



## Helen Redmond

May 9, 1928 - April 4, 2020

Helen Ann Walsh was born in Geneva, New York, the fourth of five children of Helen Margaret (Guinan) and Richard James Walsh. A child of the Great Depression, Helen learned at an early age to care for others as she watched her mother feed the 'hobos' at the cellar door. She graduated from De Sales High School in Geneva before attending Mercyhurst College in Erie, Pennsylvania. There she majored in Home Economics, driving the nuns crazy with her practical jokes, missed curfews, and other egregious behavior. After graduating in 1950, she accepted a job teaching at Philadelphia High School in Philadelphia, New York. There she met her eventual husband, Brian P. Redmond, with whom she had seven 'perfect' children.

After stops in Elyria, Ohio, Stonybrook, New York, and Shelton, Connecticut, Helen settled in Charlotte, North Carolina in 1970, raising her seven children on her own at their home in Mountainbrook. She taught Kindergarten at St Gabriel's School and worked in the church office, managing to keep her family together and well-fed, joking that she peeled potatoes every night. A master seamstress and tailor, she taught sewing lessons, created clothes for her children and worked on projects through her final days, all on her 1950s era Singer.

Helen retired to her home on Silo Lane in 2002 where she served on the Board of the Foxcroft East Homeowners Association. She remained an active member of St Gabriel's Church for 50 years, living a life of service as a member of the Altar Society, and a volunteer with the 'Church Mice,' Refugee Ministry, Men's Homeless Shelter, and Hampton Crest home for Abused Women and Children.

Helen leaves a legacy of 7 children, Kathy (Bob), Brian (Becca), Eileen (Tracy), Colleen (John), Patty (Ted), John (Karen) and Jim (Sue), 20 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews, in-laws and out-laws. She was blessed to have had many wonderful friends (the Dirty Dozen!!) to share her long life filled with struggle, laughter, sadness, and joy. She will be remembered for her perseverance through challenging times, her wisdom, her great sense of humor, and her ability to connect individually with her many loved ones.

The family is grateful to the doctors and staff at Levine Cancer Center and Charlotte Hospice for their compassionate care. Norma Waller (angels walk among us!) assisted by

Trish Quinlavin made it possible for Helen's children to honor her wish to remain at home. Final Arrangements are being handled by Heritage Funeral Homes in Weddington. Helen will be laid to rest among friends and family at Forest Lawn East cemetery following a small graveside family service. A memorial mass and celebration will be held later this summer, filled with music and dancing as she requested. In lieu of flowers, Helen suggested memorial contributions to Holy Angels Nursery, Belmont, NC or St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

"May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, may the sun shine warm upon your face, and rain fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand."

# Events

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**APR** **Graveside Service** 11:00AM

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Forest Lawn East Cemetery

3700 Forest Lawn Drive, Matthews, NC, US, 28104

# Comments

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“ I meet Mrs. Redmond when her and her family moved to Mountainbrook, in Charlotte. Brian and I are the same age and became instant friends. I remember all the time spending at there house, playing in the back yard, eating dinners, going on a camping trip to the beach, etc. I have always thought of Mrs. Redmond as a wonderful, talented person, and a great fun person to be around. In reading her obituary about her "missed curfews and other egregious" . I hope Brian and I lived up to her standards. I sure she will be missed by many people.

Tripp Rives

Tripp Rives - April 12 at 02:43 PM



“ Great to hear from the old Mountainbrook neighbors! Thanks so much for posting. - Jim R

Jim Redmond - April 17 at 07:29 PM



“ We'd like to send our condolences to the Redmond family. We went to St. Gabriels' and Charlotte Catholic together. Were in school with many of you. Joe and I still have our mothers and know what a blessing that is.How blessed you all were to have your mom for such a long time. Take care and blessings to you all, Laura Strom Mounie , Joe Mounie, Eric Strom, Chris Strom, Julie Strom Flowe

Laura Mounie - April 08 at 09:26 AM



“ Lots of great memories for us all with the crazy kids at St Gabe's and Catholic.Thank you so much for posting. - Jim R.

Jim Redmond - April 17 at 07:32 PM



“ To know Helen Redmond was to love her! She had the love of God in her heart and shared it with all she encountered! She had the gift of joy and determination to make life better for all! She will never leave those who were blessed to know her as she planted love into our hearts! She has graduated into the presence of our Lord. God has welcomed her home!

Bev Rotert

Beverley Rotert - April 07 at 10:33 AM

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“Helen was a kind and loving person. She was my oldest son’s kindergarten teacher at St. Gabriel School — for two years. I remember that, when bringing our youngest son home from the hospital, we stopped at school to pick up David. She let the whole class come out to the parking lot to see the new baby for show and tell. I’m so glad she lived a long, happy life. Rest In Peace, Helen.

Joan Passine

Joan Passine - April 07 at 08:23 AM

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“Helen was loved by all the friends of her kids. She always had a smile on her face and a kind word for visitors. A fantastic Mom and Grandmom. And a wonderful life lived.

Kevin Sullivan - April 06 at 05:35 PM



“Thanks for the nice note Kevin. Looking back on it we were all blest with loving parents. Hopefully we learned something from them. Best wishes - Jim r.

Jim Redmond - April 17 at 07:35 PM

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“She was a wonderful lady who was always a joy to work with at HOM. She was so kind, humorous and happy. Loved hearing about her family and her life. I hope to have the same energy and spirit as she shared with us every time we were together. Love to all her family.

Lori Heinz - April 05 at 04:37 PM



“Thanks to you all her church friends Her volunteer work at the church was a great sense of pride and she loved working with the 'younger kids.' Please carry on your good work - she's watching! - Jim R.

Jim Redmond - April 17 at 07:37 PM

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“What a blessing Helen was! She was such an example to all who participated in the HOM ministry! We feel sure Jesus was waiting for her with open arms. Rest in peace Helen!  
The Francisco's

Gene Francisco - April 05 at 10:59 AM

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“ I loved it when Helen was able to volunteer with our HOM ministry set up days. All the volunteers wanted her on their team because she was so sweet, of course, but she was also a great worker. And I know every time I was with her she always had words of wisdom that I treasure. She always had a calm, loving demeanor that I hope rubbed off on me a little. I will miss her sweet smile and her hugs! ~Lisa Hedrick~

Lisa Hedrick - April 05 at 09:54 AM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Helen Redmond.



April 05 at 09:54 AM