul Turkey for 5 years. Roy died there in 1969, and Ruth and the boys moved back to Houghton, MI where she lived for 17 years. She worked for a Doctor's office and in Home Care. She met Richard Genke on 7-4-1985, and they were married on 6-28-1986. Richard retired from the Wisconsin Gas company and they lived in Oak Creek, WI. She inherited 4 wonderful step-kids Rickie, Craig, Kim and Keri.

She leaves behind sister Gloria (Jack) Bellack, Bertha Karsama, and Margaret

(Ted) Blom, sons Frank French and Steven (Cathy) French, and dear granddaughter Jessica French, Rickie (Rich) Gensler, Craig (Cheryl) Genke, Kim Genke, and Keri (Jason) Dahl. Step grandchildren Corey Lancaster, Stacie Lancaster, Christopher Torres, Amber (Aaron) Stadler, Kelly Genke, Skylar Stelter & Preston Dahl, one great-grandson Austin Lancaster and many nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by sisters Mildred Ravi, Helen Johnson and Lillian Karsama, and brother Rudy Keranen.

The family will receive relatives and friends for a Memorial Visitation Friday, October 25 from 10:00 to 11:00 AM at FRANCISCAN VILLA – GARDENS CHAPEL (3601 S Chicago Ave, South Milwaukee, WI 53172) followed by a Memorial Service at 11:00 AM to honor her life

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

OCT **25**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Franciscan Villa - Gardens Chapel
3601 S Chicago Ave
South Milwaukee, WI 53172

Memorial Service

OCT **25**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Franciscan Villa - Gardens Chapel
3601 S Chicago Ave
South Milwaukee, WI 53172

Tribute Wall

PM

“ To Steve and Frank - I just learned about the passing of you mom. She was a great wonderful and kind woman who I always respected greatly. I have many great memories of spending time at your house from sleep overs in the back yard to watching the all night horror movies, it was all great fun and I feel so fortunate to have grown up with you and her in my life. I feel very fortunate that she was a part of my life growing up. My deepest condolences to you all.
Paul Meese

Paul Meese - November 07, 2019 at 10:26 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ruth Elvira Genke.



October 24, 2019 at 12:55 PM

KF

“ Kevin and Nancy Karsama and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ruth Elvira Genke.



Kevin and Nancy Karsama and Family - October 24, 2019 at 11:23 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Elvira Genke.*



October 22, 2019 at 12:05 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ruth Elvira Genke.*



October 21, 2019 at 06:29 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ruth Elvira Genke.*



October 21, 2019 at 09:57 AM



“ *To the Genke family, we are so sorry to hear of the passing of Ruth. She had been a great friend of the family. We hope she is at peace and that you can cherish the great memories you have of her.*
Ranee and Jeff Seaman

Ranee Seaman - October 16, 2019 at 08:52 AM

MB

“ We are heartbroken. She is my sister and she was 9 1/2 years older than me, She was very loving and kind. She "mothered" me as every time I needed something she would come to the rescue. She made my Halloween costumes, bought me clothes for school, treated me to lunch in restaurants. Helped me with 4-H projects. She taught me how to dance, bought me presents for my birthday and Christmas, styled my hair and curled it. So many memories that when I think of it I end up crying, She was beautiful inside and out, She will be missed. I Loved her so much and hated it when she got so sick. God must have needed another angel. I'm Glad she is no longer in pain and resting in peace. I will be in Texas on the 25th so won't be able to attend her funeral. But I will never forget her. RIP Ruth. Love you.....Margaret Blom

Margaret Keranen Blom - October 14, 2019 at 11:21 AM

MC

“ Really enjoyed my time with Ruth at All Saints Lutheran Church, Oak Creek. We talked as she did her altar guild duties for many years. Wonderful woman.

Margaret Coonan - October 11, 2019 at 10:03 PM

SV

“ My heart goes out to Dick and all her kids, stepkids and grandchildren. She was a dear sweet soul who treated me and my kids with lots of love. I will miss her dearly. God bless you all.

Sue Venne - October 10, 2019 at 09:14 PM

BS

“ Our deepest sympathy to all of Ruth's family. She was the sweetest, cutest, little lady, and such a loving wife to Uncle Dick. She will be missed! Rest In Peace. ❤️

Bonnie Shea - October 10, 2019 at 03:53 PM



“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Stacie Lancaster - October 10, 2019 at 11:55 AM