



## Audrey Ann Rupert

November 12, 1929 - November 3, 2016

Audrey Ann (Heptig) Rupert was born on November 12, 1929. She left this world peacefully on November 3, 2016, at 86 years young.

Audrey was the second of five children born to Anthony and Alvira (Noll) Heptig who lived in the farming community of Flush, Kansas. The family later moved to Sabetha, Kansas where Audrey graduated from Sabetha High School in 1948. She moved to Topeka and worked briefly for the State of Kansas. Audrey met and fell in love with US Army veteran, James McKay Rupert, who was attending Washburn University on the GI Bill. They married on September 7, 1949 and enjoyed a long and happy life together in Topeka, celebrating 57 years of marriage. As children headed for college, Audrey returned to work for Kansas Venture Capital and enjoyed a 20 year career as bookkeeper until her retirement in 1991.

Audrey was an active member of Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. She and James explored much of the country in retirement, regularly attending military and sibling reunions. Audrey often shared her gift of laughter, was a wonderful friend, a good cook, and an ardent fan of sports, especially Jayhawk basketball. She enjoyed a challenging game of bridge and had a flair for fashion and home decorating. After suffering strokes in 2012, she moved to Assisted Living at Shawnee Heartland in Shawnee, Kansas where she made many new friends and enjoyed frequent visits from

daughters, Laurie and Patricia.

She is survived by four children: Gregory Rupert of Seattle WA, Terri Rupert of Denver CO, Laurie Rupert and Craig VanSlyke of Leawood KS, and Patricia and Gene Eckenberg of Shawnee KS. Other survivors include her grandchildren, Aaron and Julia Toombs, Emily and Jack McCloud, Nicholas and Ashley Toombs, Dylan Rupert, Nathan Eckenberg, and six great-grandchildren; her beloved aunt, Anna Noll of Manhattan KS; and many nieces and nephews.

A parish prayer service will be at 5 p.m. Wednesday at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614, where family will then greet friends until 7:30 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday at Most Pure Heart of Mary Church. Burial will follow at Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Memorial gifts are suggested to Let's Help of Topeka ([www.letshelpinc.org](http://www.letshelpinc.org)), Kansas City Hospice and Palliative Care ([www.kchospice.org](http://www.kchospice.org)), or Most Pure Heart of Mary Church, sent in care of the funeral home.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Hope Cemetery

4700 SW 17th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

# Previous Events

## Prayer Service

NOV 9. 5:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
[info@kevinbrennanfamily.com](mailto:info@kevinbrennanfamily.com)

## Visitation

NOV 9. 5:20 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
[info@kevinbrennanfamily.com](mailto:info@kevinbrennanfamily.com)

## Mass of Christian Burial

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NOV **10**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church  
3601 SW 17th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Audrey Ann Rupert*



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**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - November 09, 2016 at 12:09 PM



“ *Audrey Ann Rupert*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Dear Laurie and Family,*

*I was so saddened to hear about the passing of your Mother. I cherish the memories of all the times we spent together at your house and how gracious and welcoming your Mom always was to me. She had a warm and gentle spirit and I will remember her with great fondness. I will be keeping you all very much in my thoughts and prayers. I hope all of the wonderful memories and the love of your family and friends will help sustain you through this difficult time.*

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**Anne Montague Wegner** - November 14, 2016 at 11:36 AM

JB

“ Dear Rupert family,

*My mom, Shirley Blansit, and I are deeply saddened by the passing of your mother. Her friendly greetings and warm smile always lifed our spirits. Laurie, we will also miss the sunshine, positivity and care you brought to the Shawnee Heartland dining room on so many occasions. You are a blessing not only to your own family, but also to the extended Shawnee Heartland family.*

*May beautiful memories and God's promise of eternal life comfort and keep you all.*

*Janice Blansit*

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**Janice Blansit** - November 11, 2016 at 08:00 AM

LM

“ To the Rupert family,

*What a beautiful day it was today, as we celebrated the life of your Mother. Most of my childhood memories were made with Patty right by my side. I spent countless hours at your house and Audrey spent plenty of time shuttling us between scouts, or school, etc. She survived sleep overs, Girl Scout campouts, giggly girls and my picky eating habits. I enjoyed spending time at the house because it seemed to always have plenty of laughter and love. I see traits of both of your parents in all of you and I know they have always been so proud of each of you. Their legacy lives on.....*

*Peace and comfort to all. Thanks for sharing your awesome Mom with us!*

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**Linda Swalwell Martin** - November 10, 2016 at 05:06 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Audrey Ann Rupert.*



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November 09, 2016 at 02:47 PM



“ *Dear Rupert Family,  
I can hear Audrey and my Mom, Barb Olmstead, laughing! Mom probably hustled Audrey to the bridge table soon after she entered the pearly gates ;) Audrey was a wonderful person--so full of fun. I loved it when she came on our Girls Scout camping trips. I hope all the warm memories your family created will be a comfort to you during this sad time. My sincere sympathy. Debbie Olmstead Brodhecker*

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**Debra Brodhecker** - November 08, 2016 at 06:37 AM



“ *Dear Laurie and family, when I think of your mother, I see her smiling/laughing. I doubt you remember Laurie, but when I moved to Topeka right before 2nd grade, you were my first friend. Your Mom saw that I was rather nervous about fitting in & had a little heart-to-heart with me about how to relax & quit worrying about school and things. She was a wonderful confidence booster, who talked me into joining Scouts; and I remember many wonderful times & meals at your house.  
You will all continue to be in my prayers as you adjust to the void she left behind. May warm and wonderful memories give you comfort as well as strength. Sharon McGuire*

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**Sharon McGuire** - November 07, 2016 at 06:38 PM

CC

“ Dear Terri, Laurie, Patty and Greg:  
I am so sorry to hear about the passing of your Mom. I have very fond memories of both her and your dad from childhood, high school, college and even visits back to Topeka after I moved away. She was funny, outspoken, a great cook and created a warm and welcoming space where Terri, I and our pals loved to hang out. Her sweetest legacy is your family's deep devotion to family and friends. I am glad that she, your Dad and my parents have plots so close to each other at Mt. Hope Cemetery--forever neighbors. Much love and many condolences, Cindy Caywood

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Cynthia Caywood - November 07, 2016 at 11:54 AM

SH

“ I was saddened to hear that you lost your mother. I lost mine four years ago and I know there are no words that really help in these early days...but knowing that people have wonderful memories of your loved one, somehow keeps her among you. I remember spending countless hours at your home and in the playhouse out back. Your family always seemed so happy and I am sure she was a large part of that. I have one sort of silly memory of your mother making us Campbell's bean with bacon soup for lunch. I had never had it and I told her I wasn't sure I would like it. She smiled and told me I would love it. I ate it with half a bologna and mustard sandwich and then went home and told my mother that we must get some bean with bacon soup like Mrs. Rupert makes! Your family's faith intrigued me as well. I converted to Catholicism when I was 17 and married into a Catholic family who also grew up in in Sabetha! She made a difference in my life and I know she was the center of yours. God bless and hold you each until your find the smiles she left behind for you. Susan Varner Haefele.



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Susan Varner Haefele - November 07, 2016 at 07:28 AM

SH

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Susan Varner Haefele - November 07, 2016 at 07:25 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Audrey Ann Rupert.



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November 06, 2016 at 02:42 PM

PH

“ Dear Family of Audrey, We were neighbors for more than 20 years. We loved her and your Dad. So happy they are together again. They were awesome neighbors and friends. We loved them so. So sorry we cannot make the service because of a doctor appointment. Fred and Pat Hollomon of Lawrence, Ks.

Patricia Hollomon - November 06, 2016 at 01:53 PM

SS

“ Dear Rupert family.....I have you all in my prayers. Your sweet mother was truly one of a kind....from carpooling, to camping with the Girl Scouts, to that beautiful laugh she freely shared. May the many memories bring you comfort. I know that your dad was waiting for her with open arms, twinkling eyes and a smile ear to ear. They will continue to watch over you all....proudly. Your loving care in the last years is a testament to the parenting you all received. May the emptiness you are feeling now be filled with a love that lasts forever... Prayers for all!

Susan Swalwell - November 06, 2016 at 11:30 AM



“ I am sending condolences on behalf of my father, Joseph Kronek, and myself. My father knew Audrey from Shawnee Heartland and was very saddened to hear about her death. I will miss her as well - always cheerful in the mornings and was special to talk with about many things. Linda and RJ Black



Linda Black - November 06, 2016 at 07:24 AM