



Rita Franz

January 3, 1941 - November 8, 2017

Rita M. Franz, 76, of Holgate, Ohio died peacefully on Wednesday, November 8th, 2017 at CHP Defiance Area Inpatient Hospice Center.

She was born January 3, 1941 in rural Miller City to Jacob J. and Agnes (Wallen) Warnimont. She married Gerald P. Franz on April 28, 1962 at St. Nicholas Catholic Church in Miller City.

Rita was a homemaker and helped her husband on the family farm. She served as the Township Clerk for Flatrock Township for 7 years, and was a Henry County Commissioner for 16 years. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Holgate, where she taught CCD for 20 years, was on the Parish Council, was a Eucharistic Minister, Church Lector, and served on the Rosary Altar Society. She was a member of Catholic Ladies of Columbia, New Bavaria, Napoleon American Legion Post #300 Auxiliary.

Rita loved helping and serving her community and advocated for the Henry County Courthouse and Napoleon River Bridge renovations. She also served on the Boards that developed the Henry County Transportation Network and the Henry County Litter Board and was involved in many other county organizations.

She is survived by her husband, Gerald; children, Suzanne (Alan) Wischmeyer, Ottawa, Michael (Penny) Franz, Napoleon, Nicholas (Beckie) Franz, Napoleon, Anne (John W.) Taylor, Napoleon, and Renee Patterson, Defiance; grandchildren, Logan and Alexa Franz, Andrew and Joseph Taylor, Lindsay Patterson & Hope Wischmeyer; sisters Eileen Klausing and Alma

Jean (Robert) Hashbarger, both of Ottawa along with a sister- in-law Rita Warnimont of Ottawa.

Rita was preceded in death by her brothers William, Norbert, Verl and infant Robert Warnimont, and sisters Mary Lou Beutler and Joanne Maag.

Funeral Mass for Rita will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 11th at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Holgate. Interment will follow at Riverview Memory Gardens, Defiance.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 2-8 p.m. at Rodenberger Funeral Home, Napoleon, Ohio.

Memorial Donations should be made to St. Mary's Catholic Church, Henry County Hospital Foundation, Henry County Senior Center, or Henry County Transportation Network.

Online condolences may be made at www.rodenbergerfuneralhome.com.

The family would like to give a special thanks to CHP Defiance Community Hospice for the generous care they gave to Rita and her family.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **10**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Napoleon Funeral Home
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545
(419) 592-2333
help@rodenbergergray.com

Mass

NOV **11**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
316 Chicago Ave
Holgate, OH 43527

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Video*



Rodenberger Funeral Home - June 25, 2019 at 02:35 PM

JT

“ *Jim And Marilyn Thomas lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Jim and Marilyn Thomas - November 11, 2017 at 08:39 PM

BC

“ *To the Franz family: Our sympathy goes out to the family. Rita had a sweet kindness and a wonderful laugh. She was always ready to help where she was needed. The angels are rejoicing to have her in heaven. Peace to her. Sincerely, Betty Felter, John and Beth Chick*

Betty Felter & John & Beth Chick - November 11, 2017 at 11:23 AM

AT

Thank you. She was a wonderful mother.

Anne Taylor - November 13, 2017 at 09:48 PM

BM

Anne, I am so sorry for the loss of your mother. I was out of state at the time of her death. She definitely loved Henry County and gave of her time to make this a great place to live.

-Betty Marihugh

Betty Marihugh - November 16, 2017 at 10:24 AM

FJ

“ *Suzanne, So sorry to hear about the passing of your Mom. She will be especially remembered in my masses during the month of November.*

Fr Matt

Fr Matt Jozefiak - November 10, 2017 at 11:22 PM

SJ

“ *Rita's family: You had a great wife and mother. Our sympathy goes out to you. We hope you remember all the good times you had with Rita. We will remember her always with a smile on her face. She was proud of her family.*

God be with you.

Roger and Sue Junge and family

Sue Junge - November 10, 2017 at 06:46 PM

AT

Thank you. Mom was a special lady to many and a loving mother and grandma!

Anne Taylor - November 13, 2017 at 09:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Rita Franz.



November 10, 2017 at 11:46 AM



“ *The Tadena Family* purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of Rita Franz.



The Tadena Family - November 10, 2017 at 09:52 AM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Rita Franz.



November 10, 2017 at 09:15 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of Rita Franz.



November 10, 2017 at 09:08 AM

PL

“ *PAM AND TED LANGHALS lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



PAM AND TED LANGHALS - November 09, 2017 at 09:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rita Franz.*



November 09, 2017 at 06:07 PM

BF

“ *Bonnie Floro lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Bonnie Floro - November 09, 2017 at 05:33 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Rita Franz.*



November 09, 2017 at 05:13 PM

MW

“ I new Rita most of my life and it was always so much fun to be around her. She shopped at the store where I worked and we would always catchup and have a few laughs. I will miss her very much.

Marleen Westrick

Marleen Westrick - November 09, 2017 at 04:53 PM

SW

Thanks Marleen! She did love shopping there and always enjoyed a visit with you! Mom was fun to shop with! Suzy

suzy wischmeyer - November 10, 2017 at 10:36 PM

AT

Thank you Marlene!

Anne Taylor - November 12, 2017 at 10:58 AM

CM

“ *Sweet Aunt Rita was the bestest ever.*

Constance Maag - November 09, 2017 at 02:54 PM

AT

You were very special to her

Anne Taylor - November 12, 2017 at 10:57 AM

VK

“ *Vince Westrick And Eileen Klausing lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Vince Westrick and Eileen Klausing - November 09, 2017 at 02:37 PM

VK

Vince Westrick sends his condolence to Gerald, Susie, Mike, Nick, Anne and Renee and their families.

Vince Westrick and Eileen Klausing - November 09, 2017 at 02:42 PM

AT

Thank you

Anne Taylor - November 10, 2017 at 08:50 AM

KS

“ *Kelly Schroeder lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Kelly Schroeder - November 09, 2017 at 01:38 PM

TA

“ *Terri Agler lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Terri Agler - November 09, 2017 at 11:26 AM



“ *Kimberly Patterson lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Kimberly Patterson - November 09, 2017 at 09:17 AM

DH

“ I didn't know Rita very well, but I did have several occasions to talk with her on the phone. Gerald is one of my beloved massage clients and has been for 19 years. Rita was always so pleasant to talk to on the phone and always asked how I was doing and about my family. The last time I spoke with her on the phone was just a little over a month ago, (I had to reschedule Gerald's massage appointment because my brother died in a car accident.) she told me how sorry she was to hear about my brother and that she was praying for us. That was very comforting and I really appreciated her kind, thoughtful words.

One special memory is when Gerald grew a beard and wasn't going to shave it off until Rita was back home after one of her hospital and nursing home stays.

It is apparent how much Gerald loved her by the way he always spoke about her and his family. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Trust God and He will see you through. "And be sure of this, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20)

Dianne Hefflinger

Dianne Hefflinger - November 09, 2017 at 08:38 AM

SW

Thank you for your kind words Dianne. Prayers to your family too!

suzy wischmeyer - November 10, 2017 at 10:39 PM

AT

Thank you Diane!

Anne Taylor - November 12, 2017 at 10:57 AM



“ *Sandra Clark lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Sandra Clark - November 09, 2017 at 07:37 AM

DE

“ *Dorothy Engelhaupt lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Dorothy Engelhaupt - November 08, 2017 at 11:34 PM



“ *Carol Meeks lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Carol Meeks - November 08, 2017 at 11:05 PM

EF

“ *Eileen Klausung Family lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Eileen Klausung family - November 08, 2017 at 10:37 PM

EK

“ *My dear sister Rita, I still remember the day that you were born at home in the farmhouse at Miller City. I was 6 yrs old and you were the joy of my life then. I love you and miss you.*
Eileen



Eileen Klausing - November 08, 2017 at 10:29 PM

AT

Love you Aunt Eileen

Anne Taylor - November 09, 2017 at 07:57 PM

SM

“ *Sharon Meyer lit a candle in memory of Rita Franz*



Sharon Meyer - November 08, 2017 at 09:43 PM

VG

“ *My heart is sad after reading Rita's obit. We shared many memories, irritations, laughs over 16 years. Her heart was always in the right place and wanted nothing but the best for Henry County. What joy she must have felt when she entered the gates of Heaven. Love to each of you - Rita was one of a kind! And she was a dear friend*❤️
Vicki Glick

Vicki Glick - November 08, 2017 at 08:46 PM

AT

Thank you so much Vicki! She sure loved working with you girls and you were all very special to her.

Anne Taylor - November 09, 2017 at 07:57 PM

AT

Mom enjoyed working with you girls and you were all special to her!

Anne Taylor - November 09, 2017 at 08:00 PM

JC

“ *So very sorry Anne that you have lost your Mother. Prayers for your family.*

Judi Cotter - November 08, 2017 at 08:38 PM

AT

Thank you

Anne Taylor - November 09, 2017 at 07:58 PM

BF

“ *Rita was a loving soul. She welcomed Fletcher and I into her family with open arms. She is pain free in the loving arms of Jesus, now. She will be remembered as a true blessing in my life and the lives of so many others. Our love to Nick and Gerald and prayers to Anne, Suzy, Renee and their husbands and children. Beckie and Fletcher*

Beckie Franz - November 08, 2017 at 08:35 PM

AT

Thank you Beckie and Fletcher!

Anne Taylor - November 09, 2017 at 07:58 PM