



Irene Bussell

May 16, 1914 - January 6, 2015

Irene Broderick Bussell, 100, of Indianapolis, passed away January 6, 2015. She was born May 16, 1914 to John Broderick and Myrtle Gibbs. Tragically, John died of pneumonia just two months later, leaving her fatherless until Myrtle married Elza Threlkeld in 1920.

Irene graduated from Advance High School in Lebanon. She was a homemaker, a professional musician, and a strong believer in American patriotism. She was also a member of the Daughters of Isabella. Irene's piano and vocal skills were exceptional. So much so, that Butler's Jordan Conservatory spontaneously offered her a musical scholarship in 1939. She loved to sing the American songbook and tunes from the Broadway Theatre. Among her many public performances, she entertained young Vietnam-bound soldiers with vocals from her vast musical repertoire, which included thousands of songs. The Indianapolis Service Men's Center (SMC) presented her with a special thank you award.

Irene is survived by her son, Stephen Bussell; and daughter, Mary Jo Bussell. Irene's husband, Louis Bussell, preceded her in death in 1983.

A Requiem Mass will be held in her honor Monday, January 12, 2015 at 7:50 a.m. at Holy Rosary Catholic Church, 520 Stevens St. A private family viewing will be held at Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 12. 7:50 AM (ET)

Holy Rosary Catholic Church
520 Stevens Street
Indianapolis, IN 46203

Tribute Wall

VT

“ My condolences to Mary Jo and Stephen. I never met Irene personally, but have a family photograph from 1920, and one of the young girls therein, Irene, was the last survivor from that 95 year-old portrait. Many decades later, an aunt of mine and Irene would talk by telephone, and Irene would often sing to her! What a wonderful gift to have, such joy in musical expression.

Vernon Threlkeld

Vernon Threlkeld - January 11, 2015 at 05:43 PM