



Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert

January 8, 1924 - September 23, 2016

Molly Parker Culbert, 92, of Rossville, IL, passed away at 4:22 P.M. Friday September 23, 2016 at Heritage Health Therapy and Senior Living in Hoopeston.

Molly was born on January 8, 1924 at Brookhill Farm in the rolling hills of Clarksville, Missouri near the banks of the Mississippi River. She lived an idyllic country childhood surrounded by gardens, fields, farm animals, and beautiful show horses that her father, Robert Parker, trained. It was there she learned from her mother, Maurine (Taylor) Parker, the skills and values of self-sufficiency and hard work. And it was there that she developed a deep and lasting appreciation for the gifts of the earth and an abiding love of nature. In her senior year of high school, Molly moved to Hoopeston, Illinois, where she worked for George Samaras at the Ritz restaurant. She married James Nicholas Culbert in 1942 just before he enlisted in the United States Army. While her husband served our country in the South Pacific, Molly began working with John and Mabel Culbert at the Rossville shop and greenhouses of Culbert the Florist which later grew into Flowers and Gifts by Molly Culbert.

Molly became an icon in the area, working and serving the community until she was 90 years old. Her shop was an oasis of beauty that brought people in from a hundred miles in every direction. She enjoyed sharing stories and reflections through her weekly newspaper column, "Indoors and Outdoors by Molly Culbert".

Aside from her family, her greatest joy came from the relationships she built with her customers and the people who worked with her. She knew generations of families and genuinely cared about them, sharing joy in their times of celebration and comfort in their times of loss. She was the adopted mother, sister, or daughter to many people who continued to come to "Molly's" even after they had long moved out of the area. She loved them all and will be missed and fondly remembered by those who knew her.

Molly is survived by her three beloved children, James Charles Culbert of Rossville, IL, Bruce Parker (Tamara) Culbert of Flemming Island, FL, and Laura Annette (Mark) Hathaway of Rossville, IL, and six grandchildren of whom she was so proud: Gabriel John Culbert (Cecilia) and Roberts Parker Culbert, Mark Herman (Stephanie) Hathaway, Molly Elizabeth (Matthew) Goldstein, Katherine Irene Hathaway and James Alexander Hathaway.

She is also survived by 6 great-grandchildren, Lucas Rainer Culbert, Calla Parker Culbert, Joseph River Culbert, Jack Parker Goldstein, Audrey Elizabeth Goldstein, and Maurine Olivia Hathaway; and one niece Rhoda Parker and her children Maurine Huber and John Sachs.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one brother, Robert Parker Jr., and one nephew, Glenn Parker.

A visitation will be held 2:00 – 4:00 P.M. Sunday October 16, 2016, at the Rossville United Methodist Church 116 Maple St. Rossville, IL. A celebration of Molly's life will begin at 4:00 P.M. Sunday October 16, 2016 at the church, with Pastor Matt Stump officiating. A family burial will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association 207 S. Prospect Rd, Suite 1 Bloomington, IL. 61704 or to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation 1359 Broadway Suite 1509 NY, NY 10018

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **16.** 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Rossville United Methodist Church
116 Maple
Rossville, IL 60963

Memorial Service

OCT **16.** 4:00 PM (CT)

Rossville United Methodist Church
116 Maple St.
Rossville, IL 60963

Tribute Wall

PH

“ *Lovely lady graced with beauty and sweet spirit and helped keep Culbert Greenhouse alive which I wandered thru as a child marveling at tiny seedlings pushing up thru the soil in tiny pots ready to take on the world! Very fond memories of Molly and all of the Culberts on McKibbon Street, Rossville, Illinois!* ”

phyllismurphy - October 09, 2017 at 02:24 PM

KK

“ *" Ronnie & Karen Bell-Kochell lit a candle in memory of Molly Parker Culbert"* ”



Karen Kochell - December 05, 2016 at 08:15 AM

DE

“ *Dear Laura and the Culbert Family,*

We are so very sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. We were all lucky to see her and know her for many long years here at the Merchandise Mart in Chicago. She was a lovely person and enjoyed her trips here so much. It was our honor to host her and we send you all peaceful thoughts at this difficult time.

Debra At the Merchandise Mart - Chicago, Illinois

Debra Egli - October 25, 2016 at 04:08 PM

MK

“ *I always "knew" Molly, but we began to be closer friends when she and I planted the cemetery together, along with my toddler, Linden, who was too young to be in play school. Linden asked Molly on one of those days, who was older: Molly or his Mom. When she told him it was Molly, he replied, "Well, then you must be stronger." We figured he must have thought that because his older brother, Grant, was stronger than he.* ”

Marilyn King - October 19, 2016 at 03:07 PM

BB

“ My deepest condolences to Laura, Jimmy, Bruce and the rest of your beautiful families. Seeing Molly across the street every day for over 25 years was one of the great joys of life in Hoopeston. Whether we talked about flowers, local goings on, business or people and events in Hoopeston's past, Molly was always a source of wisdom that I truly cherished. Nor was I the only one so blessed. She touched thousands of people, from near and far, over her many, many years on Main Street. It goes without saying that I will sorely miss my friend as will so many. But every time Spring flowers need planting, Molly will still be there helping us with her vast store of wisdom freely given over all the years. Goodby my friend. Bruce Burton

Bruce Burton - October 16, 2016 at 10:36 AM

PL

“ Jimmy, Bruce and Laura; We were so sorry to hear about your mom. Molly was one of a kind and will always be remembered by all those who knew and loved her. Our love and prayers are with all of you. Pastor Jim and Temple Lloyd, Willis, Tx.

Pastor Jim and Temple Lloyd - October 15, 2016 at 09:39 AM

SB

“ I just loved Ms Molly. Always such a sweet compassionate lady that I will always miss. My thoughts and prayers to all of you.



Sally Birch - October 13, 2016 at 08:51 PM

CW

“ cindy walker and family lit a candle for molly culbert you were a great lady and will be missed ,keep on smiling in heaven ,R.I.P MISS MOLLY



cindy walker - October 13, 2016 at 07:25 PM



“ Molly was such an amazing woman... I'm so sorry for your loss, she will be missed by many.



Susie Drollinger - October 13, 2016 at 06:31 PM

SM

“ Sandy McCord lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert



Sandy McCord - October 13, 2016 at 04:55 AM

MR

“ Thinking of all of you at this time. Love, Mart, Niki, Hayden, and Noah



Mart and Niki Rice - October 12, 2016 at 08:17 AM

CW

“ It was always a pure Joy to go into "Molly's" to see Molly and Jimmy, and enjoyed the Beauty of the shop and the Colorful beauty of the packed greenhouse! Christmas at "Molly's" was always an Amazing Wonderland of Beauty she displayed from her heart. Her staff reflected her enter beauty, Always friendly smiles and very friendly service. Molly's love, thoughtfulness, and kindness will be sadly missed. She was truly a remarkable woman in our community.

C Sue Wilken - October 11, 2016 at 08:04 AM

CW

“ C Sue Wilken lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert



C Sue Wilken - October 11, 2016 at 07:48 AM



“ A very gifted person who put her talents to work...I loved reading her articles in the paper & visiting her shop...she will be missed!
Prayers, Angie Gress



Angie Gress - October 11, 2016 at 05:41 AM

MB

“ I remember Culbert,s Flowers shop growing g up in Rossville. We live ed just a block from the shop.
Bruce,Laura and Jim your mother will be for ever remembered though her beautiful flowers she grew and her service to the community. God bless you all

Mary Green Briggs - October 10, 2016 at 05:16 PM



“ Dearest Laura, Jim, Bruce and familys. Please accept my deepest sympathy. I have so many wonderful memories of your mom. Remember Bass Lake? The memories of when I was much younger, our wedding 55 yrs ago, death of both parents, until this day will always be with me. She always called me "Sara Prillaman." Loved her. Love to all.

Sara Miles - October 06, 2016 at 09:44 AM

KK

“ " Ronnie & Karen Bell-Kochell and Charles & Marilyn Bell
lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert."



Karen E Kochell - October 03, 2016 at 10:09 PM

LW

“ Luanne Warner lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene
(Parker) Culbert



Luanne Warner - October 01, 2016 at 11:32 PM

NM

“ I considered Molly my mentor, my hero, my colleague and my friend. I will think of her often with love. I already miss her stories of her early life. Condolences to all of the family.

Nancy Schieler Mason - October 01, 2016 at 12:28 PM

RN

“ Renee Wilson Noice lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert



Renee Wilson Noice - October 01, 2016 at 08:23 AM

RN

Molly was such an amazing women. She had an eye for beauty, a gift with people, was so professional and an excellent business owner for many years! Most of the fine things I own came from her store. My set of China, glassware, tablecloths and placemats, vases, , silk flowers, ornaments, 2 Christmas treesall of which she was a part of my choosing. I moved to Champaign in 1989 and always would go back to visit her shop with my Mother....we loved going together. Great memories and a great business in Hoopston for many years! Thank you Molly, for your years of sharing your good taste with the community and the energy you spent in your shop.... My condolences go out to the Family.

Renee Wilson Noice - October 01, 2016 at 08:36 AM

DS

“ Dixie Lane Sampson lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert



Dixie Lane Sampson - October 01, 2016 at 07:05 AM

PF

“ I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to all of you. I am so sorry for your loss! I know she will be greatly missed! I will miss those hugs I would get when I entered her store. I would get another one when I left if she wasn't busy! She was a good friend.

Pauline and family - September 30, 2016 at 09:51 PM

FS

She was one of the best people and will be missed. We had not seen her for some time but I still remember many different times she helped us with flowers that we needed and always did a great job. We thought of her as a friend and will miss her.
Frank and Virginia Sheffield. Mesa, Az.

Frank and Virginia Sheffield - October 06, 2016 at 09:56 AM

GW

“ *Gilbert Warner lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert*



Gilbert Warner - September 30, 2016 at 09:42 PM

MK

“ *There are so many memories, it's hard to single one out. I do remember planting graves at the cemetery with Molly, while young son Linden played among the gravestones.*

Marilyn King - September 30, 2016 at 08:34 PM

CM

“ *Carol Myler lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert*



Carol Myler - September 30, 2016 at 08:06 PM

KS

“ *Kim Snively sent a virtual gift in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert*



Kim Snively - September 30, 2016 at 07:27 PM

KS

“ *Kim Snively lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert*



Kim Snively - September 30, 2016 at 07:12 PM

RH

“ *Rhonda sent a virtual gift in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert*



Rhonda - September 30, 2016 at 07:11 PM

JA

“ *Jamiejsmith lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert*



jamiejsmith - September 30, 2016 at 06:45 PM

AS

“ *Ann Holt Souders lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert*



Ann Holt Souders - September 30, 2016 at 06:10 PM

 Vickie Allison

“ *Vickie Allison lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert*



Vickie Allison - September 30, 2016 at 06:09 PM

AS

“ We moved in next door to Molly & her family 52 years ago. I was little but remember how excited my mom was because she saw a greenhouse out back!! Little did I know then how much that would mean to my mom through the years. My mom, Margaret Holt always had a green thumb....to move in next door to Mollypriceless!!!! It soon became clear they not only had a greenhouse out back.....but were dear neighbors! We moved away in 1968 but often I heard my mom comment on something she learned from Molly that helped her in the garden or with her plants. Molly let my mom work for her, a true blessing to my mom & a passion she had. Mother loved it....no matter what she did, in the greenhouse debudding carnations to helping customers in her shop....mom was in Heaven!!! Laura.....I am so sorry for you all and wrapping you in prayers of comfort and God's grace. My mom has been gone over 7 years.and let me share this with you, I think you'll enjoy it, after moms service we went back to the house & my boys noticed mom had plants started in every window in the whole house!!! Even though she had tons of African Violet's growing in pots ...she had starter leaves in every little container she could find!!!! We all chuckled..... She just couldn't help it!!!! Just like your mom....it was in her blood!!!

Ann Holt Souders - September 30, 2016 at 06:08 PM

NG

“ Nora Gholson lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert



nora gholson - September 30, 2016 at 05:47 PM

KT

“ Molly was part of every homecoming, prom, wedding, special event, and funeral in my family! She is a very special lady who always made every event very special. She was a great friend to my Grandma Cox, my Mom Dorothy Denison and all of us. Sleep well Molly!

karen Thornsborough - September 30, 2016 at 05:14 PM



“ Kelly Buhrmester lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert



Kelly Buhrmester - September 30, 2016 at 04:32 PM

MS

“ Melinda Storm lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert



Melinda Storm - September 30, 2016 at 03:39 PM

SP

“ Susie Paris lit a candle in memory of Molly Irene (Parker) Culbert



Susie Paris - September 30, 2016 at 03:20 PM