



## Irene M. Bunnell

October 30, 1925 - March 12, 2015

CANAAN, VT -- Mrs. Irene M. Bunnell, 89, of South Canaan, died peacefully on Thursday afternoon, March 12, 2015, at the Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital in Colebrook with her family by her side.

She was born in Detroit, Mich., on Oct. 30, 1925, a daughter to the late Joseph and Marge (Godo) Roberts. Irene was a graduate of Colebrook Academy in 1944.

Irene was a dedicated homemaker and mother for her entire adult life, and she also spent 20 years as the head teller at the Farmers & Traders Bank, retiring in 1982. She was a member of the Monadnock Congregational Church and the church's Unity Club for more than 60 years, serving on most of the church boards at one time or another. In 1994, Irene was honored to be named the Kiwanis Lay Person of the Year. She was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star for 52 years, and a 50-year member of the American Legion Ladies' Auxiliary. She loved to be outdoors, whether it be working in her garden or on the wood pile. One of her greatest joys, along with her family, was hosting the annual Memorial Day family reunion at her home, which they did for more than 50 years.

She is survived by her son, Earl A. Bunnell II and wife Pamela of Colebrook; one who was considered as close as a son, Ronald Gadwah and wife Karen

of Hampton, NH, and Ron's daughter, Kara Payer Sweatt; a sister, Shirley Pearson of Grand Rapids, Mich., two nieces and a nephew.

Irene is predeceased by her beloved husband of more than 62 years, Earl A. Bunnell in 2011; and her daughter, Vickie Bunnell in 1997.

Calling hours will be held on Monday, March 16, 2015, from 2-4 & 6-8 p.m. at the Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home in Colebrook, NH. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 17, at the Monadnock Congregational Church in Colebrook with The Rev. Rebecca Larson officiating. Interment will follow in the spring at the Colebrook Village Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy in memory of Mrs. Bunnell may be made to the Monadnock Congregational Church, 24 Parsons St., Colebrook, NH 03576.

Condolences may be offered to the family by going to [www.jenkinsnewman.com](http://www.jenkinsnewman.com).

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home, Colebrook, NH.

# Cemetery Details

## Colebrook Village Cemetery

North Main Street, U.S. Route 3  
Colebrook, NH

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 16. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home  
103 Main Street  
Colebrook, NH 03576  
(603) 237-4311  
[info@jenkinsnewman.com](mailto:info@jenkinsnewman.com)

## Visitation

MAR 16. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home  
103 Main Street  
Colebrook, NH 03576  
(603) 237-4311  
[info@jenkinsnewman.com](mailto:info@jenkinsnewman.com)

## Service

---

MAR 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Monadnock Congregational Church  
Main Street  
Colebrook, NH

# Tribute Wall

SY

“ Earl & Pam,

*We just got the 18 March N&S out here in CO and learned of Irene's passing. Please accept our sincere condolences. We really enjoyed some fun times with both your mom and dad - they were great people and we were lucky to know them. You are both in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Steve & Sherry Young*

---

**Steve Young** - April 09, 2015 at 05:47 PM



“ Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." was purchased for the family of Irene M. Bunnell.



---

April 07, 2015 at 02:34 PM

ME

“ *Sending sincere condolences to all.*

---

**Myra Ellingwood** - March 22, 2015 at 12:40 PM

CB

“ Dear Bunnell Family, I am so glad that i got to visit with Irene this past summer. She was always a kind and loving supporter of her church and her extended family through her participation in various organizations. She will be missed. My prayers for you and your family.

*Carol M. Bartlett*

---

**Carol M. Bartlett** - March 21, 2015 at 08:11 PM

CN

“ Earl, I just learned of your mom's passing and wanted you to know you and Pam are in my thought and prayers. "Gram" and "Gramps" have held a special place in my heart for many years now and always will. Please take what comfort you can in the fact that they have been reunited with one another, and with Vicki, in our father's heavenly kingdom.

---

**Cheryl Neary** - March 20, 2015 at 01:32 PM

JR

“ Irene and Earl welcomed me into the Ramsay/Bunnell family over 40 years ago and their warmth and kindness are, and always will be, something I cherish. They shared their deep faith with action and were an inspiration. My thoughts go out to their family and friends now. Jane Ramsay

---

**Jane Ramsay** - March 17, 2015 at 05:54 PM

JD

“Earl and Pam, Irene was always a kind and caring person who was genuinely interested in you and how you're doing. A true lady of class. We are very proud to know the family, and we will miss Irene, She will be in our memory and in our prayers. Our sincere condolences to you on her passing.  
Joeng and Mike Divney

---

**Joeng & Mike Divney** - March 17, 2015 at 03:18 PM

DD

“I know Irene as the kind, sweet neighbor that let us do just about anything the neighborhood kids could think up, as long as no one got hurt. I will always think of her as my second Mom. Everyone who knew her would know for sure Christmas was near when there was a plate of Irene's homemade cookies and treats on your kitchen table. I am very thankful for her checking on My Dad during winter months when it was so hard for us to be around. She will be missed. Please accept our condolences from the entire Dudley Family.



---

**Don Dudley** - March 17, 2015 at 11:29 AM

BN

“My sympathies to you. Such a pleasant and kind person.

---

**Bob Noyes** - March 16, 2015 at 08:35 AM

HM

“It's truly amazing to think that for the past 26 years that I've been married, my Aunt Irene never once missed sending a wedding anniversary card - nor did she ever miss a birthday or Christmas.

---

**Heidi Mason** - March 15, 2015 at 09:43 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Irene M. Bunnell.*



---

March 15, 2015 at 08:59 PM



“ *Earl and Pam please know that our hearts and prayers are with you. We share your sorrow in your loss, but we treasure all the wonderful memories we have of our visits to the Vermont side. The loss is softened a bit by visions of your Mom with your Dad and Vicki. God Bless!*

---

**Donna Castor** - March 15, 2015 at 07:43 PM



“ *I was saddened to hear that Irene had passed. She was truly a generous selfless person.i will miss seeing her. Please accept my condolences.*

*Bill Sambito*

,

---

**Bill Sambito** - March 15, 2015 at 07:04 PM



“ *Very sorry to hear of Irene's death. I always liked seeing her. She was a classy lady. May God comfort you all with your precious memories.*

---

**Ann and Lindsey Gray** - March 15, 2015 at 12:13 PM

VS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Irene and her family. We shall always remember the Memorial Day family reunions that Earl and Irene hosted for all the Bunnell and Ramsay descendants. It is truly a great life experience to meet and learn part of my mother's (Virginia) family tree history. The friendships from Earl and Irene's reunions are one of God's blessings that He has bestowed upon all of us. May God continue to bless Irene and all of us with His love.

Virginia, Tom, and Beth Serra - March 15, 2015 at 10:06 AM

VS

“ Virginia, Tom, and Beth Serra purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Irene M. Bunnell.



Virginia, Tom, and Beth Serra - March 15, 2015 at 09:46 AM

RL

“ Ray Lavigne lit a candle in memory of Irene M. Bunnell



Ray Lavigne - March 15, 2015 at 08:50 AM

LA

“ Irene is now in Heaven with Earl and Vicki. She is another Angel watching over her loving family. God Bless.



Laurie - March 14, 2015 at 10:52 PM

LA

“ Laurie, Neil and Alan purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Irene M. Bunnell.



---

**Laurie, Neil and Alan** - March 14, 2015 at 10:44 PM

FC

“ Our condolences to all the family. Francine & Andre Champagne

---

**Francine Champagne** - March 14, 2015 at 01:09 PM

CC

“ So sorry for the loss of your mom, she was a wonderful person. Sending love to all, Keenan & Chantal Carney

---

**Chantal Carney** - March 14, 2015 at 07:37 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Irene M. Bunnell.



---

March 14, 2015 at 07:15 AM

LC

“ Linda Clogston lit a candle in memory of Irene M. Bunnell



---

**Linda Clogston** - March 14, 2015 at 05:29 AM

KB

“ Keith And Billie Brockney lit a candle in memory of Irene M. Bunnell



---

**Keith and Billie Brockney** - March 14, 2015 at 04:11 AM

DW

“ Irene has been the go-to person in our church for as long as I can remember. Her strength, her grace, her positive attitude has been an inspiration to us all. I will never forget her. Irene's faith was strong enough for our entire congregation. May God comfort you, her family until you see her again. Deb Wells

---

**Deborah Wells** - March 13, 2015 at 07:10 PM

CR

“ Irene was a second Mom to a lot of folks, including my husband Rob and, later myself. I had the honor of calling Irene a friend. She was the kindest person I have ever met. We will really miss the coffee and muffins, and especially the wave from the window every time we departed, no matter how she was feeling. We both loved Irene. Thanks for sharing her, Earl, Pam & Ron & Karen. She was one in a million!  
Connie & Rob

---

**Connie & Rob** - March 13, 2015 at 06:31 PM

HH

“ Our condolences go out to the Bunnell family on your loss.

---

**Haven & Peggy Haynes** - March 13, 2015 at 06:30 PM

SB

“ Irene was the nicest lady. She never failed to hug me at the postoffice and ask about me. She will be missed. Our condolences to her family. Sam and Joan Bird

Sam and Joan Bird - March 13, 2015 at 03:18 PM

RO

“ Rosemary lit a candle in memory of Irene M. Bunnell



Rosemary - March 13, 2015 at 03:04 PM

RO

Such a great lady! Thinking of you with love and prayers.  
Rosey

Rosemary - March 13, 2015 at 03:06 PM

JC

“ Jan Phil Corliss lit a candle in memory of Irene M. Bunnell



Jan Phil Corliss - March 13, 2015 at 09:46 AM

JC

Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this tough time. Jan and Phil Corliss

Jan Phil Corliss - March 13, 2015 at 09:47 AM

MG

*Working with "Mother Irene" for 25 years, Love the Lady. Earl and Pam my thoughts are with you. Marie*

---

**Marie Gorman** - March 13, 2015 at 01:11 PM

SN

*Our deepest condolences to the family. We have fond memories of our South Canaan neighbors. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

---

**Suzelle-Walter Noyes** - March 13, 2015 at 01:28 PM

DJ

*My heart aches with sadness, that we will no longer visit and comfort each other here on this earth. But I do take comfort in knowing that you are with your wonderful husband and daughter. It is your chance to be with them both forever. We will miss your wonderful smile and kind heart. --Donna Jordan*

---

**Donna Jordan** - March 13, 2015 at 03:57 PM

AN

*Irene joins Earl and Vickie in a special place in my heart. Sending hugs and comfort to Earl and Pam. How lucky we all were to have your Mom in our lives. Ann (Blanchard) Nason*

---

**Ann Nason** - March 14, 2015 at 02:21 PM

MB

*My deepest sympathy to Earl, Pam, Ronnie and Karen. I have many fond memories spent at the Bunnell home in Canaan, Vermont. Irene was a true Christian in the fullest sense of the word. Her home always welcomed the stranger - you will be missed, Irene. You will live on in the memories of those with whom you shared your life. Me being one of those persons. The Colebrook/Canaan Community has indeed lost a truly great person.*

*Milly Badger  
Waterbury, Vermont*

---

**Mildred Badger** - March 14, 2015 at 07:38 PM

WL

*Our sympathy to the family. My mother and father had always talked about the fond memories of their and our visits with the Bunnell's. We will keep you in our prayers.*

*Walter Landry  
North Attleboro, MA*

---

**Walter Landry** - March 15, 2015 at 12:14 PM

SH

*Irene entered God's kingdom with trumpets blowing upon her arrival. She was one of the great woman of this earth and now of heaven. My eldest son Scot Ramsay said, "Earl and Irene were the salt of this earth and will be truly missed by all." Over 48 years we have been going to Colebrook for Family Memorial Day celebration's. They have been wonderful and so up lifting to all who attended. The BUNNELL LOVE shared will live on in all our hearts and the Colebrook area forever.*

*Our deepest sympathy is extended to Earl, Pam, Ron, Karen the children, Scott and so many, many others who will miss this very special woman named Irene. She has gone home to be with Vicki, Earl and family may she rest in peace. We all have been blessed to have shared life with this wonderful lady.*

*With our deepest sympathy, respect and much Love,  
Bob and Sandy Haskell*

---

**Sandra Haskell** - March 15, 2015 at 04:24 PM

SH

*Wonderful memories of learning how to live life, fishing, tying flies and laughter, fun, and family. What a gift Irene and family has shared with Scot, Sue, Rod and Randy Ramsay thanks for giving them great foundations of life and how to love unconditionally. God's peace to you all..and thanks Bunnells. Prayers are coming your way Earl and Pam, Ron and Karen hold onto the memories and Love.*

---

**Sandra Haskell** - March 15, 2015 at 04:34 PM