



Miss Helen M. Donega

October 28, 1932 - October 9, 2021

Helen Margaret Donega, 88, of North Adams, died Saturday morning, October 9, 2021, at North Adams Commons. She was born in North Adams on October 28, 1932, daughter of the late John and Teresa (Modena) Donega. She attended North Adams schools and graduated from Drury High School with the Class of 1950. She then received her Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from the University of Massachusetts. Helen worked as a chemist & supervisor for many years at the former Sprague Electric Co. in North Adams. She left her position to start Burgess Analytical Laboratories where she was Director of Analytical Services for over 30 years. Helen was also an instructor in the Chemistry Dept. at Williams College for many years. She last worked as a receptionist for the North Adams Council on Aging. She was a communicant of the former St. Anthony of Padua Church, North Adams. She enjoyed golfing, bowling, and taking photographs at the beaches of Maine. She was an accomplished painter and specialized in painting scenes from the many lighthouses in Maine. She also enjoyed the time she spent with her friends and working for the Council on Aging at the Mary Spitzer Senior Center in North Adams. She is survived by her brother, Carl A. Donega and his wife, Marcia, of Adams; her nieces Karen Nunez, Stephanie Kawa, Elizabeth Holbrook and Sherri Centra; her sister-in-law, Sharyn Donega of Winston-Salem, NC; and several grandnieces and grandnephews. She was predeceased by a brother, John P. Donega, in 2016. The funeral will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16th, at 9:30 AM from the PACIOREK FUNERAL HOME, 13

Hoosac St. Adams, followed by a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10:30 AM in Notre Dame des Sept Douleurs Church, Adams. Burial will follow in Southview Cemetery, North Adams. Calling hours are Friday from 4 to 6 PM at the funeral home. It is requested that face coverings be worn for all services. Memorial donations may be made to the Friends of the North Adams Senior Center, 116 Ashland St. North Adams, MA 01247. To leave a message of condolence, or for directions, please go online to www.paciorekfuneral.com

Cemetery Details

Southview Cemetery

Church Street
North Adams, MA 01247

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **15**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Paciorek Funeral Home
13 Hoosac Street
Adams, MA 01220
(413) 743-0815
jspaciorek@gmail.com
<https://www.paciorekfuneral.com/>

Liturgy of Christian Burial

OCT **16**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Notre Dame des Sept Douleurs Church
McKinley Square
Adams, MA 01220

Tribute Wall

RH

“ dear family and friends of helen,

i only met helen a couple of times through our mutual friend, gloria marony of north adams, who had known helen since their childhood. helen helped gloria many times with elder service assistance and advice. i first met helen when gloria and i went for help at the elder center and helen was very open and caring for gloria and i understand for everyone. helen would go to gloria's beauty shop each saturday for hairdressing and they enjoyed each other's company.

i called helen and gloria most sundays to see how they were doing and get news of north adams. i lewrned helen has a long and distinguished career as a scientist/chemist, business owner, and teacher. i had told helen i would bring her and gloria out for dinner on my nexdt visit, and now sadly i can't.

even though i didn't know helen for long or well, since she was a contemporary of gloria, who i have known for decades, it seems like i have known her all my life.

gloria does not have a computer or do online activities and so i am writing this from gloria as well - that we both miss helen and will keep her in our thoughts, prayers, and for me, my music - always.

here is a poem i wrote orignally for my parents, and now for our dearest friend, helen -

HOPI PRAYER FROM OUR ANCESTORS, FOR OUR ANCESTORS

words from the hopi people of southwest native america and royal hartigan 1999

for helen donega, a dear friend of gloria marony and royal hartigan

do not stand at my grave and weep, i am not there i do not sleep

*i am a thousand berkshire winter winds that blow, i am the diamond
glints on snow*

*i am the summer's sun on the ripened grain, i am the gentle
autumn's rain*

*i am new england harvest leaves of red and orange and gold, i am
the life force of all beings, great and small, fleeting and eternal,
young and old*

*i am greylock mountain meadows of brown and tan and green, i am
the inner secret shadow spirits of all things, visible and unseen*

*i am the dawning dew in may's blooming mist, i am the heartbeat of
your dreams kissed*

*i am the sounds of music, dance, and song, from up on high, i am
the clouds in an endless sky*

*when you awaken in the morning's quiet hush, i am the swift
uplifting rush of birds in circled flight*

i am the soft stars that shine on a moonlit north adams night

so do not stand at my grave and cry, i am not there, i did not die

*and as before, helen, wherever you go we are with you near or far,
and wherever we walk on the paths of this long cold night of life
without you, you are right here with us, inside our hearts*

a mirror for each other's souls through time and space we are one,

*and someday yet again we will be whole as we awaken together in
the evening's midnight sun*

as we awaken together in the evening's midnight sun

and we'll dance with spirits deep, sing the whole way through,

*we'll laugh at life's old ills, and to each other be true, as we awaken
together in the evening's midnight sun*

in the evening's midnight sun

we are one

we are one

we are one

all one all

one all

beyond forever

with you in our hearts, helen

always

royal hartigan - October 20, 2021 at 03:51 PM

CL

“ I only met Helen a couple of times when I visited the Spitzer Center but my mom worked with her for years and I was saddened to hear of her passing. She really made an impression on me. Sympathies to Helen's family. I will keep her in my prayers.

Cheryl Lescarbeau

Cheryl Lescarbeau - October 14, 2021 at 01:11 PM