



Irene Lea Clark

September 12, 1941 - January 17, 2024

Wantage - Irene Lea Clark, affectionately called Renie and Mia by many, peacefully passed away on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at home while in her own bed and surrounded by her loving family. She was 82. Even though she had been battling ovarian cancer for the past 8 years, no one would ever hear her complain and she would always have a smile on her face. She grew up on Main Street in Sussex, where she still loved sitting on the front porch. Renie graduated from Sussex High School in 1959 and has lived in the Sussex-Wantage area all of her life. After she married, Alan W. Clark, Sr., they purchased their first home in the Simmons Lake section of Wantage and it became their lifelong forever home that she absolutely loved. Renie made the house welcoming not only to family, but everyone who visited. Everyone commented how warm and cozy they felt when they walked through the door. She just told her daughter a few days ago while driving home from the doctor's office how much she loved Sussex County and would not want to live anywhere else. Renie worked at Laurie Lea's in Sussex for many years, where she made many friends. She was a member and past president of the Frankford Seniors Group and loved all of her friends there. Renie was even named Senior of the Year . She loved to read and was well known by the Sussex Library girls. Renie loved planting flowers, doing laundry and ironing. She was the person in charge of ironing suits and dress shirts for all special occasions. She also loved to shop and especially loved greeting cards. Many people will remember her beautiful handwritten notes in each greeting card

that she sent out over the years. Most of all, she loved her family and spending time with them as much as she could. She especially enjoyed family vacations to LBI, Thousand Islands, and trips to Lancaster. Her grandchildren were her pride and joy and she was so proud of them and the wonderful people they have become. These are all the things that kept Renie strong throughout her illness. Renie was a very special lady. She will be truly missed by all of her family and friends.

Renie was predeceased by her parents, John and Laura (Unangst) Dunn; her youngest son, Kevin in 1988, and her loving husband, "Bud" in 2006. She is survived by her daughter, Laurie Clark and her significant other Wayne Howell; her son, Alan Clark and his wife Paula; her grandsons, Alan, Chris, Kyle; her granddaughters, Jessica and Samantha; her great grandchildren, Callan and Paityn; her sisters, Pat Garrera and her husband Frank, Bonnie Garrera and her husband Ed, and Peggy Boynton; her brother, John Dunn and his wife Sherry; and many nieces and nephews.

Friends may pay their respects to the family from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 21, 2024 at the Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex, New Jersey. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, January 22, 2024 at the funeral home. Interment will immediately follow at North Hardyston Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation in Irene's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tennessee 38105 or Sussex Fire Department, 25 Loomis Avenue, Sussex, New Jersey 07461. Online condolences may be offered to the family at www.pinkelfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

North Hardyston Cemetery

Route 94
Hardyston, NJ 07419

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 21. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Pinkel Funeral Home, Inc.
31 Bank Street (Route 23)
Sussex, NJ 07461
(973) 875-3272
alexis@pinkelfuneralhome.com
<https://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com/>

Service

JAN 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Pinkel Funeral Home, Inc.
31 Bank Street (Route 23)
Sussex, NJ 07461
(973) 875-3272
alexis@pinkelfuneralhome.com
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Tribute Wall

EM

“ I am saddened by the loss of Renie. I always enjoyed being in her company along with Laurie at the jewelry store.. all those year ago.

She was always a pleasure to run into when out and about shopping. Renie was a wonderful person and fought the good fight.

Stay strong, and let the memories of her not just bring tears, but also a smile, a laugh.. and some peace. She would want that. -xo



Emily - January 29, 2024 at 07:24 PM

KM

“ Dear Laurie, So sorry for your loss, your Mom was a treasure, always sweet and lovely. Talked to her at your store, she always brightened up my day. She will be missed. Love to you and your family, Kathy Morris

Katrinka Morris - January 28, 2024 at 05:53 PM

JM

“ Dear laurie i am so very sorry for your loss loved your mom got to know when she worked in your store and we had long talks I hope she getsto see jack as he thought alot of he he thought alot of her they often met at the cancer center. So so sorry Laurie shewill surley be mised

John Myer - January 24, 2024 at 08:14 AM

DS

“ Dear Laurie and family, there are no words to express our sympathy to all of you. David and I have known Irene since we were all growing up in Sussex. It was always a pleasure to see Irene at an event or at Acme. But we always found so much to talk about and Irene always gave us a laugh or two! She was such a sweet, kind lady. John Sim would always tell us what a wonderful neighbor and friend Irene was to him and Jean, and when Jean passed away, Irene would keep an eye on him! She was just a caring, warm loving person, who will be greatly missed by family and friends! Her heart was always in the right place that would help others. Love to the family, David & Dee

Dee Shepherd - January 21, 2024 at 12:49 PM

JS

“ Irene came into the Sussex Wantage library just about every week. She always made us smile, even when she wasn't feeling her best. I will miss sharing book recommendations with her and hearing her expected greeting of "Hi, Gals!" when she walked in. It won't be the same without her smiling face. Rest in peace, Irene...you deserve it. The "library ladies" will miss you dearly.

Jennifer Sunda - January 20, 2024 at 11:23 AM

KC

“ Shopping at Laurie Lea's always meant a great chat with Irene. She always had a smile for everyone. She was a great chaperone when we went to Ellis Island.

Kathy Cafasso - January 20, 2024 at 06:25 AM

JK

“ You know how much I loved you Renie!
You were a dedicated wife to Bud and Mom to my friends Laurie
and Al and for the short time I knew him, Kevin. Be at peace and
enjoy those who left this life before you ❤️

Joe K - January 20, 2024 at 12:24 AM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray* was purchased for the
family of Irene Lea Clark.



January 19, 2024 at 11:51 PM



“ Growing up in Simmons Lake was a lot of fun and Mrs. Clark was
always and I do mean always friendly polite and funny. I will miss
her so much. God bless you Laurie.

Nina Kerr - January 19, 2024 at 05:34 PM

KG

“ Renie will be missed by all who had the pleasure to know her. She
was so strong and fought without ever complaining! It was always
wonderful to see her with her sisters at her sister Pat's pool. She
was always so loving and her relationship with her family was
wonderful to behold! She will be missed! Rest in peace my friend!

Kathleen Fry Ginter - January 19, 2024 at 02:51 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Irene Lea Clark.*



January 19, 2024 at 01:30 PM



“ *My heartfelt condolences and hugs to all that loved Renie 🌸. I will cherish always how she always treated me like part of the family. She was loving, warm and kind and made you feel at home. I will forever think of her as the one who made the best chocolate cake that she made for everyone's birthday or special occasions! Love you Renie ❤️ You will be sadly missed.*

Annette Bennett - January 19, 2024 at 12:10 PM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Irene Lea Clark.*



January 19, 2024 at 08:41 AM



“ *Your ATMS Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Irene Lea Clark.*

Your ATMS Family - January 19, 2024 at 08:41 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Irene Lea Clark.*



January 18, 2024 at 07:30 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Irene Lea Clark.*



January 18, 2024 at 07:06 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Irene Lea Clark.*



January 18, 2024 at 06:39 PM