



## Constance "Connie" Kathryn Staudt McNeilus

August 26, 1943 - January 30, 2026

Constance "Connie" Kathryn Staudt McNeilus, age 82 of Mattoon, IL was greeted with open arms by her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, January 30, 2026, while surrounded by her daughters.

A funeral Mass will take place at 10:00 AM, Friday, February 6, 2026, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 320 N. 21st Street, Mattoon, IL 61938. A visitation will be held Thursday, February 5, 2026, from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM at Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, located at 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL. A vigil Rosary service will be performed prior to the visitation at 3:30 PM at the funeral home. A committal service will be held at a later date in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Roseville, Iowa.

Connie was born August 26, 1943, to the late Mark Nicholas and Kathryn Louise (Heinz) Staudt in Floyd County, IA. Connie is survived by her daughters, Jackie Fiser and husband Steve of La Grange, KY, Annette Smith of Mattoon, IL, and Patti Riedemann and husband Brad of Mattoon, IL; her grandchildren include Nick Fiser and wife Claire, of Jacksonville Beach, FL, Katie Russell and husband Eric of Nashville, TN, Lindsay Smith of Mattoon, IL, Molly Gerdes and husband Max of La Grange, KY, Garrett Smith and wife Tara of Charleston, IL, Jordan Smith and wife Lori of Mattoon, IL, Bailey Riedemann of Temple, TX, Macy Riedemann of Ames, IA, Olivia Riedemann of Mattoon, IL; great-grandchildren include Aaron, Hadley, Eleanor, Finnley,

Remy, Rosie, Culpy, and Penny; brothers, Larry Staudt and wife Judy of Greene, IA, and Kenny Staudt and wife Teresa of Marble Rock, IA; several nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews. Connie is also survived by four grandpuppies, a grandkitty, and a grandbunny, all of whom brought her so much joy.

She grew up on a beautiful family farm with her parents, brothers, grandparents, and her Uncle Lawrence. Her family attended church, and Connie and her brothers attended school, both at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Roseville, Iowa. She graduated in 1961 from Rockford High School. After graduating, Connie went to the big city of Des Moines to attend business school. She married Larry McNeilus in 1963. They made their home in Charles City, IA. They welcomed three very loved daughters into the world, Jackie, Annette, and Patti. In 1983, the family moved to Mattoon, IL. In 1987, Connie began working at Wal-Mart. Here she made so, so many friends. Customers and coworkers alike all loved Connie and warmly recognized her as "the fabric lady." She retired from Walmart in 2018. Around this same time, Connie moved next door to her youngest daughter and her family, giving them the most precious memories of planting flowers, weeding, cooking, baking, sewing, swinging, sliding, eating, celebrating, and completing puzzles together.

Connie will be lovingly remembered as a devout Catholic who gave so much of herself in many ways over the years to her church. She was an incredible homemaker, a cross-stitcher extraordinaire, a detailed seamstress, lover of all animals, the best cook, the very, very best baker this side of heaven, and lover of all things chocolate. Most of all, she will be remembered and missed because of her warmth, her unwavering support of her friends and loved ones, her faith, her sense of humor, and because she was the most fabulous momma and grandma her girls could ever ask for.

The family wants to thank Copper Creek Cottages for the exemplary care, dignity, compassion, and professionalism Connie has received over the last few years, and thank Transitions Hospice for the grace, care, and love that she received in her final months. The outpouring of love from the staff was so kind, and lasting friendships have been made because of the relationships built.

# Cemetery Details

## Dodge Grove Cemetery

917 North 22nd Street  
Mattoon, IL 61938

# Previous Events

## Rosary

FEB 5. 3:30 PM (CT)

Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home Ltd.  
1200 Wabash Ave  
Mattoon, IL 61938  
(217) 234-8828  
contact@mitchelljerdan.com  
<https://www.mitchell-jerdan.com/>

## Visitation

FEB 5. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home Ltd.  
1200 Wabash Ave  
Mattoon, IL 61938  
(217) 234-8828  
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## Service

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FEB 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
320 N 21st St  
Mattoon, IL 61938-2731  
(217) 235-0539

# Tribute Wall

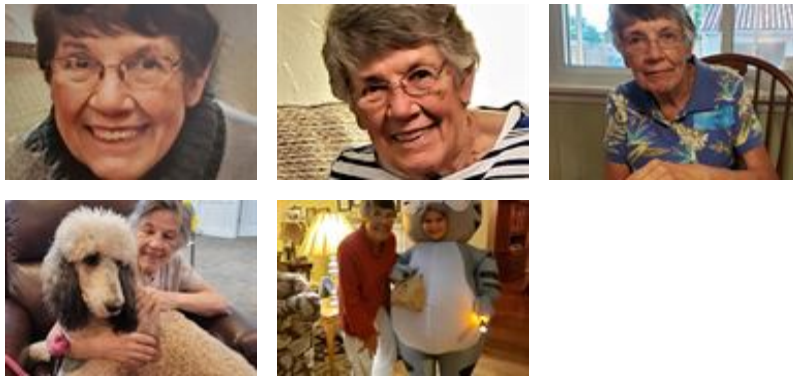
SS

“ Jackie. Annette and Patti, I just heard of your loss. Please know of my sympathy and prayers. Though I was a little older, your mom and I were both "only girls" in our neighboring farm families. We especially shared a lot of 4-H activities. So many memories of a special young friend. Though miles apart, we did share correspondence over the years until recently.

Sr. Marjorie Staudt - February 09 at 02:09 PM



“ 277 files added to the album Life Tributes



Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home - February 05 at 01:37 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Constance "Connie" Kathryn Staudt McNeilus.



February 05 at 09:35 AM

CC

“ I worked with Connie at Walmart. She was one of the nicest, funniest people I've known. My thoughts and prayers to her family.

Cathy Carr - February 03 at 03:24 PM

PW

“ Jackie & family: we send our sincere condolence of the loss of your wonderful mother. May her heritage & legacy live on in you. Patrice Hebert & family.

Patrice Wichmann - February 03 at 09:36 AM

TF

“ Jackie, Annette and Patti, Sally and I loved your mom dearly and so sorry for your loss. Great memories taking Patti out on the boat. When we would come back to Illinois for Christmas, we always went to visit your mom. She will be missed by all.

Tim Fedrigan

Tim Fedrigan - February 03 at 08:45 AM

NM

“ To: Patti, Brad. And Olivia....what can one say .....Connie was absolutely a fun and wonderful NEIGHBOR! How lucky I was to be next door to her and Patti for so many years and ohhhhh so many memories! I can picture all those memories in Western Avenue Heights and never forget them. Plus her always helping me at Walmart with my sewing questions and never lost patience with me. And our MANY years of Bunco together. I shall miss you my dear friend and peace be with you 🙏🙏🙏🙏❤️

Nancy Kull McGow - February 02 at 10:06 PM

AV

“ Dear Jackie Annette Patty and families, remember your mom helping me with sewing projects for 4-H and how kind and patient she was. She also made the best chocolate chip cookies! Prayers and sympathy to you all. 💕

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**Anne Marie Vaughan** - February 02 at 09:59 PM

LW

“ My condolences to her family and friends. I recognized her picture and knew she was the sweet lady that always worked in the fabric department. She cut a lot of fabric for me over the years. Praying for God to strengthen and comfort you during this difficult time.

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**Lisa Walk** - February 02 at 08:01 PM

DM

“ So very sorry Patti!! You were so blessed to have her as your mother as she was so blessed for the wonderful care you gave her! You know that she is at peace!

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**Debbie Marheny** - February 02 at 07:56 PM

CH

“ Condolences to her family. Connie was a dear friend and will be missed. Sail on my beautiful friend you are free of your earthly woes.

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**Carolyn Handsby** - February 02 at 07:46 PM

MB

“ I am so sorry to hear of Connie's passing. She was an exceptional lady and a joy to play Bunco with. Marcia Baker

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**Marcia Baker** - February 02 at 07:01 PM

LW

“ My forever friend who I met many years ago working together at Walmart. Connie you'll never be forgotten. The talks we had about the farms, telling me you were going home to Iowa, asking how Mark my husband was getting along with farming. She loved others with the biggest heart. Connie loved my family and me and to this I'm ever thankful for friends. Prayers to all her family as they feel such a loss. 🙏❤️



Lisa Warner - February 02 at 06:45 PM

TK

“ Patti  
I'm so sorry for your loss my thoughts are with you and your family



Tish Zigler Kirk - February 02 at 06:44 PM

JW

Our sincere sympathy in your loss. David always talked about their family visit. Katherine taught David's mom the baking and cleaning to a tee. Connie will be, I know remembered for her expertise. I know you all will cherish and carry on what you were taught. Prayers and hugs!  
David and Janice willert

Janice willert. - February 03 at 09:47 PM

RS

“ We are sorry for the families loss! I remember her fondly helping me when I would pick up material or crafts in the sewing dept at Walmart. She was a treasure for sure to all that she helped!  
Debbie & Rick Seaman

Rick & Debbie Seaman - February 02 at 06:19 PM