



## Helen M. Kahl

November 16, 1922 - April 10, 2020

Helen M. Kahl, age 97, of Storm Lake, Iowa passed on Good Friday, April 10, 2020 at the Methodist Manor Retirement Community in Storm Lake.

Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Interment will take place in the Holstein Cemetery. Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements. In lieu of condolences, please check Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home.

She was born on November 16, 1922, and daughter of Maxwell Bert and June Leola (Dawson) Baker, in Wright County, Belmond, Iowa. Growing up, she attended school in both Belmond and Clarion Schools, and was a May, 1942 graduate of Clarion High School. She later moved to Ankeny, Iowa, working at the Ankeny Ordinance Plant.

On December 20, 1945, Helen was united in marriage to Oral W. Sams, a distinguished Army war veteran who fought under General George Patton as an infantry scout. They were blessed with two sons, Donald R. Sams and Dennis L. Sams. Oral died in a farming accident near Beaman, Iowa in June, 1949.

Helen married Earl W. Kahl, who served in active duty in the Air Force as a tail gunner on bombing missions in the Pacific Campaign from June 13, 1944 to

March 30, 1946. They were married in the Methodist Church in Holstein, Iowa, on August 20, 1951. They settled in Merrill, Iowa while Earl was engaged in farming, and where Helen was living at the time. They later moved to Holstein, Iowa closer to Earl's family, and continued farming north of Holstein. Together, they had six children, Jeanne, Jerry, Loraile, Sherwood, Karyn, and Stephanie. In March, 1968, they lost their daughter, Karyn, in an auto accident. Later that year, they moved to Pleasantview Dr. in Storm Lake, Iowa where they lived for over 30 years.

Helen had a busy life raising her children, cooking, baking, sewing, writing poetry, and gardening. Other hobbies included embroidering wall hangings, table cloths, dish cloths, doilies, and pillow cases. She loved writing and sending cards, letters, notes, and poetry. Her cooking was wonderful, particularly baking cinnamon rolls, breads, and desserts, and so much more. In her later years, she loved traveling with family, never missing a wedding or graduation. Some of her favorites were going to Hawaii, Oregon, Alaska, Branson, and flying to visit her kids. Above all, she especially loved spending time with her family, serving meals in her home, attending family activities such as sports, which then continued with her grandchildren and their activities.

Helen will be forever remembered as a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She will also be remembered as someone with a kind spirit, wonderful patience, and a loving person. She will be sorely missed by many who loved her.

Helen's places of employment besides Ankeny Ordinance Plant were Joyce's Greenery in Storm Lake, Storm Lake Community Schools in the lunch program, and Aalf's Manufacturing.

Those left to cherish her memory include her children: Donald Sams (Karen),

Dearborn, MO, Dennis Sams (Linda), Stevensville, MD, Jeanne Wahrer (Greg), Smyrna, GA, Jerry Kahl, Storm Lake, IA, Loraile Tuttle (Scott), Ogden, IA, Woody Kahl (Cindy), Stockton, MO, Stephanie Smith (Dan), San Antonio, TX. She had many grandchildren; Michael Sams (Jill), Chris Sams (Becky), Michelle Baker, Amy Engeman (TJ), Dawn Criste (Eric), Sandy Hayward (Kyle), Cindy Riggs (Isaac), Tiffany Covington (Donnie), James Wahrer (Tamara), Machel Hubbs (Brandon), Jeffrey Wahrer (Joyce), Joel Tuttle (Berina), Kristin Elsasser (Brandon), Ross Tuttle (Alaina), Teri Flores (Nick), Alex Kahl, Carter Smith, and Claire Smith, along with thirty great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren. Helen also has one surviving brother, Howard Baker (Smithville, MO) and two nephews, Rick Baker and Steve Baker, and another nephew, Bobby Brunner.

Helen was preceded in death by her first husband, Oral Sams, her late husband, Earl Kahl, a sister, Henrietta Brunner, and a daughter, Karyn Machel Kahl.

# Tribute Wall

WT

“ *Wil & Karen Triplett lit a candle in memory of Helen M. Kahl*



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**Wil & Karen Triplett** - April 21, 2020 at 09:56 AM

BS

“ *My condolences to Loraile and Scott Tuttle and family. May you experience the comfort only the LORD can give. BobSiddens*

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**Bob Siddens** - April 18, 2020 at 12:57 AM

CS

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers. Cyndee Crouch Stull*

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**Cyndee Crouch Stull** - April 17, 2020 at 03:49 PM

JB

“ *Sending my deepest sympathy to all of the Scott Tuttle famiy. I remember your mom coming to grandparents day at school and enjoyed seeing her at church. May your loving memories fill your hearts at this time. Jeannie*

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**Jeannie Bellinghausen** - April 17, 2020 at 10:45 AM

CS

“ Sending Love and our deepest sympathies to all of you. Helen and Earl were so gracious to take me into their home to live with them while I attended beauty school along with Jeanne. I have wonderful memories of my time living with their family and have enjoyed a lifetime of loving this Family! May you all find peace in sharing your wonderful memories and know her Love for her family will live on in each of you!  
In Loving Memory,  
Cathy Steen-Gnade

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**Cathy Steen-Gnade** - April 17, 2020 at 10:44 AM

JS

“ So sorry for your loss. May your memories bring you comfort!

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**Julie D Smith** - April 16, 2020 at 10:06 AM

JC

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Helen brings back sweet memories of Pleasantview Drive. The culdesac with the beautiful flowers in the center of the circle. A neighborhood full of children and a reminder of the "Good Ole Days".

Thinking of your family during this time as social distancing keeps everyone apart!

Jeanie (Preston) Cavanaugh

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**Jeanie Cavanaugh** - April 15, 2020 at 11:21 AM

TM

“ All of us at Otsego Place, miss Helen so much. She was one of the sweetest ladies here.

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**Teresa Miller** - April 13, 2020 at 10:36 PM

DD

*“ I am so sorry to hear this! My thoughts and prayers are with you! I picture your mom and my mom (Alma Bogaard) are sitting together at the Pearly Gate. Helen is checking everyone over and Alma is asking questions! Just like Otsego Place! Deb DeHaan*

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**Deb DeHaan** - April 13, 2020 at 09:05 PM

LT

*Thank you so much, Deb! I remember your mother fondly! Lori*

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**Lori Tuttle** - April 15, 2020 at 09:46 AM

JM

*Always sorry for the pain this brings to families. God bless you in this moment. I will always remember her attending Sunday school with you guys, and she was willing to share an opinion.*

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**Jerry Middleton** - April 16, 2020 at 05:50 PM