



## Betty Irene Held

June 21, 1939 - February 4, 2017

Betty Irene (Gootee) Held, 77, of Knoxville, Tennessee, formerly of Hammond, Indiana, passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 4, 2017 at the Willow Ridge Center in Maynardville, Tennessee.

Born in Hammond, Indiana on June 21, 1939 to Delbert and Minnie (Duncan) Gootee, Betty was raised in Hammond, Indiana. She fondly told stories of her childhood with her many siblings and the dear friends she had at Lincoln and Irving Elementary schools, at Hammond Tech High School, and at Douglas (Pulaski) Park, where she was box hockey champion. On December 27, 1958 she married Richard R. Held at St. Joseph's Church in Dyer, Indiana. A longtime member of St. Casmir Church in Hammond, Betty was a devoted wife and mother of five. She was active in the Calumet Region participating in neighborhood initiatives and writing letters to the editor passionately expressing her views. She enjoyed writing poetry. Betty was a lifelong fan of the Chicago Cubs, and never doubted for a moment that she would see her Cubbies win the World Series. After the death of her husband in 1991, Mrs. Held moved to Knoxville where she enjoyed the company of her siblings and the role of Grandma to her Tennessee grandchildren.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents and husband; her brothers: Bobby, Eugene, Danny, Don, and Delbert Gootee; and sisters: Patsy Ann Gootee and Adelle Wartman. Betty is survived by her five children: Richard

Held, Jr. (Kazi Wilkins) of Knoxville, Tennessee, Bambi Held (Terry Mares) of Keyport, New Jersey, Don Held (Cyndi Ritzi) of Cincinnati, Ohio, John Held of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Dianne Held of Wichita, Kansas; four grandchildren: Jennifer Dahl of Highland, Indiana, Faith Held of Knoxville, Tennessee, Jacob Held of Knoxville, Tennessee, and Kit Held-Mares of Keyport, New Jersey; and two great-grandchildren: Teilye Dahl of Highland, Indiana, and Zackary Ballow of Knoxville, Tennessee. Betty is also survived by her brothers: Jim (Ann) Gootee, CH (Carla) Gootee; sisters: Amelia Pieper, Maggie (Herb) Welk, Barbara (Henry) Cook, Sharon Pine, and Becky Pemberton; and many nieces and nephews.

The family expresses humble thanks and admiration to the staff at Willow Ridge Center in Maynardville, Tennessee who filled Betty's last months with extraordinary care and consideration. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to Caris Hospice Knoxville Area Office, 10651 Coward Mill Road, Suite B, Knoxville, TN 37931 (866) 694-4988 <http://carishealthcare.com/about-us/donations/>

A visitation will be held on Friday, February 10, 2017 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Memory Lane Funeral Home, 6305 W. Lincoln Highway (US 30), Crown Point, Indiana. A private family farewell will begin at 4:00 p.m. Please call the funeral home for further information (219) 322-2050. [www.memorylanepark.com](http://www.memorylanepark.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Memory Lane Memorial Park

6305 W. Lincoln Highway (US 30)  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
(219) 322-2050  
info.memorylanepark@gmail.com  
<https://memorylanepark.com/>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

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

Memory Lane Funeral Home  
6305 W. Lincoln Highway  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
(219) 322-2050  
info.memorylanepark@gmail.com  
<https://memorylanepark.com/>

# Tribute Wall

RM

“ We sure do miss Ms. Betty here at Willow Ridge Center. We were so honored to have taken care of her. She had the best smile and eyes! Big hug to you all! Go Cubs!!

Rebecca Mills - February 21, 2017 at 10:06 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Betty Irene Held.



February 09, 2017 at 10:35 AM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Betty Irene Held.



February 09, 2017 at 09:40 AM

HL

“ Dianne and family- Thinking about you during this difficult time- Heather Liess

H. Liess - February 08, 2017 at 01:50 PM

MH

“ *Dianne and family,*

*You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Michele Hoffmann*

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**Michele Hoffmann** - February 08, 2017 at 09:36 AM

BK

“ *Bernice Koharchik lit a candle in memory of  
Betty Irene Held*



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**Bernice Koharchik** - February 08, 2017 at 09:17 AM

RH

“ *Extending my deepest condolence to Dianne and family.*

*May knowing you're in the hearts and thoughts of others help you  
and yours through this time of sorrow.*

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**Rita Hofling** - February 08, 2017 at 08:07 AM



“ *Red Rose Sanctuary Casket Spray was  
purchased for the family of Betty Irene Held.*



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February 07, 2017 at 03:14 PM

JT

“ It was pleasure to have had to opportunity to care for such an amazing lady. I will miss her and I will miss our conversations about the Cubs. Many prayers for the Betty's family in the coming days.

*Jennifer Turner*

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**Jennifer Turner** - February 07, 2017 at 01:22 PM

FM

“ Faith, Jacob, Margaret purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Betty Irene Held.



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**Faith, Jacob, Margaret** - February 06, 2017 at 08:57 PM

BJ

“ Betty's beautiful smile always brightened my day.

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**Beth Justice** - February 06, 2017 at 05:26 PM