



## Opal M. VanPelt-Schmidt

November 3, 1936 - July 8, 2023

Opal Marie VanPelt-Schmidt, 86, of Petersburg, passed away at Mason District Hospital in Havana on Saturday, July 8, 2023 surrounded by family.

Opal was born on November 3, 1936 in Beardstown, Illinois to Andy and Aultie (Hardwick) Cowan. She married Dan VanPelt in 1956 and Ralph Schmidt in 2002, both of whom preceded her in death.

Opal is survived by her long-time companion, Jim Perbix; daughter, Rosemarie (Rea) Lovell of Hollister, Missouri; son, Mike VanPelt of Litchfield; grandson, Tim VanPelt of Athens; great-granddaughter, Kaylee VanPelt of Athens; and many other extended family members. She was preceded in death by her parents, “favorite” son-in-law, Dave Lovell, and granddaughter-in-law, Jennifer VanPelt.

Opal was a member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Lincoln, Illinois. She worked as a court reporter and later as an investment planner in Lincoln. She was a member of the Havana Rotary Club and was recently a Paul Harris honoree. She never met a stranger, she enjoyed meeting and making friends, whether it was two-legged people or four-legged animals.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, July 22, 2023 at Lime Street Cafe, 951 S. Durkin Drive, Springfield, IL from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be in Opal's name to Havana Rotary Club or Animal Protective League of Springfield, Illinois at <https://www.apl-shelter.org/memorials>. Online condolences can be left for her family at [www.hurleyfh.com](http://www.hurleyfh.com).

Hurley Funeral Home in Havana is in charge of arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUL **22.** 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Lime Street Cafe  
951 S. Durkin Dr.  
Springfield, IL

# Tribute Wall

RB

“ We thought Opal was wonderful! Sending condolences to everyone who knew and loved her.  
*Rita and Dave Badger*

Rita Badger - July 22, 2023 at 12:51 PM

Jane Sanders

“ I appreciate all the wonderful memories. My life has been so enriched for having known Opal. I admired and adored her. My condolences to her family and all her cherished friends. *Jane Baize*

Jane Sanders - July 21, 2023 at 02:27 PM



Thank you , Jane.

Rea Lovell - July 22, 2023 at 06:06 AM

SB

“ Susie Begbie lit a candle in memory of Opal VanPelt-Schmidt



Susie Ulrich Begbie - July 20, 2023 at 10:29 PM



Thank you.

Rea Lovell - July 22, 2023 at 06:09 AM

PJ

“ I've been stirring up lots of great memories about our gal pal days over the years in Lincoln! To me, Opal was such an interesting, fun and kind woman with a very dignified aura. My thoughts go back to the day, as busy as she was, she spent the entire day wall papering my living room while I was at work just because she could help! I wasn't there, but I bet she was wearing a skirt and blazer while she worked. :) And I can't forget the fun baby shower she had for me at her house. It was a great time and I'm very thankful for many reasons for having her in my life.

Phyllis Janssen - July 20, 2023 at 07:42 PM



Thank you for your kind words! She was a one-of-kind.

Rea Lovell - July 22, 2023 at 06:08 AM

SP

“ Steve Perbix lit a candle in memory of Opal M. VanPelt-Schmidt



Steve Perbix - July 15, 2023 at 09:12 PM



Thank you.

Rea Lovell - July 22, 2023 at 06:10 AM

MC

“ I so enjoyed my time with her in Havana Rotary Club . Opal was such a lovely person! I am so glad I met her. Prayers to her family. God bless them all. Mary Caldwell

Mary Caldwell - July 13, 2023 at 07:23 PM



*Thank you so much, from her daughter, Rea Lovell.*

**Rea Lovell** - July 14, 2023 at 01:25 PM

SM

“ *Sheree mosier lit a candle in memory of Opal VanPelt-Schmidt*



**Sheree dennison mosier** - July 12, 2023 at 09:54 AM

LH

“ *Larry Mary Hundt sent a virtual gift in memory of Opal VanPelt-Schmidt*



**Larry and Mary Hundt** - July 12, 2023 at 08:29 AM



*Thank you from her daughter, Rea Lovell.*

**Rea Lovell** - July 14, 2023 at 01:21 PM

LT

“ *So sorry for your family's loss! I recently got the opportunity to have lunch with her & Mr.P, my sisters. I remember specifically that she started singing "One day at a time, Sweet Jesus " in which I started singing it with her...so much joy in that day! Sincere sympathy, Lisa*



**Lisa Jill Ulrich Thompson** - July 11, 2023 at 08:00 PM



*Thank you much. She sang that to me almost every telephone conversation. From her daughter, Rea Lovell*

**Rea Lovell** - July 14, 2023 at 01:25 PM

PG

*“ What a blessed and gracious lady! Look ahead to seeing her again on the Day of the Resurrection in Christ! -- Pastor Jeffrey Gross and her friends at Bethlehem Lutheran, Petersburg.*

**Pastor Jeffrey Gross** - July 11, 2023 at 04:33 PM



*Thank you so much, from her daughter, Rea Lovell*

**Rea Lovell** - July 14, 2023 at 01:23 PM

MR

*I so sad to learn of her passing. Such a kind lady, who always made eye contact, smiled, & gave a slight wave when we passed her pew after communion. Then we saw Jim & her eating lunch at Corner Cafe that same day. Only God knew that we wouldn't see her again the next Sunday. Prayers for your family.*

**Mabel Ruppel** - July 22, 2023 at 09:58 PM

NE

*“ Nancy Elliott lit a candle in memory of Opal VanPelt-Schmidt*



**Nancy Elliott** - July 11, 2023 at 12:59 PM



*Thank you from her daughter, Rea Lovell.*

**Rea Lovell** - July 14, 2023 at 01:23 PM