

# Obituary

## Lillian Mary (Kennedy) O'Connor

Funeral Mass was celebrated September 19, 2000 by Reverend Father Bernard O'Neill at St. Joseph's Church, Belleville, for Lillian Mary (Kennedy) O'Connor, of Belleville, who died September 16 at Belleville General Hospital in her 81st year.

Readings were by daughter Janet Demaiter and niece Wendy Sobol. Son Breen delivered a thoughtful reflection of Mrs. O'Connor's life. Interment followed at St. James Cemetery.

Born in Quyon, Quebec, Mrs. O'Connor was daughter of the late James and Lillian (Mulligan) Kennedy. She was raised in Toronto. Most of her married life of 57 years was spent in Marmora Township.

She was predeceased by son Don and his wife Anne, grandchildren Lauren O'Connor, John and Amy Royle, sisters Helen Moore and Sister Patricia Kennedy and brothers James and Jack Kennedy.

Mrs. O'Connor is survived by husband Breen, children Breen (Joan), Oshawa; Dennis, Smith Falls; Anne Raftis (Bob), Atlanta; Leo (Madeleine), Stockdale; Paul, Vancouver; Lillian Guiry (Terry), Mount Albert; Ed (Denise), Dundas; Patty Gallinger (Kim), Mount Albert; Kate (Manuel O'Quinn), Oshawa; Margie Royle (John), Collen Mulvihill (Pat), Janet Demaiter (David), and Maureen Corrigan (Peter) all of Belleville; 41 precious grandchildren and two great-grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews; brother Bill (Jo), Perth; sister Anne Marie Davidson (Duncan), Fremont, Ca.; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law Dode and Alice

Kennedy, Bob Moore, Margaret Courneyea, Joan Verrault and Micheal O'Connor.

A life member of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, Mrs. O'Connor served as president at the parish, diocesan and provincial levels. She was also president-elect of the National Council.

She spent 20 years as a volunteer and national director for the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace and four years as national Director for UNICEF. She was trustee on the Hastings-Prince Edward RCSS Board for 20 years, 10 years as a representative on the Ontario Separate Schools Trustees Association and eight years on the Editorial Board of the Ontario Bishop's Committee for the "Fully Alive" family life program.

In 1976, Mrs. O'Connor was the recipient of the Pappal Meal 'Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice' from Pope Paul VI for "outstanding service to church and community".

She was an active member of the Marmora Centennial Committee, 1967, and Returning Officer for the Federal Electoral District of Hastings, Frontenac for three elections.

In 1990, she received the "Award of Merit" from the Ontario Separate Schools Trustees Association for service to Catholic education. For the past five years she also enjoyed participating in the "Grandfriends" program in Belleville.

Pallbearers were grandsons Breen III, Andy, Paul, Lucas, Don and Pat O'Connor.

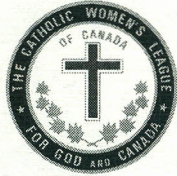
Honourary pallbearers were Catholic Womens'

League members: Leona O'Neill, Carmel Foster, Dombrowsky, Tina Margaret Monk and Wilma O'Sullivan, Rae Phillips, Bush. Maureen MacNamara, Jean

*In fond memory of*



*Lillian Mary  
O'Connor*



*Lillian Mary  
O'Connor*

*M*ANY CWL MEMBERS WILL REMEMBER, with love and thanksgiving, the life of a dear friend, Lillian Mary O'Connor.

Lillian was born in Quyon, Quebec, in 1919, and raised in Toronto. She married Breen and her life started to get very busy when she became the mother of 14 children of her own, as well as two Eskimo foster children.

Her CWL work began in Marmora, where she became Parish Council President. Lillian moved on to the Archdiocesan Executive and eventually became President of the Kingston Archdiocesan Council. Then it was on to the Provincial Executive and the Provincial Presidency 1979–81. She spent several years on the National Executive serving as Secretary Treasurer, Vice President and National Convenor of Christian Family Life.

Lillian's energies were not confined to CWL activities. She spent 20 years as a volunteer with the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace. She served 20 years as a trustee on the Hastings-Prince Edward RCSS Board, nine years on the Board of Ontario SS Trustees Association and eight years on the editorial board of the Ontario Bishop's Committee for the family life program "Fully Alive".

In 1976 Lillian was the recipient of the Papal Medal "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" from Pope Paul VI for outstanding service to the church and community. In 1990 she received the "Award of Merit" from the OSSTA for her service to Catholic Education.

Among Lillian's many gifts was her humour and her effortless speaking ability. She had spoken and presented workshops at CWL meetings and conventions all across the country.

Lillian was living in Belleville at the time of her death, on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2000. She attended St. Joseph's Church, was on their CWL executive as a Life Member and as a volunteer on the Grandfriend's Program — going to schools to teach children public speaking. Lillian's life was very full and the CWL has been, and still will be so privileged to have had her as one of its dedicated advocates.

*May she rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon her.*