



Helen Louise Kotula

April 23, 1934 - March 30, 2026

Helen Louise Kotula
(née Schofield)

Age 91, of Wilmington, IL, passed away peacefully at her home on Monday, March 30, 2026. She was born April 23, 1934 to James and Marie (née Dedic) Schofield.

Helen worked for many years as a billing clerk for Rudolf Express. In her free time, she enjoyed crossword puzzles, knitting, and drawing. She had a talent for art, often creating charcoal pencil and ink drawings of animals, and she had a special love for horses. More than anything, however, she loved her family deeply and treasured every moment she was able to spend with them. She is survived by her daughters, Betty Jo (Lance) Milner of Morris, IL and Mary (Steve) Kunde of Wilmington, IL; eight grandchildren, Matthew (Julie) Milner, Kathryn Libbey, Elizabeth (Mike) Roach, David (Robin) Kotula, Christopher Kotula, Josephine (Tyler) Bieda, Timothy Kunde and William Kunde; seven great-grandchildren, Jude, Jaylah, Zachary, Zoe, Colby, Octavia and Matilda; and her sister, Ethlyn of Palm Beach, FL.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her sons, Martin Kotula and Ronald Kotula.

A graveside service will be held Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. at East Cemetery in Essex, IL with Father Sebastian Gargol officiating. Services have been entrusted to R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory in Braidwood, IL.

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory
401 E. Main St., Braidwood, 815-458-2336
www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com

Cemetery Details

East Cemetery

West 4250 North Road- Intersection of North
15000 West Road
Essex, IL 60935

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

East Cemetery
West 4250 North Road- Intersection of North 15000 West Road
Essex, IL 60935