



Catherine E. Lynch

March 20, 1922 - January 31, 2016

Catherine E. Lynch, age 93, of Albia, died Sunday, January 31, 2016 (on her husband's 100th birthday) at Monroe County Hospital in Albia surrounded by her family.

Catherine was born March 20, 1922 in Weller, Iowa to Con and Frances (Fitzgerald) O'Brien. She graduated from Albia High School, class of 1941. She was in the top 10% of her class. After graduation, she continued her education to obtain her teaching certificate. On November 27, 1951 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Weller, Iowa, Catherine married James W. Lynch. They shared 54 years together in Albia where they raised their seven children.

Catherine taught at Butcher School for ten years (1941-51) before marriage. After Catherine's children were all in school, she began working at Chamberlain Manufacturing in Albia where she retired after 16 years. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Albia. Family was most important in her life. Catherine enjoyed reading books, crossword puzzles, and jigsaw puzzles. She was an avid Hawkeye fan. Catherine enjoyed following all of her family's sports activities. She was humble, kind, and fair to everyone. Catherine also believed strongly in her faith and the power of prayer.

Catherine is survived by four daughters, Peggy (Dave) Harrington of Ottumwa, Kay (John) Vandello of Ottumwa, Rita (Bob) Coughlin of

Georgetown, and Jeannie Bettis of Albia; three sons, James W. Lynch, Jr. of Ottumwa, Patrick Lynch of Oskaloosa, and Philip Lynch (Joanne) of New Lenox, IL; fourteen grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; twenty-one great grandchildren; four step-great grandchildren; and her sister, Lucille Lahart of Georgetown. Catherine was a favorite aunt to many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James W. Lynch; her parents, Con and Frances O'Brien; four sisters, Gertrude O'Brien, Hannah Murphy, Rose Scieszinski, and Monica O'Neill; three brothers, Pat O'Brien, Ed O'Brien, and Gerald O'Brien; a grandson, Christopher Lynch; and one step-great grandchild, Taylor Steele.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Albia, with Father Michael E. Volkmer, C.P.P.S. officiating. Burial will follow services at St. Mary's Cemetery in Albia. Visitation will be held from 3:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Catherine's family present throughout the afternoon and evening. A 4:00 p.m. rosary will be led by St. Mary's Altar and Rosary Society and a wake service will be held at 6:00 p.m.

A memorial has been established to Tenco Industries or the families' wishes.

Tribute Wall



“ *Catherine E. Lynch*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Catherine E. Lynch*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *To Catherine's family,*

I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your mother, grandma, great grandma, aunt and friend. You family is in my thoughts and prayers. When I would go and see my grandma at Monroe care center she was always smiling and in great spirits. Enjoy all the fun memories and pictures you have.

Take care!

Marcee Brand - Waukee, IA - Family - February 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *To all of Catherine's family,*

I have known Catherine since I was a teenager many years ago. She was one of the sweetest, kindest, soft spoken woman I have ever met.

I regret I was not in Albia to attend her services but please accept my condolences.

Patty Hannam - Albia, IA - Friend - February 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RO

“ We are sorry to hear of the loss of your Mother and Grandmother (Also Great). She was a lovely and kind lady.

Rebecca Jackson and Family - Fairborn, OH - February 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ I met Catherine when she visited jim at the Oakwood Nursing Home. My dad, Fred Jones, was Jim's roommate. Catherine was a lovely person who was devoted to Jim, her family and her church. She was a delightful lady. My Dad and I enjoyed visiting with her. We were glad that our paths crossed. I know that her family has many precious memories of her and will miss her very much.

Patricia Shaw - Birmingham, IA - Friend - February 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Sending my thoughts and prayers to all of you. Wish I could be there to see you but with the weather as it is I know it is best I stay in. Love to all my ball players and bowlers!!! How time flies..

Mary Lou Rinehart - Albia, IA - Friend - February 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Mom; your the best mother a person could ever ask for. So many great memories, maybe I was the most spoiled of our bunch,the youngest is suppose to be. You taught all your kids to be kind,and treat people how you want to be treated.Thats why you kept your family so close.You never had a bad thing to say about anyone thats just who you were. I just thank God I was able to be by your side these last weeks before God called you home ! God bless you mom ! R I P I will miss you mom! Love you always Phil

Phil Lynch - New Lenox, IL - Son - February 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ To the Lynch Family,
My condolences to your family. Aunt Catherine always had a sweet smile on her face, that she shared with all. Her quiet nature made her a joy to be around.
She will be missed by all of you but will always hold a special place in your heart.
Her family in heaven will be glad to have her with them now.

JoAnn Murphy Jackson - Rose Hill, IA - Family - February 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Aunt Catherine you have been and always will be very special to me. I do have so many wonderful memories while growing up of being at your house or you all being at mine. I know i haven't seen you in awhile but you have never left my thoughts and prayers. Rest in peace now as i know you are in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ and you are also with all of your family members who have gone before you. My love as always, your niece, Mary Jo Wright.-- My thoughts and prayers are with the family i am so sorry for your loss.

Mary Jo Wright - MT.PLEASANT, IA - Family - February 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Mom,
I sure will miss my lunch hour visits with you! Aging with dignity was so hard for you this last year but you never ever complained! You were one tough cookie! And I think "Sweetness" is your middle name. My tears are happy because you are now at peace in Heaven! This is not the end cuz I know with hope we will see you again!
RIP Mom - Love ya,
Rita

Rita - Albia, IA - Family - January 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ So sorry to hear about Catherine. I really didn't know her very well..but she sure was a sweet lady.

Denise Fisher - Friend - January 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM