



## Carmen Genevieve Roy

November 25, 1920 - March 23, 2020

Second Lieutenant Army Nurse Carmen Genevieve Roy, age 99, passed away peacefully March 23, 2020 at 5:10 p.m. surrounded by her family. She was an active resident at the Mt. Vernon Veterans home for over nine years.

Carmen was born in Lake Mills Iowa, to parents Christian and Julia Bredeson, had a sister Agnes Hoel and brother Clemens Bredeson whom all preceded her in death. Sister Ruth Knudson still resides in Temple, Texas. She grew up in Iowa and lived there several years.

Carmen had a full life, blazed many trails, and was loved fiercely. She was a High School graduate from the class of 1940, from Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minnesota. She then went onto nursing school to graduate in September 1944 from the Norwegian American Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago, Illinois. Carmen then enlisted in the Army Nurse Training program in Camp Carson, Colorado. Upon completion, she returned home and had a lifetime career in nursing. She was stationed at the O'Reilly General Military Hospital built in 1941 in Springfield, Missouri where she provided long-term medical care for returning soldiers of World War II. This hospital became known as "The hospital with a soul" and Carmen without doubt cared for all her patients with her full heart. She was active in her nursing career and applied her skills in many ways throughout multiple states including Iowa, Kansas and Missouri. Upon returning to the Southwest Missouri Area, she was a nurse at St. Vincent Hospital in Monett, MO, as well as cared for patients at the Mt. Vernon Chest Hospital. Carmen also filled the role of school nurse at Pierce City Schools for nearly ten years having a lasting impact on all her students.

Carmen was a World War II Army Veteran, starting as a cadet nurse, moving on to Second Lieutenant Army Nurse from July 1945 to October 1946. Decorations included receiving the American Theater Ribbon and Victory Medal.

She was as a devout Lutheran. She modeled and taught strength, independence, selflessness, grit, was a little bit sassy, and personally demonstrated that you can achieve anything regardless of your odds.

Throughout her life she excelled as a student, was a school basketball star, loved playing piano, reading novels, crocheting, she was passionate about her cooking and highly skilled in the kitchen passing along her many recipes. She was a loving grandmother who spoiled her three O'Hara grandkids and five O'Hara great grandkids and always gave the best kisses. She was an avid football fan to all her grandkids and taught many life skills. She stayed active at the Veterans home and was a "Honorary Group Activity Supervisor" while she resided there.

Carmen blessed her family with so many memories. She was known to be a "historic Christmas gift giver" and spoiled her family with her famous cooking abilities. She spoiled all her grandkids, but quickly set you straight, never hesitating to keep you in line. Using her Norwegian roots, she would frequently channel her favorite word Uff-Ta. She was a true inspiration and a guiding light for her family.

Carmen is survived by daughter, Corinne O'Hara and (husband) Kenneth of Pierce City, MO, and two sons. Grandkids, Kenny and (wife) Tracy O'Hara of Pierce City, MO, Tara and (husband) Eric Danner of Joplin, MO, and Kodie and (wife) Linley O'Hara of Pierce City, MO. Great Grandkids Cedric O'Hara of Chillicothe, MO, Colten, Tysen, Clayten and Rylie O'Hara all of Pierce City, MO.

Continue to guide us as our Guardian Angel from above and ride with us. Do that magic you do and sprinkle the world with love and your amazing healing power, we need them more now than ever. We love you; you are forever in our heart.

We appreciate the outpouring of prayers, support, and kind words from so many during this time. We know she had a huge impact on so many, leaving her "Nurse Roy Legacy."

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on June 6, 2020 at 11:00 AM at Lakin Funeral Home in Pierce City, MO. Burial, with Military Honors, will follow at St. Agnes Cemetery, Sarcoxie, MO. Carmen's celebration of life and service arrangements are through Lakin Funeral Home in Pierce City, MO.

# Cemetery

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**St. Agnes Cemetery**

Sarcoxie, MO, 64862

# Events

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**JUN Memorial Service 11:00AM**

**6**

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Lakin Funeral Home

501 N Elm St., Pierce City, MO, US, 65723

# Comments

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“ My deepest sympathy for your loss. Mrs Roy was the school nurse when I was in High School at Pierce City. She was a great encourager to me in my goal to become a nurse. I obtained a 3year Nursing Diploma and then a BSN. I loved my profession! I spent over 42years in hospital nursing and have been on several medical mission trips. Your mother was a great example for me!  
LaDonna Smith Johnson

**LaDonna Johnson** - May 24, 2020 at 08:23 PM

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“ Our condolences to all of you! I will remember many childhood overnight drives to Missouri! Also, the time she tried to pass off rabbit as chicken to us city-fied people from Michigan! Somebody counted the legs and there seemed to be two too many! Aunt Carmen is home with our grandparents, Aunt Agnes, and my dad! God bless you! Jim and Sue Bredeson

**James Bredeson** - March 31, 2020 at 02:16 PM



“ Thank you for sharing Miss Carmen! We formed a special bond on day one of admission to the Veterans Home. We had so much fun with her "assisting and supervising" our activities and outings. Sitting and sharing Carmen's lifetime stories and hearing how much love she had for her family. She was so proud of all of you. Her sharing of her love of God and attending church. Carmen was a little spitfire and I wouldn't have wanted her any other way. We had many Uff-Ta days! We laughed and cried together and became good friends. Miss Carmen I know you are walking with the Lord and smiling down on your beautiful family. Thank you for your beautiful memories. May God Bless all of you. Nina Thompson

**Nina Thompson** - May 24, 2020 at 11:10 PM