



## Lillis Donnelly

August 22, 1927 - December 14, 2008

Lillis Donnelly age 81, was born in Knoxville, TN, the daughter of Luther and Theodocia (Weaver) Mayes. She was a 1945 graduate of Clifton (IL) High School and after graduation was employed with Illinois Bell as a telephone operator. In 1949 Lillis moved to Rensselaer. She was a homemaker and a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church of Rensselaer. Survivors include her children, Patrick (Lynne) Donnelly of Rensselaer, Nancy Smith of Lebanon, IN and Tom (Shelly) Donnelly of Rensselaer, step-children, Scott (Karen) Donnelly of Rensselaer and Judy (Ron) Ray of Panama City, FL, several grandchildren, 3 sisters, Geneva (Kenneth) Ried, Madonna Lee and Lois Feldhaus and one brother, Robert (Shirley) Mayes. Lillis was preceded in death by her parents, 5 brothers and 3 sisters.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **27**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ Pat and Tom; sorry for your loss. God Bless##imported-begin##reggie fleming##imported-end##

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December 27, 2008 at 10:36 AM



“ We are all saddened by the passing of Lillis, but carry with us wonderful and fond memories of her. We spent nearly as much time at the Donnelly's as we did our own home. I was so glad I was able to see Lillis last June when I (Robin) was in town for our class reunion. Mom (Dorothy) and Lillis have stayed close over all the years since we moved to Seattle and just mailed her Christmas card the day before she passed away. Kim remembers all the chocolate chip cookies she used to make for him when he was little. Thank you Lillis for your kindness and your sparkle. For us kids you were like a second mother to us when we were growing up and are grateful for the wonderful relationship between our two families.

With love and great memories,  
The Sells Family##imported-begin##Dorothy, Robin, Kim & John Sells##imported-end##

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December 27, 2008 at 02:16 AM



“ Thanks for all the laughs and the love you so generously shared. I will miss you##imported-begin##Doug Hansen##imported-end##

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December 17, 2008 at 11:22 PM



“ Your mother was special to my mother, Sophie Tilton. She called her many times and they enjoyed each other's company. One day she told mother she was moving but didn't know where. Mom missed talking to her. Mom is 92 and we had to put her in a home for the winter. She always said the old ones spoke the same language. She will be missed. You have our sympathy.##imported-begin##Helen Pettet##imported-end##

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December 17, 2008 at 08:29 PM



“ You all have my deepest sympathy. Your mother was one special lady to everyone who met her. She always had a big smile on her face and you didn't leave her without one of her "Lillis lines". She is truly going to be missed. Love, Ann Bayless (Aunt Mary Ann's friend)##imported-begin##Ann Bayless##imported-end##

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December 17, 2008 at 05:24 PM