



## Helen M. Baker

January 7, 1927 - September 26, 2019

Helen M. Baker, 92, of Kearney, NE died Thursday, September 26, 2019 at Brookdale Kearney Northridge assisted living facility. Funeral services will be on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Kearney. Pastor Kayla Mangrich will officiate, and burial will be at Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be 1 hour prior to services on Tuesday at the church. Memorials are suggested to First United Methodist Church or to the family to be designated later. Please visit [www.hlmkfuneral.com](http://www.hlmkfuneral.com) to leave a tribute or message of condolence. Horner Lieske McBride and Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services are in charge of arrangements.

Helen was born on January 7, 1927 in Miller, NE to Orson M. and Hazel A. Smith. She grew up in the Miller area and graduated from Miller High School in 1944. She then attended Kearney State Teachers College where she earned a teaching degree. Helen taught school for 7 years and later accepted a position as a Secretary at the college. She married Gordon L. Baker on September 30, 1947 in Elm Creek, NE. Gordon enlisted in the Marine Corps shortly after their wedding and the couple would reside in Cherry Point, NC while he was stationed there. After the Marines, Helen and Gordon moved to Elm Creek, NE where they owned and operated Baker's Standard Service and Baker's Skelly. They moved to Kearney in 1976 after Gordon took a position as Grounds Supervisor at UNK. Helen was a member of the Kearney First United Methodist Church and a past member of Women's Church Circle.

She enjoyed reading, crocheting and spending time with her family.

Helen is survived by her children, Kent Baker and his fiancé Patty Zeleny of Lincoln, NE and Karen and her husband Norman Graeff of Crookston, NE; grandchildren, Tara Baker and husband Bryan Klinginsmith, Megan Baker, Keisha Andersen-Fries and husband Brett, Brady Graeff and wife Sandy, Jesse Graeff and wife Elisha and Dillon Graeff; great grandchildren, Londyn Fries, Kali Graeff, Kellen Fries, Leonardo Graeff, Aiden Graeff, Cadance Graeff, William Klinginsmith and Charlotte Klinginsmith.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Gordon.

# Cemetery Details

## Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I  
Kearney, NE 68847

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
4500 Linden Drive  
Kearney, NE 68847

## Funeral Service

OCT 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
4500 Linden Drive  
Kearney, NE 68847

# Tribute Wall

BH

“ *Helen Smith was my first grade teacher and taught me 2nd and 3rd grade also and became Ms. Baker to us. Wonderful teacher.*

Barbara Clark Holliday - October 28, 2023 at 03:08 PM



“ *Helen M. Baker*

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM

NR

“ *Wonderful memories. Always a smile and laugh. A dear Aunt*

*Nancy Roessler*

Nancy M Roessler - October 03, 2019 at 10:31 AM



“ *Helen & Bake were wonderful people. I can still see that smile & hear Helen's laugh. A great lady.*

Steve McCormick - September 28, 2019 at 06:50 PM

RR

“ *Kent: (and any others related). As you and I have discussed, Kent, I had a special relationship of appreciation with Helen and Gordon. I was randomly traveling through some obituaries when I saw Helen experienced life's last transition yesterday. We extend our sympathy. Ron and Berdeen*

Ron Roemmich - September 27, 2019 at 01:38 PM

SB

“ So many wonder memories! She was the best Aunt ever! Her laugh and smile were infectious!! I am sure that my Uncle Gordon is very happy to be with his beloved again! I know they are dancing in Heaven!  
Shelley Baker Brandt



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**Shelley Baker Brandt** - September 27, 2019 at 12:06 PM

LG

“ I'm so sorry to see your Loving Mom as passed on. Oh the memories of our family gathering in Elm Creek bring a smile to my face. Your Mom and Dad were good friends with my Mom and Dad (lone McHale & Marvin (Mac) McHale. I'm sure there having a card party in Heaven... May your memories of your Mom bring you comfort today and always...Hugs...

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**Linda K McHale Guill** - September 27, 2019 at 09:00 AM