



## Helen M. Keusch

January 7, 1943 - August 16, 2025

[www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com)  
[email@becherkluesner.com](mailto:email@becherkluesner.com)  
812482-4141

Helen M. Keusch, Jasper IN, age 82, died on Aug 16th at Brookside Village. She had been a resident there since May of 2021 when she entered care as the result of a stroke.

Mrs. Keusch was born January 7, 1943, in Evansville, IN, to James and Katheryn (Eakins) Zuber. She married Eugene "Gene" Keusch on May 28, 1966 at St. Peter and Paul's Catholic Church in Haubstadt, IN. They had recently celebrated 59 years of marriage.

Surviving is her husband, Gene, three daughters, Jeannie (Greg) Galbreath, Janet (Michael) Austin, and Elizabeth (Beth) Keusch and six grandchildren, Hannah Austin, Emma Austin, Claire Austin, Katheryn Galbreath, Sarah Eckels-Galbreath and Alex Galbreath. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister and two half-brothers, James S. Zuber and an infant boy Eakins.

Mrs. Keusch graduated from Evansville College in 1965 with a bachelor's degree in music education. She went on to earn a master's degree in music

education from Indiana State University, followed by an endorsement in social studies from the University of Southern Indiana.

She began her teaching career in the Princeton and Greater Jasper school systems, focusing on general music. The majority of her career, however, was spent with the Southeast Dubois School Corporation, where she taught not only general music but also eighth grade social studies and U.S. history to high school juniors.

Teaching was truly her calling. She had a deep love for her students, especially her eighth graders, and found great joy in working with them. Her passion extended beyond the classroom—she served as coach of the eighth grade academic and Spell Bowl teams for 18 years. She also took on leadership roles, including serving as head of the social studies department for five years.

After 32 years of dedicated service, Mrs. Keusch retired from the Southeast Dubois School Corporation in 2000.

Mrs. Keusch spent many years as a church organist, first at Jasper Presbyterian Church and later at Sacred Heart Parish in Schnellville, Indiana. While at Sacred Heart, she helped grow the church choir, laying the groundwork for the vibrant group it is today.

Beyond the church pews, she accompanied hundreds of young musicians in choral concerts, high school musicals, and solo and ensemble contests. But her musical talents didn't stop there. At local parties, much to the delight of her Schnellville neighbors, she was known to let loose on the piano with a rollicking version of "Georgia Porcupine".

Mrs. Keusch had a passion for local history and genealogy. She was an active member of the Dubois County Genealogical Society and found great joy in exploring old cemeteries. She not only traced her own family's roots, but also

helped many others uncover their ancestry.

A woman of many interests, Helen was a dedicated member of the Shanghai-Rum card ladies of Lake Helmerich Village, playing weekly with her group of friends. She also enjoyed bird watching and photography, working often to capture images of the local wildlife, flowers, and of course, family.

Helen deeply loved her family, especially her beloved "Grands," and she had a soft spot for all the cats who chose her as their human. She also cherished her time with her only sister; the two made regular trips to the mall in Evansville, where shopping and eating out were their shared rituals of connection.

Friends may call from 12:00PM until 4:00PM on Friday, August 22, 2025, at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper, Indiana. Services will take place at 4:00PM at the funeral home following visitation. Graveside services will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers or other remembrances, the family kindly requests that memorial contributions be made to the Forest Park Band or the Dubois County Humane Society.

Helen's family would also like to express their heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Brookside Village. The care and compassion shown not only to Helen but to her entire family have been profoundly felt and deeply appreciated.

Online condolences may be made at [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **22**. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Becher & Kluesner Funeral Home - Downtown  
214 East 7th Street  
Jasper, IN 47546  
(812) 482-4141  
email@becherkluesner.com

## Service

AUG **22**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Becher & Kluesner Funeral Home - Downtown  
214 East 7th Street  
Jasper, IN 47546  
(812) 482-4141  
email@becherkluesner.com

# Tribute Wall

KH

“ *ALL THE FUN growing up.Love first cousin  
KAREN JEAN*



---

**Karen Hartman** - August 22, 2025 at 11:56 AM

JL

“ *Oh Miss Helen, I will miss you. You've kept me entertained with  
computer problems for years. I will miss you, my friend.*

*Gene and girls, my deepest condolences for the loss. She was one  
of the nicest people I've ever met. I know how much she loved all  
of you. Many great stories over the years. I feel like I'm the kid  
brother you girls never had.*

*R.I.P.*

---

**Jay Land** - August 22, 2025 at 11:18 AM

SH

*So sorry to hear that Helen has passed. Sending prayers and  
sympathy to Gene and family.  
Sadie Harpenau*

---

**Sadie Harpenau** - August 23, 2025 at 12:35 PM

LT

“ *Sincere sympathy to Gene, Jeanne, Janet, Beth, and families.  
Helen was such a sincere and dedicated teacher. She always gave  
her best!*

---

**Larry Tenbarga** - August 21, 2025 at 06:35 PM

BC

“ We send our condolences to your family. Mrs. Keusch was such a large part of my childhood school life. She taught me music in elementary school, choir in Jr High, and history/social studies in Jr High. She had such a large personality, and she did everything with passion. I always remember her support of her daughters and Gene.

*Janet, special thoughts and prayers are being sent your way as I have great memories of you through Jr High, High School and college.*

*May she be singing and playing music in the heavenly kingdom.*

*Prayers and hugs to your entire family!*

*Love, Doug, Brenda (Lee), Kenzli and Kateri Chappell*

---

**Brenda Chappell** - August 21, 2025 at 05:34 PM

AA

“ Janet, Mike, Hannah, Claire, and Emma- our most heartfelt condolences. You all are definitely within our thoughts, hearts, and prayers during this difficult time. Sending you all lots of love! ----- Scott, Angie, Kendyll, Shane and Blake



---

**Angie Austin** - August 20, 2025 at 07:42 PM

JS

“ So sorry to hear about your wife Gene, prayers to you and your family! Joe Schmutzler

---

**Joe Schmutzler** - August 20, 2025 at 03:33 PM

JH

“ First I and Judi send our most sincere sympathies to your Gene, to your three daughters and all of your grandchildren. I read Helen's obituary in the Herald and I you all truly explained what a true person she was to her family, to her teaching professional career and to all of her friends. Helen was a very special individual, she gave us all her best, and she worked hard to serve us all each and every day. As we now return her to her God and to his eternal kingdom, we now ask that God bless her in eternal glory, and may she continue to look down upon us all and help lead us to be with her one day in heaven. May God bless you all and may your memories of her be a tremendous lasting reward to you all.

---

**JAMES AND Judi Hagedorn** - August 20, 2025 at 08:17 AM

KH

“ Helen m was my cousin we grew up together when were young  
Have a many fun time with her and sister Mary on the farm  
So many stories we had together  
Helen mother Aunt Katherine was my mother's sister  
They came from a family of 10  
God bless your family Love cousin Karen Jean

---

**Karen Hartman** - August 19, 2025 at 04:16 PM

CL

“ Gene, I am so sorry about Helen. I'm so sorry and can't make the visitation, but know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Cleo Ackerman Brown

---

**CleoBrown** - August 19, 2025 at 04:13 PM

D{

“ Sorry for your lost she will be greatly missed Debbie Leffert

---

**deborah aders {Leffert}** - August 19, 2025 at 11:19 AM

JJ

“ She made 8th grade social studies fun, it was the highlight of the day. Not many teachers can do that, but she made it look easy and loved it. Prayers and condolences to the entire family.

Jeff Johanneman - August 18, 2025 at 07:37 PM

JE

“ Mrs. Keusch was my social studies teacher. Her colorful personality was just the ticket for some of us during those awkward junior high years. Condolences to the family.  
-Jennifer Gaesser and Philip Ebert

Jennifer Gaesser Ebert - August 18, 2025 at 05:32 PM



“ I got the honor of meeting this wonderful lady while I worked at Brookside. My condolences to the family!

Max Rasche - August 18, 2025 at 02:57 PM

CB

“ Because of Mrs. Keusch, I play the piano. I can't express how much her influence made a difference in my life. She always expected your best, and pushed you to it. My heart goes out to Gene and her family. May God bring you peace.

Chris (Smith) Best - August 18, 2025 at 01:53 PM

MK

“ Mrs. Kuesch was such a lively music teacher and taught so many of us to square dance and appreciate folk music. I can still hear her singing Fare thee well, Old Joe Clark. Always smiling with her eyes lit up. She truly enjoyed teaching music.  
My deepest sympathy to the family.

Michelle (Wagner) Kiefer - August 18, 2025 at 01:24 PM

PH

“ Thinking of you and your entire family during this time. Much love,  
Jeff and Polly Harker

---

**Polly Harker** - August 18, 2025 at 12:30 PM