



## Mrs. Helen "Betty" Kurtz

May 3, 1916 - February 7, 2014

Helen "Betty" Kurtz 97 of Liberty Center passed away at 1:20 a.m. Friday, February 7, 2014, at her residence in Liberty Center surrounded by her family.

Betty was born on May 3, 1916 in Liberty Center to Chase O. Garrett & Nellie B. (Popejoy) Garrett. She graduated from Liberty Center High School and obtained her teaching degree from Manchester University. She taught for many years in Wells County Schools, in Greencastle, IN and Appleton, WI, retiring in 1964. She was a member of the Liberty Center Baptist Church and a member of the Federated Church in West Lafayette. She was also a member of the P.E.O. Wives of the World and the Indiana Teacher's Association. She volunteered in numerous positions in Tippecanoe County, Indiana. Betty was an avid reader, well known by family and friends for her poetry, loved to travel and engage others in genuine conversation. She was a long time supporter of NPR, faithfully listening to Click and Clack and A Prairie Home Companion over the years. Modern Family and Everybody Loves Raymond were two television shows she rarely missed.

On November 18, 1939 in Liberty Center she married Royce E. Kurtz. They shared 46 years together before he preceded her in death in 1985.

She is survived by a son David R. (Jennifer) Kurtz of Lafayette along with three grandchildren; James R. Recker, II of Indianapolis, Daniel (Amy) C. Recker of Indianapolis and Elizabeth (Michael Rankin) B. Recker of New

Mexico, along with five great-grandchildren; Chase, Phineas, Blake, Zella & Holden. She is also survived by a great niece; Taneka Garrett of Bluffton.

Betty is preceded in death by a daughter Deanne E. Recker in October of 2013 and a son Garrett W. Kurtz in August of 2012 and a brother Joseph Dean Garrett in March of 2009 and a nephew Gregory "Greg" S. Garrett in January of 2014.

A memorial service will be held at Fairview Cemetery on April 19th at 2:00 pm. Life Celebrant Jeff Lemler will officiate. Memorials may be made in Betty's memory to the Royce E. Kurtz Educational Scholarship at Manchester University. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Cemetery

3101 East Division Road  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
(260) 824-2832  
<http://www.themonumentcenter.com/about/cemeteries/>

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

APR 19. 2:00 PM (ET)

Fairview Cemetery  
3101 East Division Road  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
(260) 824-2832  
<http://www.themonumentcenter.com/about/cemeteries/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Helen "Betty" Kurtz*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *David and Taneka,*

*I am out of town this weekend and next week and can't make it to the memorial. I'm disappointed because I wanted to reconnect with you. Sorry for your Mom/Grandmother's passing.*

*--David Cole*

David Cole - April 18, 2014 at 03:38 PM



“ *Mary Nelson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen "Betty" Kurtz*



Mary Nelson - April 18, 2014 at 12:44 PM



“ *David: I knew and loved both of your parents. They were special people. Betty was the first person to ask me to join Chapter CI of the PEO sisterhood. I have enjoyed it very much and feel I got to know her better. Of course, I first knew her at Federated Church. Blessings to the whole family.*

*Mary Nelson-West Lafayette*

Mary Nelson - April 18, 2014 at 12:42 PM

FL

“ *David: I am so very sorry to hear about your mother. I know she had a wonderful life because she seemed to enjoy everything she did and everyone she met. Our staff always looked forward to, and felt warmly welcomed at the lovely luncheons she provided for holidays and special occasions. We loved going to 'Blueberry Lane'! In later years, it was always such a pleasure to see and chat with her. She will continue to hold a fond place in my heart. Our condolences to all of your family.*

*Your friends, Martha and Joe Fletcher*

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**Fletcher** - February 12, 2014 at 07:55 PM

 Pam Warthman

“ *Pam Warthman lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen "Betty" Kurtz*



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**Pam Warthman** - February 12, 2014 at 01:18 PM

LH

“ *I remember Betty from visiting American Treasures. She had a wonderful kindness about her and i was always so happy to visit with her. I am so sorry for your loss.*

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**Laura Hale** - February 12, 2014 at 07:40 AM

KN

“ *Kim Newell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen "Betty" Kurtz*



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**Kim Newell** - February 12, 2014 at 06:35 AM

DC

“ *David Cole lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen "Betty" Kurtz*



David Cole - February 11, 2014 at 04:23 PM

CG

“ *Corinna Gephart lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen "Betty" Kurtz*



Corinna Gephart - February 07, 2014 at 12:43 PM

TG

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Taneka Garrett - February 07, 2014 at 12:21 PM

DC

*Taneka, we haven't met, but I am the great grandson of O.D. Garrett and knew Chase and Nellie. I didn't know Betty and Royce that well, but I can remember playing with Greg when I was younger and he would come to Liberty Center. I am sorry for your loss. Please let me know when the Memorial Service will be. I'd like to attend it if that's okay. --David O. Cole*

David Cole - February 11, 2014 at 04:22 PM

TG

*David, David Kurtz Betty's son is planning on a service in April not sure on exact date yet. But I will sure to let you know. Grandma had wanted a outdoor service and on a nice day for her celebration of life. She was truly amazing !*

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**taneka garrett** - February 12, 2014 at 09:26 AM

DC

*Thank you. You can email me at [docole01@gmail.com](mailto:docole01@gmail.com)*

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**David Cole** - February 12, 2014 at 05:09 PM

RE

“*Ryan Eisenhut lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen "Betty" Kurtz*



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**Ryan Eisenhut** - February 07, 2014 at 11:28 AM