



## Julia "Nana" P. Engel

June 6, 1934 - October 5, 2025

Julia "Nana" P. Engel  
(née Mrowca)

Age 91, of Braidwood, IL, passed away peacefully Sunday, October 5, 2025 in Braidwood. Born June 6, 1934, in Chicago, IL, she was the daughter of Andrew and Helen (née Gombus) Mrowca.

On May 24, 1963, Julia married George L. Engel in Chicago, IL. They shared 20 years of marriage before his passing on September 5, 1983.

Julia, alongside her husband, George, were hardworking and dedicated in business. They owned and operated several establishments, including Engel's Snack Shop and The Mini Hut in Chicago, Unk's Chicken in Braidwood and Mokena, and The Mine in Braidwood. She later worked as a caretaker.

Julia loved cooking and especially looked forward to her family's annual Pierogi Day, a tradition she treasured. She also found joy in gardening, crafting, crocheting, and caring for her animals. Above all, Julia cherished the moments she shared with her loved ones and never turned down cookies or sweets. She was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Braidwood. Julia enjoyed spending many happy times with her family at the Braidwood Recreation Club. She was everyone's Nana.

She is survived by her children, Judy (Dr. Walter, DDS) James of Wilmington, Janet (Todd) Kalbfleisch of Braidwood, and Karl (Linda) Engel of Braidwood. Her greatest joy was her family, and she took immense pride in her 16 grandchildren: Jeannie, Kristie, Michael, Mandie, Brian, Jessica, Jillian,

Jeremy, Eric, Jina, Stefanie, Matthew, Jenny, Ashley, Brooke, and Nik. Her love extended to 35 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild, who together carry on the legacy of her strength, warmth, and devotion. Also surviving are her sisters, Helen Wann of Lemont, IL, and Diane (Jerry) Sramek of Homer Glen, IL.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Andrew and Helen Mrowca; her husband, George L. Engel; her son, Don Engel; her daughter, Joyce Engel; her brother, John Mrowca; and her grandson-in-law, Steve Neese.

Visitation will be held on Friday, October 10, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory in Braidwood, IL. Funeral services will follow at 4:00 p.m. at the funeral home. A private family burial will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family to be dispersed. To share memories or offer condolences, please visit Julia's online guestbook at [www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com) or find us on Facebook.

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory  
401 E. Main St., Braidwood, 815-458-2336  
[www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **10**. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home  
401 East Main St.  
Braidwood, IL 60408  
(815) 458-2336  
info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com>

## Service

OCT **10**. 4:00 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home  
401 East Main St.  
Braidwood, IL 60408  
(815) 458-2336  
info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com>

# Tribute Wall

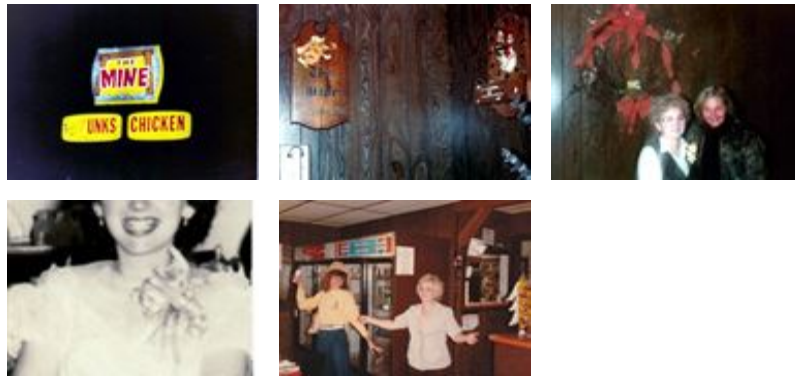
DS

“ Thoughts & Prayers to the entire family of Julia Engel!

Dean Shepherd - October 11, 2025 at 08:49 AM



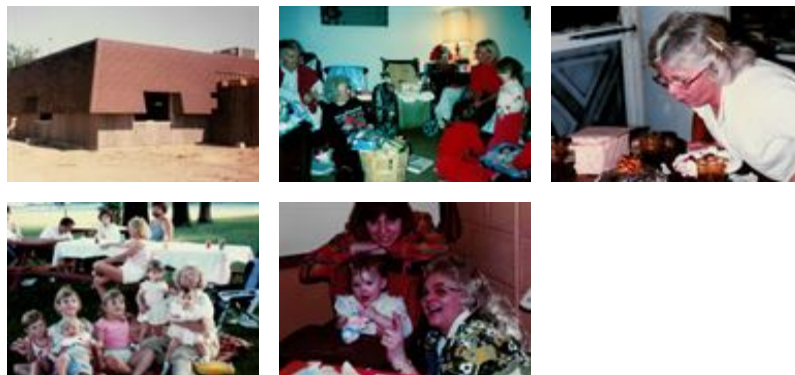
“ 36 files added to the album Life Tributes



R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. - October 10, 2025 at 11:28 AM



“ 75 files added to the album Life Tributes



R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. - October 09, 2025 at 02:43 PM

JN

“💔



Jessica Neese - October 09, 2025 at 01:45 PM

JJ

“ *Jina lit a candle in memory of Julia "Nana" Engel*



Jina - October 09, 2025 at 01:44 PM

LI

“ *Heartfelt Sympathy to All of Mrs. Engel's Family 🙏  
Doug & Linda Mandat*



Linda - October 08, 2025 at 07:08 PM

BL

“ *BETTY LEE lit a candle in memory of Julia "Nana" Engel*



BETTY LEE - October 08, 2025 at 07:01 PM

Jl

“ *Jillian lit a candle in memory of Julia "Nana" Engel*



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**Jillian** - October 08, 2025 at 08:25 AM

DK

*May Julie rest in peace. I know she in God's hands.*

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**Dorothy Kalbfleisch** - October 08, 2025 at 03:47 PM