



## Maxine D. Summers

March 24, 1931 - January 6, 2025

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“Do not pray for easy lives; pray to be stronger people. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers;

pray for powers equal to your tasks.”

“Have faith in God, shake off excessive worry, and thank God ahead of time!”

— Blessed Solanus Casey

Maxine was born on March 24, 1931, in Hays, Kansas to Paul and Catherine Schumacher. She was 93 years old when she passed away on January 6, 2025. Maxine grew up in Hays, and graduated from Marion High School in 1949. She went on to get her Bachelors Degree at Fort Hays State University, and her Master’s Degree in Nutrition & Dietetics from Oklahoma State University (OSU). She worked in food service at OSU and trained/oversaw new dieticians. From her career at OSU she formed lifelong friendships with several of the dietitians. It was at OSU that Maxine met Dow Summers Jr and they were married September 5, 1966.

Maxine was a loving wife and mother. She moved with her husband’s career over the years and touched many lives in several cities across New Mexico, Iowa and Kansas. She volunteered in the Catholic Church teaching CCD,

lectoring, and in many other areas. Maxine was highly involved with her children in Girl Scouts and Boy Scouting and athletic activities over the years. She was smart, determined and had a great work and life ethic.

Once Maxine had raised her children, she went back to work full time as a consulting dietician at small hospitals & nursing homes around southeastern Kansas. She enjoyed fishing, traveling, bowling, cross stitch, reading, drawing and in later years her religious coloring books. Maxine also followed very closely Fr. Solanus Casey out of Detroit, MI; she loved the book "Thank God Ahead of Time: The Life and Spirituality of Solanus Casey" and she believed that if you thank God ahead of time God will be there for you.

In the last year of Maxine's life, she was on in-home hospice, under the care of Midland Care Hospice, Topeka, KS. She always had a wink and a smile for the nurses and aides coming every week to check on her and help Nancy with her.

Everyone who met Maxine loved her and many would call her Mom. She touched many lives in her 34,257 days here on earth.

Maxine is survived by her daughter Nancy Gargan (husband Bill); and son Dow Summers III (wife Kathy); and grandchildren, Corbett, Aidan, Victoria, Logan. She is preceded in death by her husband Dow Summers Jr, and her parents Paul and Catherine Schlyer Schumacher.

Funeral Service, Mass of Christian Burial, will be celebrated at 10 am Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at Christ the King Catholic Church, Topeka, KS with Fr. Thomas Maddock officiating.

Committal service will follow at 3 p.m. in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Hays, KS where Maxine D. Summers will be laid to rest.

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS is assisting the family.

Anyone wanting to do something to honor Maxine's memory, the family suggests donations be made to:

- Midland Care Connection

1112 SW 6th Ave.

Topeka, KS 66606

Or

online a tribute gift in memory of Maxine Summers

<https://midlandcare.org/support-us/donate-online/>

- Solanus Casey Center

Attn: Br. Steve Kropp, Director

1780 Mount Elliott Street

Detroit, MI 48207

Or

Online a tribute gift in memory of Maxine Summers

<https://www.solanuscasey.org/donation/>

# Cemetery Details

## St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery

Hays, KS

# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 21. 10:00 AM (CT)

Christ the King Catholic Church  
5973 SW 25th St  
Topeka, KS 66614-1973  
(785) 273-0710

## Committal Service

JAN 21. 3:00 PM.

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery  
Hays, KS

# Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Maxine D. Summers



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**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - January 17, 2025 at 11:19 AM

BC

“ Heartfelt condolences and prayers from the Capuchins in Detroit, MI to Nancy Gargan, Dow Summers III and family upon your loss. May God grant Maxine eternal life. We are deeply grateful for memorial donations made out to the Solanus Casey Center.



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**Br. Brenton Ertel OFM, Capuchin** - January 13, 2025 at 01:54 PM

NG

Thank you, she followed Blessed Fr. Solanus since the 1990's and loved to give the book *Thank God Ahead of Time* as gifts. Thank you for all you are doing to help people and I pray for the Canonization of Blessed Fr. Solanus.

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**Nancy Gargan** - January 16, 2025 at 12:16 PM

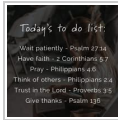
DW

“ *Our Deepest Sympathy to Nancy Gargan,  
Dow Summers III and family.  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and  
your family at this time.  
Darlene & Danny  
Waldschmidt*



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**Danny Waldschmidt** - January 11, 2025 at 03:19 AM



*Thanks Darlene and Danny, hopefully we will be able to get out to  
Colorado this summer and visit all the family. Nancy and Bill*

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**Nancy Gargan** - January 11, 2025 at 10:36 PM