



## Harriet Rita Mahaffey, SFO

September 2, 1922 - June 28, 2014

Harriet Rita Mahaffey, SFO, 91, passed away Saturday, June 28, 2014, at St. Mary Healthcare Center, Lafayette, Ind. Harriet lived in Goodland, IN., from 1949 to 1978, and in Rensselaer from 1978 to 2007, when she moved to St. Mary's.

Harriet was born September 2, 1922, in Chicago to Sophia (Czarnecki) and Harry Hudspeth. She attended Our Lady of Longwood Academy in Chicago, Class of 1941, and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1981 from St. Joseph's College. During World War II Harriet served as an inspector for the U.S. Army Signal Corp.

In Chicago on June 24, 1944, at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Harriet married Wyatt W. Mahaffey who passed away April 1, 1976.

Harriet was a member of the St. Augustine Catholic Church, Rensselaer, where she was a Lay Minister, Eucharistic Minister and Lector. She was a member of the Secular Franciscan Order, and Administrator of Emmaus Mission Center in Logansport, IN, including helping to found Morningstar Girls Home. Harriet was a member of the staff at the Crisis Center in Rensselaer, a tutor for the Jasper County Jail GED Program and a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity. She was a Sacristan and instructor for Catechism classes at Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Goodland, IN. She was a former leader for both the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of America.

Harriet is survived by children, Sharron Lennon, Center Grove, IN., Daniel Mahaffey, Thomasville, NC, Thomas Mahaffey, Francesville, IN., Mary Biernat,

Indianapolis, IN, John Mahaffey, Greencastle, IN., Margaret Gibb, League City, TX and James Mahaffey, Plano, TX, 25 Grandchildren, 37 Great-Grandchildren and 5 Great-Great-Grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Wyatt, one sister, Helen Brandt, and three brothers, Edwin Hudspeth, Harry Hudspeth, and James Hudspeth.

Friends will be received at the Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer Monday, July 7, 2014 from 2-8 P.M. where Rosary services will take place at 7 P. M. Funeral Mass will be at St. Augustine Catholic Church Tuesday, July 8, 2014, at 2 P.M. with Fr. Don Davison officiating. Burial will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Goodland, IN. Family and friends are invited to gather at Embers Venue in Rensselaer after the burial.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Calvary Cemetery - Goodland

15439 S 550 E  
Goodland, IN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 7. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
[info@jacksonfuneral.com](mailto:info@jacksonfuneral.com)  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

# Tribute Wall

SR

“ *Susan Ramirez lit a candle in memory of Harriet Rita Mahaffey, SFO*



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**Susan Ramirez** - July 08, 2014 at 12:44 PM

SR

*Harriet was like a second mother to me. I consider her my spiritual mother. Even though my faith is expressed quite differently than hers, she was the first true, consistent, example of living a life of faith as a Christian woman that I ever experienced. Her humility, persistence in running the race, and quiet strength is something we can all learn from. I truly believe the mountain of "works" she produced in her life was brought about by the faith that burned inside her. She was and is a great example to us all. I pray God will wrap His arms around and comfort each person who is mourning her loss and celebrating her winning of the race that was set before her.*

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**Susan Ramirez** - July 08, 2014 at 12:55 PM

MM

“ *Mike And Mary Molenaar lit a candle in memory of Harriet Rita Mahaffey, SFO*



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**Mike and Mary Molenaar** - July 08, 2014 at 08:15 AM

DH

“ *Doris Hammersley lit a candle in memory of Harriet Rita Mahaffey, SFO*



Doris Hammersley - July 05, 2014 at 12:31 PM

DH

*Harriet was such an amazing woman. If I could be half the woman she was, I'd feel very honored. She didn't judge harshly and saw the good in everyone. She fought hard and made her way through roadblocks to help others. Always working in the background - not wanting to be noticed - just wanting to help others. I can't say enough good about her -she's my idol, my mentor, everything I want to be. There will never be another Harriet.*

Doris Hammersley - July 05, 2014 at 12:41 PM

TF

“ *The Walkup Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Harriet Rita Mahaffey, SFO.*



The Walkup Family - July 04, 2014 at 10:45 PM

TF

“ *The Walkup Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Harriet Rita Mahaffey, SFO.*



The Walkup Family - July 04, 2014 at 10:37 PM

EL

“ *Your Mom was awesome and a wonderful person. Because of your Mom helping me and my kids find shelter back in 1986, we are now all success stories. I will always be grateful to her. Elaine Thomas Alberding*

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**Elaine** - July 03, 2014 at 09:50 PM

FM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Fran Mahaffey** - July 03, 2014 at 12:15 PM

DH

*One amazing lady!*

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**Doris Hammersley** - July 03, 2014 at 09:16 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Harriet Rita Mahaffey, SFO.*



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July 03, 2014 at 11:00 AM

JB

“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of Harriet Rita Mahaffey, SFO*



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**Judy Burvan** - July 03, 2014 at 10:49 AM

CD

“ *Margaret, your mom was a wonderful woman! Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Carrie Broussard Dorton & family.*

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**Carrie Broussard Dorton** - July 03, 2014 at 06:23 AM