



## Clara R. Edwards

July 18, 1935 - October 20, 2018

Clara R. Hixenbaugh-Edwards, 83, of Centralia, passed away, October 20 , 2018 at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Clara was born July 18, 1935 in Walnut Hill, IL, the daughter of Alva Eli Owens and Laura Lee (Rhynes) Owens. She married Billy D. Hixenbaugh and they later divorced. She married Ford Edwards in 1992 and he preceded her in death in 2003.

Clara is survived by seven children: Major Dale E. Hixenbaugh and wife Major JoAnn of Rockford, IL, Marie Hixenbaugh of Centralia, Juvenile Hixenbaugh and special friend Kathy Fender of Centralia, Charlene Hays and husband Steve of Sandoval, Patti Hutton of Centralia, Sandy Shipley and special friend Bruce Tettemer of Salem, Danny Hixenbaugh of Centralia; fifteen grandchildren: Dana Bigelow and husband Jason of Peoria, IL, Joseph Hixenbaugh and wife Kendra of Niles, MI, Rebecca "Becca" Hixenbaugh of Peoria, IL, Michael Hixenbaugh of Centralia, Chantelle and husband Bryan Scholes of Brownstown, IL, Christina Lynch and husband Johnny of Centralia, IL, Carla Sodsakich and husband Joby of Bangkok, Thailand, Chelcie Little of Centralia, IL, Chad Little of Centralia, IL, Angela Jo Hutton-Peters of Centralia, IL, James Shipley and wife Jill of Salem, IL, Robert Shipley of Salem, IL, Patrick Shipley of Salem, IL : Cristy Buchannan and husband Wesley of Wayne City, IL, Jason Hixenbaugh of Centralia, IL: twenty-seven great-grandchildren; four great-great grandchildren one sister: Rosemary Riechman and husband Jim of Richview, IL; one brother: Howard Owens of Huey, IL; two

sisters-in-law: Katie Owens and Juanita Owens; several nieces and nephews; two step-daughters: Kathy Large and husband Kevin of Pontoon Beach, IL, Christina Meza and husband Tony of Baneberry, TN; eight step-grandchildren: Michael, Christopher, Tony, Brady, Brandy, Amber, Keith, Roger; five step great grandchildren; three special family members: Mikki Clark of Arizona, Tiffany Hixenbaugh of Centralia, IL, and Denis Peters of Salem, IL.

Clara was preceded in death by her parents: Alva and Laura Owens; daughter: Debra Hixenbaugh Newman; husband: Ford Edwards; three brothers: Thomas, James, and Raymond Owens; one sister: Irma Williams; one grandchild: Jennifer Alli; daughter-in-law: Sherry Hixenbaugh; three sons-in-law: Gary Shipley, Dale N. Knolhoff, and Daniel Joseph Hutton; brother-in-law: Bill Williams; sister-in-law: Pauline Paine.

Clara worked at St. Mary's Hospital in Centralia for thirty-seven years, where she was known as "Hixie" to many co-workers. Clara was baptized at Orchardville Church and was a member of the The Rock Church in Centralia. She received the recognition through the Salvation Army of being a Silver Star Mother. She was known by one of her great grandsons Johnathan to be called "Bird Grandma". She was a devoted mother and grandmother, known for her cooking, cleaning, watching and feeding the outside birds. She enjoyed going to rummage sales with her granddaughter Chantelle. Most of all, Clara cherished the time she spent with her family.

Funeral Services for Clara R. Hixenbaugh-Edwards will be held Friday, October 26 , 2018 at 11:00 am at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia with Major Dale Hixenbaugh and Pastor Steve Upchurch officiating. Visitation will be held Thursday, October 25 , 2018 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family and will be accepted by the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia, who is honored to be of service to the Clara R. Hixenbaugh-Edwards family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com).



# Cemetery Details

## Hillcrest Memorial Park

2500 Old Highway 51 North  
Sandoval, IL 62882  
hcmp1921@aol.com  
<http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **25**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home and Cremation Services  
235 N Sycamore Street  
Centralia, IL 62801  
(618) 532-3523

## Service

OCT **26**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home and Cremation Services  
235 N Sycamore Street  
Centralia, IL 62801  
(618) 532-3523

# Tribute Wall



“ Clara was someone very good to work with. She was kind and gently. I will never forget her. She will be sadly missed by all that knew her.

Georgia Jones-Richardson - November 05, 2018 at 03:38 PM



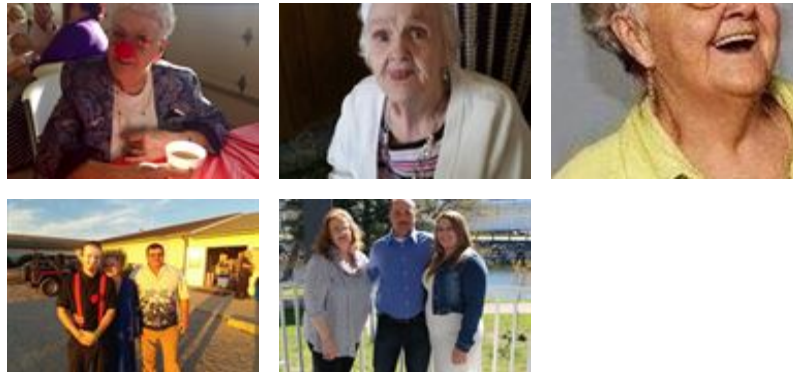
“ "Angel" Shadow Box was purchased for the family of Clara R. Edwards.



October 25, 2018 at 11:05 AM



“ 305 files added to the album LifeTributes



Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services - October 25, 2018 at 08:40 AM

KS

“ Hixie was a wonderful person she love people and she always did her best to do what she can to help. I loved working with her and are friendship we had outside of work. My mother and her work together too. Hixie family and are family have been friends since we moved here in 1985. My son and her grandson Chad and chicken have best of friends the stokes family love and will miss her a lot. To hixie family we are so blessed to be close friends . Love you.  
Rosalie,Kelley,Shawn stokes



KELLEY STOKES - October 24, 2018 at 11:54 AM

DM

“ Our deepest sympathy for your loss. Dr. & Mrs. Tom Martin

Dr. Tom Martin - October 24, 2018 at 09:44 AM

JF

“ Janet Finley-Huffman lit a candle in memory of Clara R. Edwards



Janet Finley-Huffman - October 23, 2018 at 09:46 PM

AT

“ Hixie and I was good friends ,besides being her boss at St Marys Hospital. Thought the world of her .We had some good times and will miss her very much.My sympathy to the family.Rest in peace.  
Alice Torgler/Larry

Alice Torgler - October 23, 2018 at 04:16 AM

ML

“ *MARY LONG lit a candle in memory of Clara R. Edwards*



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**MARY IONG** - October 22, 2018 at 08:36 PM



“ *My Mother, My MommaC, my Friend of 35+ years. MommaC become my MommaC when my bio mom no longer wanted that responsibility. MommaC was an Amazing individual and was always there for me thru the years. She was a warm loving person who was always there when I needed to talk, she was kind all the time. She took me in under her wing, we laughed, we cried, we had good times and made it through the bad. Very rarely thought of herself! My Best friend Patti (Momma C daughter) shared her mom with me and so did the rest of MommaC kids. I am and will always be a part of her family. I have been Blessed to have her in my life all these years. I will miss her dearly, she was one of a kind, I call her my MommaC....I love you*



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**Mikki Clark** - October 22, 2018 at 07:50 PM

JW

“ *I have known Clara most of my life. I dont remember ever seeing her without a smile. She was a very devoted mother who I remember always showing love. I loved her from the moment I met her. Love, hugs and prayers to all her family.*

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**Jeanna Winegarner** - October 22, 2018 at 05:09 PM