



Genarose C. "Jenny" Merkel

NOV 22, 1936 - OCT 5, 2025



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WEIGEL Funeral Home

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Genarose C. "Jenny" Merkel

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Genarose Charlotte “Jenny” Merkel, age 88, of Batesville, Indiana, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, October 5, 2025, surrounded by the family she cherished. Jenny’s life was rooted in love – love for her family, her faith, and the gardens she tended. Born on November 22, 1936, in Batesville to Frank and Marian (Wuestefeld) Huenefeld, Jenny grew up learning the value of nurturing both people and plants. Her garden was more than a patch of earth; it was a living testament to her patience, dedication, and care. Jenny’s green thumb brought beauty and nourishment to everyone around her.

On May 6, 1961, Jenny married Leo Merkel at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Morris, Indiana. Their marriage was a partnership built on devotion and laughter, lasting 64 wonderful years. Together, they raised five children and built a home where the kitchen was always filled with the aroma of homecooked meals and freshly baked treats. Jenny’s legendary cookies and cinnamon rolls were a staple at family gatherings, and her garden’s bounty found its way into every meal.

Jenny’s nurturing spirit extended beyond her family. She volunteered in the local community and once her children were in school, cared for others by cleaning the Hill-Rom office building in Batesville. Her attention to detail and kindness left a lasting impression – many would say no one took care of them quite like Jenny.

Faith was the cornerstone of Jenny’s life. As a lifelong member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, she prayed the rosary daily and lovingly passed this tradition to her children and grandchildren. Sunday mornings often found the family gathered for “family rosary,” a ritual that brought comfort and unity across generations.

Jenny adored her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was always ready to say “yes” to any request – whether playing a game, reading a book, making a puzzle, or



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sharing her delicious baked goods. She enjoyed playing cards and was known as the unbeatable card shark, her laughter echoing through every match.

Jenny is survived by her husband Leo of Batesville; daughters Carol (Michael) Prickel of Batesville, Janet (Chris) Dawes of Indianapolis, and Mari Jo (Ryan) Moody of Batesville; sons Randy (Karen) Merkel and Rick (Kimberly) Merkel, all of Batesville; sisters Helen Strasser of Falmouth, Kentucky, and Loretta Wolf of Mason, Ohio; 12 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. In addition to her parents, Jenny was preceded in death by her sisters Bernadine Brinkman and Marie Herbert.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, October 8th, from 4–7 p.m. at Weigel Funeral Home in Batesville. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place Thursday, October 9th, at 10 a.m. at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Morris, officiated by Fr. Shaun Whittington, with burial to follow in the church cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Margaret Mary Health Foundation Hospice or St. Anthony's Cemetery Fund.



Events

Genarose C. "Jenny" Merkel

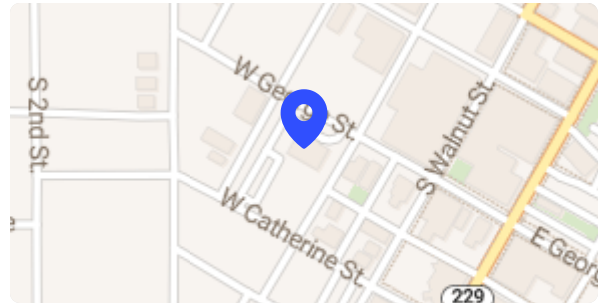
NOV 22, 1936 - OCT 5, 2025

Visitation

Wednesday, October 8, 2025

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET

Weigel Funeral Home
151 W. George St., Batesville IN 47006

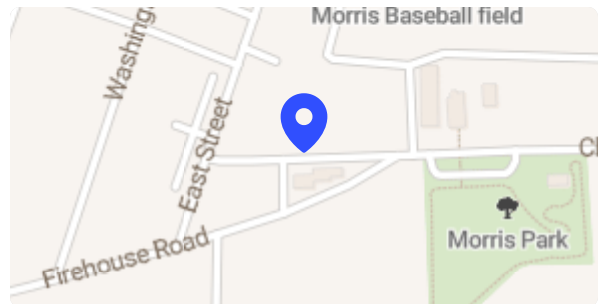


Mass of Christian Burial

Thursday, October 9, 2025

10:00 AM ET

St. Anthony's Church
4755 E. Morris Church Street, Batesville IN 47006



Cemetery Details

St. Anthony's Cemetery
4755 E. Morris Church Road, Batesville IN 47006





Tribute Wall

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Kim Mollaun-Smith posted:

I am so sad to learn of Jenny's passing. She was an amazing lady. She took such wonderful care of Nate! He loved going to your home everyday, and she never let him clean up his mess at the end of the day! She loved him like her own. Please accept my deepest sympathy. With love, Kim Mollaun-Smith

October 12 at 6:10 AM



Terri Voegele lit a candle in honor of Genarose C..

I am so sorry

October 8 at 5:10 PM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful Heart Bouquet to the Merkel family.

October 8 at 7:30 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Genarose C..

October 8 at 7:30 AM



Steven And Juanita Beetz sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Merkel family.

October 7 at 5:51 PM



Rose Ann Gehring sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Merkel family.

October 7 at 4:37 PM





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PE

Pam & Jeff Eberhardt sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Merkel family.

October 7 at 4:08 PM



WR

With Love, Kim And Mick Ryan sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Merkel family.

October 7 at 3:51 PM



TF

The Raver Family sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Merkel family.

October 7 at 2:12 PM



TF

The Raver Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Genarose C..

October 7 at 2:12 PM



MG

Marisol Gonzalez posted:

Daer Mari Jo, Good with you and your Family , sincerely Marisol

October 7 at 9:33 AM

MW

Mary Warren posted:

Michael and I send our deepest condolences to Jon and his family: Mike and Mary (Cat) Warren (Ava's grandparents). We will keep you in our prayers.

October 7 at 8:07 AM



Tribute Wall

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CK

Colleen Klimara sent a Dreams From the Heart Bouquet to the Merkel family.

October 7 at 8:06 AM



CK

Colleen Klimara planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Genarose C..

October 7 at 8:06 AM



LB

Lee Ann Briggeman sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Merkel family.

October 7 at 7:52 AM



ST

Service Stores Team sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Merkel family.

October 7 at 7:20 AM



DJ

Dave Johnson posted:

Dear Carol and the entire family: I'm sorry for your loss of a lovely woman. She left a legacy of grace, love, and joy I see in you. These amazing qualities create a special family that will carry on her legacy. Blessings and comfort to you all in this time. -Dave Johnson

October 7 at 6:59 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Genarose C. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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