



Rena A. Lanham

July 9, 1939 - January 22, 2024

Dateline: Alton

Rena A. Lanham, 84, died peacefully on Monday, January 22, 2024. She married Leo E. Lanham on May 20, 1961 at Saint Patrick's Catholic Church in Alton. They were married for over 40 years, until Leo passed away in 2002. They had an active life with four children and all of the associated pursuits of a growing family: school, sports, scouting, crafts, gardening, and trips to Montauk State Park or other vacation destinations spanning many of the states. While a devoted wife and mother, Rena's seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren were her true delight. She loved their perceptions of the world, jokes, and craft projects. She was particularly pleased when they excelled academically or practiced good penmanship.

In recent years, Rena lived at Asbury Village in Godfrey, as her physical capabilities declined. She developed several close friendships with other residents and staff. Her favorite activity was the weekly Bingo game, which never lasted long enough.

Rena is survived by three children, Joan Kluwe [Pete Pritchard], Jean Lanham Curvey [Rick], and Mike Lanham [Christy]; grandchildren, Colleen Smith [Corey], Tim Lanham, Austin and Mary Curvey, Max, Caroline, and Colton Lanham; great granddaughters, Bryleigh and Aria Smith; siblings, Marcella Waddell, Jean Schenk [George], Ruth Wellman [Sam], and David Austin [Kathy]; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, other extended family, and many dear friends.

She was preceded in death by husband, Leo and son, Leo Lanham II; and siblings Margy McGovern, Bud Austin, James Richard Austin, and Bob Austin. Friends and family are invited to join the visitation at Gent Funeral Home (2409 State Street in Alton) on Friday, January 26, 2024 from 4-8pm. Funeral services will be held Saturday January 27, 2024 at 11am, also at Gent Funeral Home, with graveside service at Saint Patrick's Cemetery. A reception and celebration of life will be held after the graveside service on Saturday at the Alton-Wood River Sportman's Club's Traphouse, 3109 Godfrey Road, Godfrey.

Memorial donations to Asbury Village in Godfrey are most appreciated, to continue to support their outstanding care and community-building activities, and of course, more Bingo prizes. A donation box will be available at the services or contributions can be mailed to Asbury Village, c/o Anita Martinez, 5201 Asbury Avenue, Godfrey, IL 62035.

The obituary and guest book may also be found at Gent Funeral Home's website www.gentfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Patrick's Cemetery

2801 Greenwood Lane
Godfrey, IL 62035

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 26. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home & Cremation Services
2409 State Street
Alton, IL 62002
(618) 466-5544
<https://www.gentfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral

JAN 27. 11:00 AM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home & Cremation Services
2409 State Street
Alton, IL 62002
(618) 466-5544
<https://www.gentfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Rena A. Lanham.*



January 25, 2024 at 03:11 PM



“ *Ferguson Enterprises, LLC. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rena A. Lanham.*

Ferguson Enterprises, LLC. - January 25, 2024 at 03:11 PM



“ *Aunt Sis had the patience of a saint. When we came to visit, between our family and hers, there would be NINE kids running up and down the stairs and into the kitchen. Despite it all, I never remember her saying an unkind word or running out of cookies!*

AnnMaria Demars - January 25, 2024 at 03:34 AM



“ *My wife and I met Rena t through St Patrick School. We had a lot of respect for her and how she and her husband, Leo, were raising their family. They were kind and respectful to everyone. God bless her and May God be with the family in this hard time.*



Rodger Jennings - January 24, 2024 at 07:20 PM