

*HE*len I. Ihry, age 82, of Sioux Rapids, Iowa, died Sunday, September 20, 2015 at the Hawkeye Care Center in Sioux Rapids.

Helen Irene Stewart, the daughter of Charles and Marie (Laughlin) Stewart, was born in Ruthven, Iowa on March 18, 1933. She lived her youth and received her education in the Ruthven community where she graduated from Ruthven High School in 1950. Helen was honored as the valedictorian of her class.

On August 30, 1952, Helen was united in marriage to Merle "Nick" Ihry at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Ruthven. This union was blessed with four children: Michael, Timothy, Robert, and Denise.

Following their marriage, they lived in the Spencer vicinity where Nick worked on a farm. They then moved near Ruthven where he worked with his father-in-law, Charlie Stewart, in a blacksmith shop. Helen and Nick moved to Sioux Rapids in 1965. Helen worked for the State of Iowa Liquor Store. In December of 1988, she bought Valley Liquor Store, in Sioux Rapids and also worked part time at "The Office". Helen was a very devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and homemaker.

Helen was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Sioux Rapids and the St. Joseph's Guild. She will be remembered as an avid quilter and received the Presidential Quilting Award for her work with the Freedom Quilts. Helen was also an accomplished seamstress and did sewing and mending for many people in the community. She also enjoyed plants and crafts. Her friends will remember Helen as someone who enjoyed telling stories and jokes and was a skilled card player.

Helen's life is honored and cherished by her family which include her children: Mike (Janice) Ihry of Everett, Washington; Tim Ihry of Albert City, Iowa; Bob (Laurie) Ihry of Clive, Iowa; and Denise Williams and her special friend, Brian, of Sioux Rapids, Iowa; grandchildren: John Ihry of Storm Lake, Iowa; Joe (Patrice) Ihry of Bruceville, Texas; Eric Ihry of Waco, Texas; Angie Williams of Huxley, Iowa; Melanie Williams of Webb, Iowa; two great grandchildren: Joey and Jordyn Ihry; sister, Pat Alger of Ruthven, Iowa; sister-in-law, Florence Ihry of Royal, Iowa; brother-in-law, Travis (Becky) Cleveland of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; other extended family and many friends.

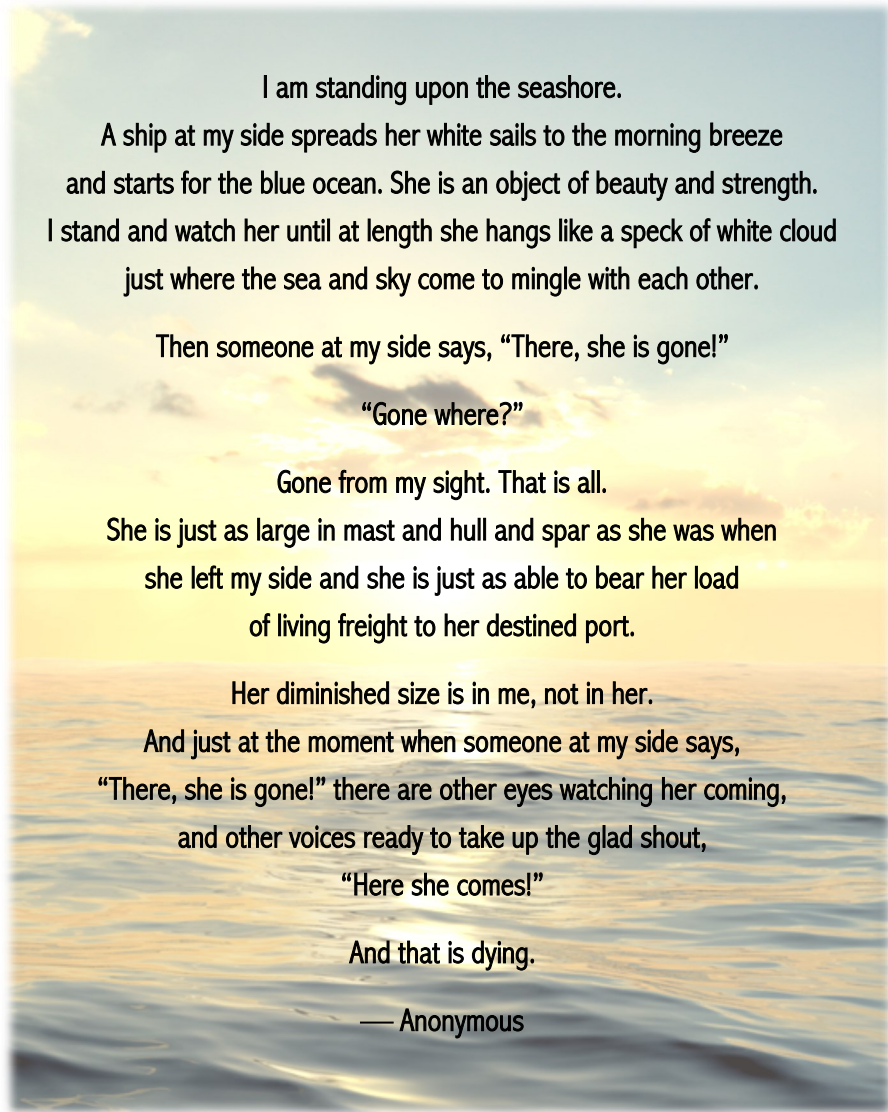
She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Nick, on March 8, 1993; sister, JoAnn Cleveland; infant sister, Mary Ellen Stewart; nephew, Thane Cleveland; and step grandson, Mitchell Carr.

In Loving Memory



Helen Irene Ihry

1933 — 2015



I am standing upon the seashore.

A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze
and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength.
I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud
just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says, "There, she is gone!"

"Gone where?"

Gone from my sight. That is all.

She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when
she left my side and she is just as able to bear her load
of living freight to her destined port.

Her diminished size is in me, not in her.

And just at the moment when someone at my side says,
"There, she is gone!" there are other eyes watching her coming,
and other voices ready to take up the glad shout,

"Here she comes!"

And that is dying.

— Anonymous

IN MEMORY OF

Helen Irene Ihry

March 18, 1933 — September 20, 2015

FUNERAL MASS

Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Sioux Rapids, Iowa

CLERGY

Reverend Francis Makwinja

Deacon Ken Lindquist

ORGANIST

Florence Ihry

CANTOR

Ann Fell

CASKET BEARERS

John Ihry, Joe Ihry, Eric Ihry

Patrice Ihry, Angela Williams, Melanie Williams

INTERMENT

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery

Sioux Rapids, Iowa

Arrangements by

SLIEFERT FUNERAL HOMES

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We wish to express our sincere gratitude for the many kindnesses evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. You are invited to join us for lunch and a time of fellowship at the church immediately following the burial.

— The Family of Helen Ihry