



Helen "Holly" Belenski Agnew

October 2, 1946 - November 29, 2024

Helen "Holly" Belenski Agnew was killed Friday, November 29, 2024, after being struck by a motor vehicle.

Holly was born Helen Josephine Belenski in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1946. Born into a Catholic family, she eventually transferred to the Presbyterian faith and, through church, met Gordon "Gene" Agnew, whom she married in 1982. She was a career x-ray technologist, eventually retiring from the Newport Family Practice Center as head of the x-ray department in 2015.

Her passions included creating amazing recipes, fiber arts in the forms of quilts and loom knitting, and leading many groups of friends. She was friendly, generous, and open-hearted. She would strike up conversation with anyone because she enjoyed hearing people's stories. She was so loved.

Holly was preceded in death by her husband Gene Agnew of Sevier County, and her parents Louis Belenski and Helen Herold Belenski of St. Paul, Minnesota. She is survived by daughters Sharon Agnew of Sevier County, Tennessee and Lisa Kopy Sharp (Greg) of Arizona, sisters Mary (Steve) Tilsen of Wisconsin and Geri (Mike) Emrick of Washington, grandson Drew (Ashley) Abrahamson, nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, and beloved friends. She will be especially missed by her shih tzu, Victoria.

A joint memorial of Holly and Gene will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made out to Quilts of Valor Foundation, item line Parrottsville/HBA and sent to Sheilah Strobel, 148 Deer Path Way, Parrottsville TN 37843 or Friends of King Family Library, item line Special

Projects/HBA memorial, 408 High Street, Sevierville TN 37862.

Family and friends may sign the guest register book online at www.manesfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements with Manes Funeral Home.

Tribute Wall

JB

“ I met Holly in Quilts of Valor. She was a kind and caring person and I learned a lot from her. She will be missed. Praying for her family.

JoAnn Baker - December 09, 2024 at 07:35 PM

DW

“ Sharon so sorry to hear about your Mom . I enjoyed working with her at FPC. Sending prayers
Debbie Wylie

Debbie Wylie - December 07, 2024 at 03:28 PM

PP

“ I am so sorry! Holly was a delightful lady! I am so glad we crossed paths at her job in the medical world and my job at Stokely Memorial Library. I pray for God to provide peace and comfort! May angels walk beside you!

Pauline Proffitt - December 06, 2024 at 09:50 PM

PL

“Holly was my very first friend I made in Tennessee. I had to force myself to go to my first quilt guild meetings. When I got there, I wasn't sure what to do. She walked right up to me and introduced herself. She also introduced me to several of the other members. She stayed with me for the whole time and made sure I was comfortable and felt welcome and encouraged me to come back. She was one of the most loving people I have ever met. She invited me and several other ladies to join other groups that she belonged to or started and to meet new people. My thoughts and prayers go out to her daughter, Sharon. And to all of her fellow quilters, who will miss her terribly, this was a great loss.

Patti Lehman - December 06, 2024 at 12:56 PM

DS

Holly was the first friend that I made in Tennessee. I joined a quilt guild and she came to me with the biggest welcome and smile. She convinced me that joining this quilting group was the thing to do. She also introduced me to other groups as well. My dog, Tennes, had to get hugs from her all the time. Tennes adored Holly. So did I. Holly is missed by many. She was special, especially to me. RIP..

Diane T. See - December 30, 2024 at 09:51 PM

TJ

“Never known a more beautiful soul! When I was young Holly was my safe place. She always had Neil Diamond playing and I still do to this day, 45 years later. I still remember the schoolgirl smile on her face when she told me about Gene. Talk about head over heels, they shared the blessed life many people only dream of. My heart has a hole!

Terrance Johnson - December 05, 2024 at 07:10 PM

DS

Through Holly I joined several quilting groups and made sooo many wonderful friends. She was a kind soul and I truly loved this woman. My Tennes really loved her. She is missed. God be with her daughter, Sharon. You can be sure that her and Gene are happily reunited.

Diane See - December 05, 2024 at 11:18 PM

LC

“ I have known Holly since working at Family Practice when she first started working there we became friends. She taught me so much and i will truly miss her she was a great person and a very talented quilter she will be missed by many. Love and prayers for Sharon and all her family.

Lisa Holbert Cortez - December 05, 2024 at 01:39 PM

SN

“ Holly and I met not long ago at a Veteran's breakfast where she was there presenting QOV quilts to some service men. I invited her to be a Red Hatter. From there she invited me to be a Farmhouse Artist member. Our friendship grew and we enjoyed quilting, going to movies and eating out. I had prayed for so many years to find a friend like her and I felt so blessed to have found her. She was a generous loving and himble soul. She recently told me she would go look at anything to do with Jesus. I know she had a relationship with him and I know I will see her again. Our relationship was cut short and I feel so angry about that but I know she will save me a seat for when it is my time. She always saved me a seat at our events together. Holly knew how to lift you up when you were down. You didn't have to even tell her you were down as she could sense it. I will miss her forever and I will cherish all of our memories together. I will be praying for Sharon, the rest of the family and all her many friends. I love you Holly... thank you for allowing me to be your friend. It was a privilege. Rest well my dear sweet beautiful friend.

Sonja Noskowiak - December 05, 2024 at 01:37 PM