



## Beverly Jean Repak

May 12, 1932 - May 12, 2025

Beverly Jean (Hickman) Repak was born on a farm in Girard, Illinois, in 1932. Her mother aspired to be a singer, and Beverly inherited her sweet voice and loved to sing too. She left the farm and moved with her mother to Washington, D.C. in 1940 when wartime jobs lured women to the nation's capital.

Beverly attended D.C. public schools and converted to Catholicism in high school. While frequenting a social club at St. Matthew's Cathedral, she met Peter Repak, a World War II veteran who was an engineering student at George Washington University.

They met in March and married in September of 1951. An English major who loved to write, she started attending American University but only completed one semester before children started coming in rapid succession. She had seven children within a decade.

Beverly and Pete were active members of Little Flower Parish in Bethesda, MD, for 40 years. They hosted card parties, participated in Caana groups, and attended Knights of Columbus dances. When her children were in school full time, Beverly started working in the Housing Office at American University. She had a big heart for the students and brought many of them home for dinners and holidays.

She left AU after 18 years when Pete retired, and the two toured the US in their camper van for ten years. When they found their way to Okeechobee, they decided to settle there. They leased a canal-front lot in Big O Resort and bought a mobile home in 1995.

Pete passed away in 2010 just as they were about to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. Beverly continued to live at Big O and enjoyed game nights with women friends, Bingo at the Moose Club, and community gatherings at the Big O Clubhouse.

A phrase that best characterized Beverly is, "She never met a stranger." She always asked acquaintances their names and wrote them in her Bible so she could pray for them and their families. She had thousands of names in her Bible and was fortunate to keep her mind and memory intact when she breathed her last.

She passed away peacefully in Dallas, Texas on her 93rd birthday after a short illness. She is survived by her 7 children: Rebecca Dail (Moscow, ID), Terry Repak (Seattle, WA), Nicolas Repak (Richardson, TX), Paul Repak (Plano, TX), Mary Heidenreich (Mount Perry, OH), Patricia Gorman (Plainfield, IN), and Ping Warner (Okeechobee, FL); along with 20 grandchildren, and 23 great grandchildren.

A Mass will be celebrated in her memory at St. Teresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church in Okeechobee on June 2 at 11 a.m

# Previous Events

## Mass and Celebration of Life

JUN 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Teresa of The Child Jesus  
1027 Chobee Loop  
Okeechobee, FL 34974

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ Miss Bev was a loyal customer of mine at the breakfast restaurant I worked at. She and her 4 friends would come in every Sunday after Church. We (the employees) called them the Golden Girls ❤️ She was truly my favorite person to see on Sunday's. She went out of her way to make me feel special, no matter what kinda mood she was in. She even went out of her way to buy me a present for Christmas every year and bring it to the restaurant to give to me. I will truly miss her dearly!!!! I love you Miss Bev!!! Fly high my dear!!!  
Xoxo

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**Jessica Bunting** - July 31, 2025 at 04:42 PM

JM

“ When I was 10 or 11, and playing with Nick in their front yard, Beverly would invite me in for delicious spaghetti. She was a friendly and generous mom.

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**Johnny Moore** - June 19, 2025 at 10:28 AM

GN

“ Beverly was a wonderful, caring second mom to me and our family. The world has lost a true light. Prayers, peace and grace to her kids and grandchildren. We will see her again in glory!! All my love. Gina N.

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**Gina Nonnenmacher** - June 02, 2025 at 11:26 AM

CF

“ Carol and Bill Stein and family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Beverly Jean Repak.



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Carol and Bill Stein and family - May 29, 2025 at 01:57 PM

CF

“ Carol and Bill Stein and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Beverly Jean Repak.

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Carol and Bill Stein and family - May 29, 2025 at 01:57 PM

CS

“ Aunt Jeanie has always been my favorite Aunt and will be missed forever. She has given me so much through my Life. I have admired her for her wisdom, kindness, and Love for the Lord. I know she prayed for me daily and that was such a blessing. She is now a special angle in heaven with our Lord.  
In Jesus name, Carol and Bill

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Carol Hickman Stein - May 29, 2025 at 01:43 PM

LP

“ Dearest Terry, my memory of my only meeting of your mother is perfectly illustrated in the phrase you have chosen “she never met a stranger.” It was many years ago at your family home in Bethesda. Both your parents were at home and welcomed Don and myself. After spending just a short time with them we got a sense of Beverly and Guido’s warmth. I see, in you, my friend, the same spirit of knowing no strangers. With much much, Lyn and Don

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lyn penniman - May 21, 2025 at 12:38 PM

CS

“ Grandma Bev was always very kind to me. She took the time to teach me some of her family's recipes including Polish Golumpkis that her husband loved. She also told me a time when she made spaghetti in the pressure cooker and it exploded and got all over the ceiling. She told me how they used to do laundry and reuse the water because there were so many loads to do. They used the same coffee grounds also to stretch out the coffee. We used to hang clothes on the circular clothes line in the back yard together in Bethesda. When a relative passed who owned a bar we went to the wake with Paul and went to the nursing home where the family matriarch was who gave me a pendant before she passed. Grandma Bev was always gracious to me and prayed on the rosary for us daily. I still have the rosary she gave me. We spoke every Mother's Day and her birthday and I was just about to call her when I heard she had passed. On her birthday no less, the day after Mother's Day. I will always remember her kindness to me and will look up with fondness on her birthday and Mother's Day every year. She will be missed, for sure.

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Cindy Searcy - May 18, 2025 at 11:29 PM