



## Helen Mae Ewing

August 26, 1925 - January 16, 2021

Helen Mae Ewing (Gephart) age 95, passed away at her home in Royal Oak on January 16, 2021. She was born on August 26, 1925 to Mary and David Gephart. She was raised on a farm in Lovely, Pennsylvania with her two brothers: the late Reverend John Gephart (Shirley) and the late Gerald Gephart (Millie). In her teen years, she moved in with and cared for her blind grandfather. She graduated valedictorian of her high school class of 1941, at the age of 16.

In her twenties, she moved to Chicago where she studied piano and attended nursing school for two years. While in Chicago, she met Reverend Doctor Charles Wesley Ewing while working on the political campaign of Adlai Stevenson. They were married on September 9, 1951 in Lovely, Pennsylvania. They both worked on the Temperance League and attended Rhema Bible College and Loma Linda Bible College. Their life together was truly dedicated to serving the Lord. As a pastor's wife, Helen helped develop churches in Joliet (IL), Omaha (NE), Dayton (OH), Royal Oak (MI), and Ferndale (MI), and assisted in their Bible correspondence ministry "The Faith and Freedom Bible Institute." She especially had a heart for children and oversaw Vacation Bible Schools, Sunday Schools, and teen Youth Groups.

While in Joliet they were blessed with a son, Dwight David, and a daughter, Anna Mae (Earl Harrington). Their third blessing, Sarah Lu, was born in

Omaha. Helen was a wonderful, loving mother, making home-made clothes, encouraging and supporting her children, and raising them in the Christian faith. She was an excellent cook and entertained ministers and missionaries in her home from all over the world. She was self-sacrificing and always put her family first. She was a strong “Proverbs 31” Christian woman, and a role model to all her family.

After moving to Michigan in 1968, Helen became the beloved “Bookmobile Lady”, for the Royal Oak Public Library. She became an active member of the Michigan Chapter of the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution). After retiring, she worked as Office Manager of the Congregational Church, in Birmingham, MI.

Helen “Grammy” was blessed with seven grandchildren whom she loved dearly: Allison Harrington, Bernadette Ewing, Jessica Harrington, Holly Flynn (Michael Flynn), Michael Harrington, Elisha Ewing, and Hannah Ewing. Great-granddaughter, Avalon Flynn, held a special place in Grammy’s heart. She set an incredible example for them and everyone in her life including her beloved extended family; the late Marjorie Hanes, Laura Zeile, Anna Lisa Zeile (Gil, Liliana, and Abigail De Vera), Katherine Zeile, Kenneth Eubanks, Richard Ploeger; and many dear nieces and nephews. Dear sister of the late John Gephart (still living Shirley Gephart), and the late Gerald Gephart (still living Millie Gephart).

She always maintained a positive outlook in every situation and exemplified Christ’s love in all she did. She smiled at every stranger and gave a helping hand to everyone. Even in the last week of her life, she needed assurance that everyone had enough food and warm shelter.

On January 16, 2021 after a full and wonderful 95 years, Jesus called Helen home. She passed peacefully in her home in Royal Oak, MI surrounded by

her loving family.

Above all, she was a life-long follower of Jesus and a devout prayer warrior. In every situation, she turned to and placed her trust in Him, inspiring those around her to do the same.

Her favorite Scripture was John 3:16:

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, shall not perish, but have everlasting life.”

“Well done, thou good and faithful servant.”

Memorials appreciated to CCAI Adoption Services <https://www.ccaifamily.org/Charity/Donation>

Please, Share your Memories at [www.sullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.sullivanfuneralhome.com).

#### VISITATION:

The family will receive friends Wednesday from 2-7 pm at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blocks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak.

Please note that masks are required and a maximum of 25 people may be in the visitation room at a time. Kindly be mindful of the attendance requirements and limit your visiting time so that others may also attend.

#### FUNERAL:

Funeral Thursday, in-state 12 noon until time of funeral service 1:00 pm in person at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, 2225 E. 14 Mile Rd., Birmingham and LIVESTREAMED at [www.ourshepherd.news/YouTube](http://www.ourshepherd.news/YouTube) or [www.ourshepherd.news/Facebook](http://www.ourshepherd.news/Facebook).

#### BURIAL:

Burial at 3:00 pm at Oakview Cemetery, Royal Oak.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 20. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Funeral Service

JAN 21. 1:00 PM (ET)

Our Shepherd Lutheran Church  
2225 E. 14 Mile Road  
Birmingham, MI 48009

## Burial

JAN 21. 3:00 PM (ET)

Oakview Cemetery  
1032 N. Main Street  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



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January 21, 2021 at 11:47 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



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January 20, 2021 at 04:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



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January 20, 2021 at 10:39 AM



“ *Dear Sarah,  
My condolences to you and your entire family. The love and care you gave to your mother was unconditional. Your family and patients are blessed to have you in your life. With deepest sympathy, Diana Kostoff*

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**Diana Kostoff** - January 20, 2021 at 08:33 AM

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*I feel blessed to have known Helen during my formable years...she influenced me so much! Helen, I'll see you on the Other Side💕. Love to Dwight, Anna and Sarah. Kay Barnard Mitman Norris*

**Kay Norris** - September 01, 2021 at 09:04 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



January 19, 2021 at 10:40 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



January 19, 2021 at 09:31 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



January 19, 2021 at 09:13 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



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January 19, 2021 at 02:33 PM



“ *Brandie Jones purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



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**Brandie Jones** - January 19, 2021 at 01:22 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



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January 19, 2021 at 01:10 PM



“ *Condolences to Sarah and the Ewing family on this sad news. May memories of better times sustain you and keep her alive in your hearts forever.*

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**Ellen Kachalsky** - January 19, 2021 at 11:05 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



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January 19, 2021 at 08:53 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy to all the family. Sarah, thank you for being a beautiful example of sacrificial love in the way you cared for your mom all these years. Lisa Zimmerman*

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**Lisa Zimmerman** - January 19, 2021 at 08:03 AM



“ *Grammie was so loving...I had the privilege to be one of her caregivers..she would always ask me how are you doing...she always made sure to ask if I had something to eat..she was very gracious..when it was time for me to leave she would tell me I love you and give me a kiss..I will miss her for her kind loving heart and wonderful smile...I love you Grammie and I will miss you so much...*

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**Ruth Pisani** - January 19, 2021 at 05:34 AM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



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January 19, 2021 at 02:18 AM

RO

“ *Grammie will truly be missed, I was lucky enough to be her caregiver for just over 2 years now. She was always very sweet and pleasant. She always wanted to make sure I ate and now everytime I use salt I'll think of her (boy did she love lots of salt!) 😊 miss u grammie! ~Rosie~ or as grammie called me sometimes, flower girl.*

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**Rosie** - January 19, 2021 at 12:11 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Helen Mae Ewing.*



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January 18, 2021 at 11:30 PM