



Mrs. Claire V. Durkin

February 7, 1927 - October 5, 2016

CLAIRE V. DURKIN

Loving wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother

Claire V. Durkin, age 89, passed away on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 surrounded by her loving family after an eleven year battle with Alzheimer's. She was the wife of the late Brendan T. Durkin, who passed away on July 24, 2015, with whom she celebrated 65 years of marriage. She is survived by her children: Brendan Jr. (Mike) and MaryAnn Durkin, Kathy and Tim Woods, JoAnn and Rick Spencer, Dan and Stephanie Durkin, Dottie Durkin, Kevin and Pam Durkin. She was also the mother of Patty Durkin who passed on April 1, 2011.

She is also survived by her sister, Kay McCabe, sister-in-law Mary Neylon and a dear cousin Rita Kirwin.

"Nana" will be sadly missed by her fifteen grandchildren, with whom she shared a special love and relationship: Mick (Christine), Joe (Meghan) and Brian (Julie) Durkin.; Erin (Woods) and Jim Quealy, Tim and Stacey Woods, Patrick and Kristin Woods; Lauren and Alyson Spencer; Steve, Matthew and Jenna Durkin; Lily Durkin; and Zachary, Olivia and Athena Durkin.

Nana was blessed to love and be loved by her great grandchildren: Kyle,

Sydney and Leah Durkin; Brendan, Caoilinn and Chelsey Quealy; Cameron, Benjamin and Drew Durkin; Tyler and Jack Durkin; Cole and Chloe Woods. Claire was the youngest of five children born to Thomas and Catherine (McCarthy) Neylon following their immigration from County Clare, Ireland. She was pre-deceased by her sisters Mary Gorman and Alice Phelps and brother Tom Neylon and by her brothers-in law John Gorman, Edward Phelps and Patrick McCabe.

Claire was also predeceased by her in-laws: Edward Durkin, Dorothy Durkin, James and Frances Durkin, John and Mary Durkin, Paul and Connie Durkin, Harold and Frances Durkin, Walter and Roseanne Durkin and Gerald and Phyllis Durkin.

Claire was a graduate of the Sacred Heart School and Lowell High School, Class of 1944. Following his return from World War II, she married Brendan, her high school sweetheart, and they began their life together. Brendan and Claire raised their seven children in the Sacred Heart Parish. A devout Catholic, Claire was a homemaker whose life centered on her husband and family. She was a woman of honor, courage and conviction. After her children had grown, she became a paraprofessional at the Murkland School in Lowell, devoting her time and energy to Pre-K and Kindergarten students. She was loyal to her friends and generous with her time and talents to help anyone in need. Claire was a woman of simple tastes. She loved the beach and being involved in the activities of her kids, grandchildren and great grandchildren and the time which she and Brendan shared with Buster and Sissy Meehan and Dot and Jim Kelleher and their many friends. Claire shared a deep pride of her Irish Heritage with Brendan.

Together, Brendan and Claire were tremendous role models for their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren to emulate as they serve their Family, Church and Community and faced challenges in their life together.

The Family takes solace in the fact they are together again.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation so that someday, the ravaging effects of Alzheimer's

Cemetery Details

St. Patrick's Cemetery

1251 Gorham Street
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 458-8464
<http://www.stpatrickcemetery.com/>

Previous Events

Calling Hours

OCT **10**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Fay McCabe Funeral Home
105 Moore Street
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 459-9222
sean@faymccabe.com
<https://www.faymccabe.com>

Funeral Mass

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

St. Margaret's Church
374 Stevens St.
Lowell, MA 01851

Burial

OCT 11. 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Patrick's Cemetery
1251 Gorham Street
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 458-8464
<http://www.stpatrickcemetery.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Claire V. Durkin*

January 28, 2023 at 03:09 PM



“ *Mike & Mary Ann - So sorry for your loss. My thoughts & prayers are with you and your family. Know that your mom is at peace now.*

Jeanne Soares - York Beach

Jeanne Soares - York Bch ME - October 10, 2016 at 05:35 PM



“ *I am sorry for your loss. You showed great love and care of your Mom and Dad. They certainly have found peace being together again. Mary Phelps*

Mary Phelps - October 09, 2016 at 10:28 PM



“ *I have worked with Claire. She was such a great co-worker. I've worked with her daughter, Kathy, at Greenhalge. I've prayed with her two brothers in law, John and James. What a tremendous, holy family. Claire was an un-declared Sainte. I pray for her intention and for the intentions of Claire's family. Sincerely and with love, Midge Landry*

Midge Landry - October 09, 2016 at 02:04 PM

MM

“ I'm not sure that any of the Meehans have a London Street or Seabrook Beach memory that doesn't involve one of the Durkins. Claire was busy with seven children but never too busy for just one more. Whether it was at the dinner table, a sleepover or a vacation, one more child was always welcome! I'm so proud to say that I was an extended part of this family.

Sincere sympathy to Mike, Kathy, JoAn, Danny, Kevin and Dottie. Finally, your Mom is at peace. You took such good care of her. She has to be so proud of all of you!

Love,
Maureen

Maureen Meehan - October 07, 2016 at 11:56 AM



“ To all the Durkin family, you are in my prayers as you mourn the passing of your beloved mother, Claire. It has been a long struggle for her and for each of you, who cared for her so lovingly. May God be with you in these days, and I assure you of my loving prayers for you and for Claire.

Father John Hanley, OMI

John Hanley - October 06, 2016 at 06:22 PM