



## Irene Hinman

April 8, 1918 - September 13, 2020

We will be live streaming Irene's funeral service Friday, September 18th at 11 a.m. on our Facebook page. When you click this link, it will take you to our Facebook page. You might need to scroll down at 11 a.m. until you see the title Irene Hinman Funeral Mass. [KBFFH Facebook]<https://www.facebook.com/Kevin-Brennan-Family-Funeral-Home-116876148342762/>

Irene G. Hinman, 102, Topeka, Kansas passed away at her home on Sunday, September 13, 2020, during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Irene was born at home on April 8, 1918, in Junction City, Kansas during the Spanish flu pandemic to Arthur and Christine Artzer Wright. Irene graduated in 1936 from Topeka High School. She was employed as a bookkeeper for Gregg Tires, McCormick Rug, and Topeka Battery & Tire companies. She also was employed by Crosby Brothers Department Store where she managed the fine china, crystal and silverware department.

On December 27, 1941, Irene and Nelson Frank Hinman were united in marriage. They owned and managed Harrison Hall Apartments. For 40 years they cared for not only the building but also for the people who lived there. Mr. Hinman died on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1986.

Irene's faith was her foundation. She was a member of Mater Dei Parish where she stuffed weekly bulletins, helped with Sunday coffee, worked the Fall Bazaar and was a member of the "Holy Rollers" who rolled silverware for the dinners. Irene was presented the Mater Dei Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012 in recognition and appreciation of her lifelong commitment to the Mater Dei Parish and School. In honor of her 100th birthday, students at Mater Dei School presented her with a prayer blanket they had made for her. She was given a certificate for volunteering for over 20 years at Let's Help. Irene also volunteered for Meals on Wheels and the election board. Helping others always made her feel good.

Family gatherings were noisy, crowded and fun. Irene would fix a big meal with lots of meat, mashed potatoes and pie. The kids ate first shift. The second shift of adults lingered longer but were just as noisy. There were always laughs and a few drinks when the Piersons, Heidenreichs, Lashes and Hinmans gathered.

Irene was a hard worker. She did the accounts at the kitchen table, scrubbed the floor on her hands and knees because a mop did not do a good enough job, peeled lots of apples for her famous pie, and made clothes for our dolls. She loved dolls, dishes and her home, but she especially loved watching her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Although Irene never learned to drive, she walked a lot at a fast pace, took the bus and in later years had multiple friends who escorted her to activities.

Irene was known for her faith, strength and especially her caring – caring for her younger sister, her niece, her disabled father, her children, her husband who became ill, her grandchildren and her many friends. Irene was dearly loved and will be greatly missed. God has a special place for such a beautiful, giving woman.

Grateful to have shared her life are her children, Mary Agnes LeGresley, Carolin Irene Moore (James), Nelson Frank Hinman, Jr. (Kathy); grandchildren, Patrick LeGresley (Jenny), Sarah Rush (Wade), Matthew LeGresley (Marianne), Lynette Phillips (Jonathan), Branden Moore (Susan), Kathleen Higgs (Tyler), John Hinman (Anna), Mark Hinman; eight great-grandchildren; and a host of dear friends.

Irene was also preceded in death by her sisters, Doris Pierson and Helen Heidenreich Gentry.

Mass of Christian Burial will be private. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery. Click on the link at the top of the obituary to view the livestreamed Mass on the funeral home Facebook page.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Mater Dei Parish, sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2901 SW Urish Road, Topeka, KS 66614.

# Cemetery

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## **Mount Calvary Cemetery**

801 SW Westchester Rd

Topeka, KS, 66606

# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - September 16, 2020 at 05:40 PM

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“ My sincere sympathy to the family Irene was very special person she would always help me when we had funeral dinners I would pick her up and take her home but if she was tired someone else would take her home. She is a special angel in heaven my prayers are with you I will have a special mass for her tomorrow at the Cordi Marian chapel in San Antonio .

**rachel negrete** - September 19, 2020 at 07:48 PM

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“ Irene was one of the most loving and caring people I have known. My Moms (Doris) 2 sisters Helen and Irene were both the greatest Aunts a person could be blessed with in this life. Jesus says the greatest commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself and Irene loved and treated everyone with this attitude, what a testimony to her. Growing up with the Hinman family was always a good time on Harrison Street, all the dinners in the kitchen , sleeping on the couch in the living room , playing in the attic or Nels playing some joke on somebody. Feeling so welcome in Irene's house is a memory that fills me with warmth every time I think of her. I am so sad to lose my last Aunt but I have to be so happy she is in paradise with Rex, Doris, Helen , George , Regina and Joe. God bless Irene and all the family.. Steve Pierson

**Steve Pierson** - September 18, 2020 at 11:17 AM

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“ Every time I think of Irene I feel my heart lift, although right now it feels very heavy. Every memory I have of her begins with the feeling of being loved. Her deep kindness and warmth just wrapped me up, ever since I was a little child I felt such love in her presence. I think of her every time I drive past Lindenwood. Similarly, whenever I drive by Fillmore Street I think of Irene, Doris and Helen as young women, living out the stories and memories they shared with me as I was growing up. I have one particularly sweet memory of Irene, sitting with my grandparents and my father at our kitchen table on Berryton Road. Early 2000's. Irene patted my dad's hand and said, "Mike, I don't care how old you get, to me, you're always going to be their baby!!!" and everybody loved that. I miss her already.  
-Rachel Pierson (granddaughter of Doris, Irene's younger sister)

**Rachel Pierson** - September 17, 2020 at 06:04 PM

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“ She was one of my volunteers 20 years ago at Let's Help. Sweetest disposition, lovely person. She earned her "wings" a long time ago. Rest in Peace Irene.  
-Kathy Votaw

**Kathy Votaw** - September 17, 2020 at 05:17 PM

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“ The Archdiocesan newspaper, the Leaven, featured an article about Irene in 2012 when she was only 94 years old. Click on this link to see the article.

<http://theleaven.org/topekan-traded-retirement-in-on-a-chance-to-help-others/>

**Irene's Family** - September 17, 2020 at 05:07 PM

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“ Tears all thru the beautiful slide show w/her favorite- colored roses. Such a wonderful, kind, caring, loving, faith-filled, witty and funny, smart, fun-loving, inspiration to us all. She was the best! She made me laugh the last time we talked on the phone. Bob and I both thought the world of her, I'll never forget her kindness and understanding in the months following Bob's death. We sat w/her at Mass and Bob and I always held hands during the homily. The first time I went to Mass after his death, she reached over and took my hand at the beginning of the homily. We held hands at each homily after that. She was loved by so many and she loved everyone. She will be very, very missed. Rest In Peace, dear friend. Janet

**Janet Straub** - September 17, 2020 at 03:35 PM

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“ My husband and I will miss this sweet woman. She was a perfect example of how a kind and caring person should be. God bless Irene.

**Peggy and Kulian Oliva** - September 18, 2020 at 07:52 AM

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“ Irene was a great lady and friend. She will be missed. Mary Beth and Larry

**Mary Beth** - September 17, 2020 at 03:11 PM

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“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Irene Hinman.



September 17, 2020 at 03:07 PM

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“ Sorry for you loss. I used to work at the A&P grocery store next door to Harrison Hall. Good lady, RIP.  
Steve Kooser

**Steve Kooser** - September 17, 2020 at 01:59 PM

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“ Mary Agnes, Carolyn and Nelson, I am so sorry for the loss of your mother. We lived next door to the south of Harrison Hall when I was 4-5 and I remember playing in the yard with you. We moved after that so didn't see you anymore. Your mother certainly lived a good long life. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

**Cheryl Herman** - September 17, 2020 at 12:37 AM

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“ Irene was such a loving, caring person and was so much fun. My prayers go out to her whole family. Marilyn gilmore

**Marilyn Gilmore** - September 16, 2020 at 06:53 PM