



## Iona Lilian Mary Thomas

January 22, 1936 - March 29, 2019

Iona Lilian Mary Thomas 83, slipped away peacefully on March 29, 2019. Iona leaves behind her only surviving child, Glen Thomas (Nancy), three granddaughters, Julia Reddy (Andrew), Charlotte Thomas, and Rachel Thomas in the United States as well as a niece, Helen Keeling, a nephew, Nigel Thomas (Agnes), and four great nieces and nephews, Gareth Thomas (Janine), Glyn Thomas (Alison), Rebecca Keeling and Lucy Keeling in Llanelli, South Wales. She was predeceased by her husband of fifty-one years, John Thomas, and her parents David and Iris Thomas.

Iona, originally from Llanelli, South Wales, came to America in 1959. She was a registered nurse at St. Mary's Hospital in Syracuse, NY assisting unwed mothers. After relocating to Florida, she worked at Lucerne Hospital in Orlando before becoming a stay-at-home mom and assistant to her husband in his manufacturer's sales representative company. She enjoyed needlework, sewing, cooking, and rescuing many dogs and cats. She also enjoyed the many peacocks that frequented her property. Most importantly, she enjoyed her time with her family.

A memorial mass for Iona will be celebrated at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church on April 26, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Bishop Moore Catholic High School Guardian Angel Fund.

# Tribute Wall

HK

“ Gyda Chydymdeimlad - with sympathy .

*How do I begin to condense a lifetime of memories into a few short lines ? A lifetime when a transatlantic family kept together initially with grainy photos then video tapes finishing with instant video calls and live streaming events ! Audio tapes to pre booked international phonecalls via the operator to instant mobile phonecalls . The world became much smaller as the years passed and the next generations of the Thomas family are as close as could ever have been wished for .*

*Although Aunty Iona left Wales for America initially for just 2 years some 60 years ago her roots remained firmly here in Wales and her hiraeth for home never diminished . A lady in the truest sense of the word . A lady who loved and lived for her precious family , of whom she was so very proud of . A lady with a beautiful smile and a caring nature who loved and was loved .*

*However my over riding memory of Aunty Iona will be of laughter - side splitting , breath catching, tear inducing laughter . Whether in family reunions or over the phone and often over the silliest of things .*

*Aunty Iona - I will miss our phonecalls and putting the World to right . I take great comfort knowing that you are back in the arms of the family especially your Dadi who you waited so very long to see again .*

*I promise I will keep an eye on Glen and make sure he behaves .  
Goodnight God bless .*

*Gorffwys mewn Heddwch .*

*Helen x*

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**Helen Keeling** - April 20, 2019 at 02:44 AM