



Irmgard Rhodes

MAY 5, 1931 - OCT 2, 2024



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 6



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A memorial service for Irmgard Rhodes, 93 of Heath will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday October 17, 2024 at the Newark Chapel of Vensil & Chute Funeral Home.

A visitation will be observed from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Mrs. Rhodes passed away on October 2, 2024 at the Selma Markowitz Care Center operated by Hospice of Central Ohio.

She was born May 5, 1931, in Munich, Germany to Josef and Walburga (Spiess) Kern.

She married US Army GI (Sgt. Grant A. Rhodes) in Germany in 1963.

She moved to Ohio when Grant received orders for Vietnam, while stationed at Fort Carson Colorado.

Irmgard remained close to his family in Newark Ohio, while he served our country.

Sadly, he was killed in 1966.

Irmgard never remarried.

She often visited his gravesite, tidied the landscape and complained about the shoddy upkeep, as was her way.

She retired from Denison University, having served at Whistler Hall.

For many years she used to enjoy her monthly coffee klatsch sessions with her cherished German friends.



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She had been a member of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church and enjoyed Pastor Rauch, for hosting German Christmas services.

She later then became a member of St. John's United Church of Christ in Heath, Ohio.

She enjoyed baking, especially her famous apple cake and cheesecake, and loved to prepare her special version of German potato salad.

Irmgard was a perfectionist at heart, delighted in arranging seasonal decorations, tending her flower gardens and caring for her bird bath.

She was nicknamed the "Glenwood Dog Lady".

Max, Lucy and Milo still pine for their "snacks" and porch visits.

She loved to ride her 3-wheeled her bike around the Glenwood Condos to exercise & chat.

Special thanks to her caregiver "Holly" Purtee, plus her longtime friend Betty Kamphowe who provided care and companionship when Irmgard needed it most.

Irmgard will be missed at Jodie's Family Hair Care, where she entertained the other clients and the hair stylists, discussing the soap operas, politics, current events and community gossip.

Lorraine Madden, neighbor, will miss taking her there and seeing everyone light up when she entered the salon!

She is survived by her son, Wilhelm (Will) Kern, daughter-in-law Cheryl (Cheri) Kern; granddaughter, Kelly Kern and husband, William Malone; great-grandchildren, Benjamin and Alessandra; special nephew, Pita (Ursula) Janssen and several cousins in Germany.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Grant A. Rhodes and a sister.

The family requests memorial contributions in her memory be sent to Hospice of Central Ohio, 2269 Cherry Valley Road, SE Newark, OH 43055.



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SK

Steve Keinath posted:

In the early 1970's I used to help Irmgard with handyman chores when she lived on Fairbanks Ave in Newark. She was a dear friend and I was fortunate to occasionally have lunch with her and greatly enjoyed her cooking, including her delicious hot German potato salad, which she once taught me to make. Irmgard's son Will was a big influence in why I enlisted in the Air Force and it was then that I sadly lost touch with this dear lady. With her passing, this world has lost a little bit of light, but Heaven has just gotten a bit brighter. My sincere condolences to Will, Cheri and the rest of the family.

October 15 at 8:29 AM

RK

Rolf And Betty Kamphowe posted:

In loving memory of a wonderful person. We will love you and miss you always.

October 14 at 11:31 AM

CL

Carl Lahman posted:

Will always remember being Irmgard's neighbor when Jeni and I lived at the condos. Irmgard loved our miniature schnauzer, Maddie, and always wanted to pet her and spend time with her. Unfortunately, Maddie is not a social pet. Irmgard loved sitting on her front porch and we would come over occasionally for a visit. She was not bashful about telling me how she felt if the property around her condo was not up to her standards. :-) Your laughter will always echo in our heart. Rest in peace. Jeni and Carl Lahman

October 13 at 12:24 PM

MC

Martha Cooperrider posted:

Will and Cheri Forrest and I are so sorry for your loss

October 13 at 3:46 AM

LA

Lea Allberry posted:

Will & Cheri---- You know Irmgard was a very special lady who touched many of our hearts with her kindness and humor. Loved doing lunch with her. Maybe now she's showing Bob how to make her amazing apple cake! My sympathies to you all on the loss of this wonderful lady.

October 11 at 3:57 PM



Tribute Wall

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HP

Holly Purtee posted:

I was so blessed to have Irmgard in my life. I will miss her so very much but I know she is happy to finally be able to rest with Grant. God bless you my sweet friend.

October 10 at 7:55 AM

LC

Linda Cannoy posted:

Praying for family and friends

October 10 at 6:25 AM

AT

A.J. Tarquino posted:

We will never forget Irmgard (Oma), Rhodes and the kindness she showed us and those cheese cakes she baked us along with her spaghetti and meat sauce. She enjoyed our company as we would stop by for a visit on our walk to the condo mailbox. R.I.P. You will never be forgotten. We loved you. Eva & A.J.

October 10 at 5:47 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Irmgard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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