



## Helen Mackie

April 23, 2020

Helen Theresa Bridget Arnaud Mackie, daughter of the late William Ellis Arnaud and Leora Collins Arnaud was born on November 23, 1946 in New Orleans, Louisiana. She was the middle child of eleven siblings. She was baptized into the Catholic faith at St. Raymond Catholic Church. She was called home to be with our Lord and Savior on April 23, 2020.

Helen attended St. Raymond Elementary and St. Mary's Academy then later graduated from Joseph S. Clark High School (home of the bulldogs) in 1965. Not much later she met and married her one true love, Albert Anthony Mackie on December 27, 1966. While married the two traveled the world and weathered the nature of life together for many years until Albert was called home to glory in 1990. Helen never remarried or entertained another suitor as she would quickly dismiss any advances and let it be known she "wasn't doing that again!"

Helen was reared as a devout Catholic. Later in adulthood she distanced herself from religious institutions while maintaining an enormous amount of faith in God. She would have Sunday dinner prepared & ready for "Mother & Daddy" and the rest of the family upon their return from church. When asked why she didn't go to church as well, she would simply reply "the kitchen is my

church.” She was a no-nonsense lady who cared for & loved her family very deeply. She’d often be heard giving an off-colored remark to someone and speaking her mind without a second’s thought. She was an avid believer in getting stuff off your chest and not holding things in saying “you’ll feel a lot better for it.”

Helen was a lifelong caretaker. From her youth she cared for her siblings, nieces, nephews, cousins and later their children then their children. There are generations of family and friends that have been led by her caring & giving heart. She was a small-framed woman with a big presence in a multitude of lives. Her contribution to each person she encountered, and society as a whole is immeasurable. Whether you’ve called upon her as Lady, Lay-Lay, Helen-Theresa, Ma, MawMaw, Miss Helen or simply Helen, there’s no denying you can count yourself as fortunate to have been in her presence.

Helen leaves precious memories that will be cherished forever by her loving daughter Sonja Pullard, son-in-law Mayanus Pullard, granddaughter Abigail Pullard; her siblings, Carolyn (Darryl) Hithe, Carrol (Agnes) Arnaud, Emma Thomas, Lerna Arnaud, Roland Arnaud, Eric (Jo Ann) Arnaud; a host of nieces, nephews and friends turned family.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents William & Leora Arnaud, four siblings, Winifred Paylor, Ronald Arnaud, Cecilia James and Errol Arnaud.

Relatives and friends are invited attend a drive thru visitation on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 from 8:30 AM until 9:30 AM. A private funeral service will follow. Interment: Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Arrangements by D.W. Rhodes Funeral Home. Please visit [www.rhodesfuneral.com](http://www.rhodesfuneral.com) to share online condolences.

# Tribute Wall



“ *RIP to my beautiful Auntie Helen!*

Darian Sixx - July 27, 2020 at 09:48 PM



“ *Thanks so much Helen for playing such an important role in my life. I thank God for you! Thanks Sonja for sharing your mom. Love you forever Helen*



Mariellen Ballier - May 06, 2020 at 03:37 PM



“ *We all miss you and love you Auntie Helen.*

*Prayers, love and virtual hugs to cousin Sonja and the rest of the family.*



Bree Arnaud - May 05, 2020 at 10:53 AM



“ *Bree Arnaud sent a virtual gift in memory of Helen Mackie*



Bree Arnaud - May 05, 2020 at 10:49 AM

JC

“ *Our prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time made more complicated by the restrictions we are all facing. May God provide you solace and comfort in your time of loss. - Jim Cook - Sheraton New Orleans*

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**Jim Cook** - May 04, 2020 at 01:22 PM

KA

*Sonja I send my deepest condolences to you and the family. I'm going to miss mama. Rest in heaven's Ms.. Helen will be truly missed. Love and me you guys!*

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**Kay-Kay** - May 05, 2020 at 08:35 AM

AM

“ *Sonja and family,*

*Our hearts go out to you in your time of sorrow.*

*Thinking of you,*

*Andrea Meeker*

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**Andrea Meeker** - May 04, 2020 at 12:46 PM

 Carol Gilmore

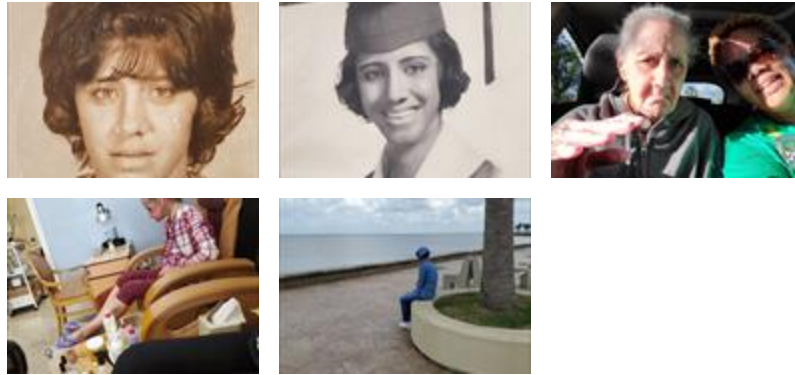
“ *To Helen's family, I am so sorry for your loss. Helen & her family along with my were raised together in The St. Bernard project. We used to have so much fun together, we went to the same schools and of course St. Raymond Church. Helen is in heaven with her parents & siblings. I pray God gives you strength during this time. God bless you with His very best. Carol Courseault*

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**Carol Gilmore** - May 02, 2020 at 10:28 PM

Sonja Pullard

“ Flowers aren't necessary, but please enjoy some of these pictorial memories of my momma & Abby's momo (mawmaw). Please share your memories as well. It's therapeutic for us 🤗



Sonja Pullard - May 02, 2020 at 10:49 AM

SR

“ Sherry Ramee lit a candle in memory of Helen Mackie



Sherry Ramee - May 02, 2020 at 08:46 AM



“ Rose Garden Heart was purchased for the family of Helen Mackie .



May 01, 2020 at 09:10 PM

IJ

“ Momma was truly a one-of-a-kind momma! I always appreciated her straight talk and honesty. She treated my child and me like her own and for that I will always honor her memory with love. Blessed to know such an extraordinary person. Love Always, Mani and Laiyla



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**Illumani Johnson** - May 01, 2020 at 06:59 PM

KS

“ God Bless Ms. Helen. Very nice lady indeed.

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**Keith Scott** - May 01, 2020 at 06:47 PM

MA

“ What an amazing lady you were!!! Always smiling and setting me straight at the same time! Our relationship started as friends, but you quickly became my sister. You treated and loved my kids, like they were your own!!! We have so many awesome memories with you! You were beautiful inside and out!!! Your love, friendship, loyalty and honesty will stay with us forever! I may cry today, but i know that this is only the beginning of your new journey! I'm missing you already, but I know that we shall meet up again. Your job here is complete, you have earned your wings, Fly high and get your rest. Love always, Martha, Darryl, Dj, and Missy (I'm sure that you have seen Darnel, amongst the angles by now).



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**martha** - May 01, 2020 at 06:38 PM

LA

“ *Lita ArnaudColeman lit a candle in memory of Helen Mackie*



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**Lita ArnaudColeman** - May 01, 2020 at 06:31 PM

KB

“ *My deepest condolences to you and your family Sonja. May God grant you the strength and comfort that you seek during this time and hereafter.*

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**Kimberley Batiste** - May 01, 2020 at 06:20 PM