



Helen Marie Friederich

November 6, 1963 - April 23, 2022

Helen Marie Friederich, 58, of Chanute passed away Saturday, April 23, 2022. Her death was unexpected.

Helen Marie Maksimowicz was born on Nov. 6, 1963, to Edward and Josephine Maksimowicz in Chanute. She grew up in Chanute and graduated from Chanute High School in 1982. She was a cheerleader at Neosho County Community College. She received an associate's degree while attending. She graduated from Pittsburg State University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 2006.

Helen was a devoted educator. She loved her students and teaching was her passion. She taught at elementary schools in Chanute, Fredonia, Neodesha and Altoona. Helen fulfilled her lifelong dream of taking her students to the Titanic Museum in Branson, Missouri, on her final day on Earth.

On June 6, 2021, Helen married Gary Friederich on the deck they built at their home.

Helen loved the Titanic, the Kansas City Chiefs, crafting and hunting. Survivors include her husband, Gary Friederich of the home; sons, Garrett Phillips of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Aaron Phillips and his wife, Hailey, of Parsons, and Dylan Phillips and his wife, Nora, of Iola; a stepson, Elijah Friederich of Pittsburg; a stepdaughter, Chloe Etz and her husband, Bradley, of Lawrence; a granddaughter, Zora, of Iola; brothers, Eddie Maksimowicz and his wife, Marianne, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Sam Maksimowicz and his wife, Beverly, of Aurora, Colorado, and John Maksimowicz and his

wife, Sheila, of Derby; a sister, Frances Friederich of Fayetteville, Arkansas; many cousins; nieces; nephews; students and friends.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, April 28, 2022 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Countryside Funeral Home in Chanute. The service will be held on Friday, April 29, 2022 at 1:00 pm at the Good News Center in Chanute with burial to immediately follow at St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery in Chanute. Memorials have been suggested to the American Cancer Society via Relay for Life of Neosho County and may be left with or mailed to the funeral home. Online condolences may be left at: www.countrysidefh.com. Services entrusted to Countryside Funeral Home 101 N. Highland, Chanute, KS 66720.

Cemetery Details

St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery - Chanute

926 W. 7th Street
Chanute, KS

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **28**. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Johnson Chapel
101 N. Highland
Chanute, KS 66720
(620) 431-1220

Service

APR **29**. 1:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church Good News Center
118 N. Forest Ave.
Chanute, KS 66720

Burial

APR **29** (CT)

St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery - Chanute
926 W. 7th Street
Chanute, KS

Tribute Wall

PH

“ I was Helen’s tour guide at the titanic museum. She told me how her family joked that when she retired she could be a tour guide, and she was right. It was more than halfway through the tour before I said something she didn’t know about Titanic. She also told me about how her mother was a nurse to a titanic survivor, but she didn’t know his name. I did. I was able to show her his picture and tell her more of his story. We cried and took pictures together. When I found out that that was her last day... I cried again. I am so honored that she spent that time with us and that I got to know Miss Helen.

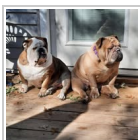
Phoebe Head - May 05, 2022 at 11:15 PM

AB

“ Helen always put the students first! I worked with her when she was a Tri-County para in Fredonia and a teacher in Fredonia. We always kept in touch after that and I loved her smile! I know she missed her mom and so glad she got to take her Titanic field trip with students! Will miss her.....Amy Brown



Amy Brown - April 29, 2022 at 06:33 AM



“ Helen was such a wonderful person. We always had the greatest times together. She was a gifted educator and absolutely loved each and every one of her students. She will be greatly missed. She's reunited with her Momma again. Rest high my friend.



Kelli Tate - April 28, 2022 at 03:49 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Helen Marie Friederich.*



April 28, 2022 at 12:21 PM



“ *Went to school with Helen and worked with her at Sonic our High School Years, plus Relay with her for many Years at Neosho county Relay for Life! Such a caring, happy loving person with a heart of gold will miss you!❤️*



Tilisa Vincent - April 27, 2022 at 07:43 PM



“ *The Titanic Museum crew were sadden when we learned of the passing of Helen. The tour guides that took her students through the museum talked about how kind and passionate she was to her students.
Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with the family, teachers and students.
God Bless all of you.*

*Ruthann Crust
Sr. Sales Executive
Titanic Museum
Branson, MO*

Ruthann Crust/Titanic Museum - April 27, 2022 at 01:39 PM

BS

“Helen hosted my first friend sleepover in elementary school (we were in the same class). She continued to include me in communications throughout the years. I listened when she needed an ear, and she was always available to listen too. I will miss her cheerful smile and kind attitude toward everyone. God bless my friend and those lives she made better by being here.

Becky (Swaney) Smith - April 26, 2022 at 10:59 PM

SW

“Helen was such a wonderful soul - with a heart as big as all outdoors! So many years of memories and friendship.... her dedication to her students, her constant efforts to better herself and her life, her sincere desire for the happiness of others.... all attest to the true beauty of her soul. She will be greatly missed!



Sherri L. Watson - April 26, 2022 at 04:42 PM

DS

“Helen was such a kind and wonderful friend to so many. Her smile lit up a room. We will miss you!! Rest in peace my sweet friend!!

Dede Smith

Dede Smith - April 26, 2022 at 02:35 PM



“Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Helen Marie Friederich.



April 26, 2022 at 01:07 PM

JS

“ Jeanette Spilman lit a candle in memory of Helen Marie Friederich



Jeanette Spilman - April 26, 2022 at 10:02 AM

HR

“ Heidi Litchenburg Reneau lit a candle in memory of Helen Marie Friederich



Heidi Litchenburg Reneau - April 26, 2022 at 09:46 AM



“ Donna Dye lit a candle in memory of Helen Marie Friederich



Donna Dye - April 25, 2022 at 10:08 PM

NH

“ She had a kind soul and big heart always knew how to make u smile alot.of good memories with this lady,RIP Helen

Nicci harmon - April 25, 2022 at 09:50 PM

PC

“ *Pam Catterson lit a candle in memory of
Helen Marie Friederich*



Pam Catterson - April 25, 2022 at 04:50 PM