



Mary Helen Danaher

January 21, 1950 - March 14, 2026

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Mary Helen Danaher, beloved teacher, devoted Catholic, and cherished wife, mother and grandmother, who entered eternal rest with the Lord on March 14, 2026, at the age of 76 in Orlando, Florida.

Born on January 21, 1950, in Joliet Illinois, Mary Helen dedicated her life to faith, family, and the education of young minds. For over 40 years, she mostly served as a Catholic school teacher where she was known for her patience, kindness, and unwavering belief in the potential of every student. Her passion was to inspire her students to become confident public speakers. She was actively involved with establishing several speech programs at many of the schools where she taught. Her classroom was a place of learning, joy, and compassion—reflecting the values she lived by. She retired from teaching in 2016 to become a devoted grandmother.

She married her soul mate, Alan, on April 16, 1977, and had one daughter, Sara. Mary Helen grew up on a dairy farm in Illinois, graduated with a Master's degree from Northern Illinois University, and lived in Colorado and Oregon before moving to Florida in 1999 with her husband to enjoy the Florida sunshine.

Mary Helen is survived by her husband of almost 49 years Alan Danaher,

daughter Sara Carrick (Nathan), and grandchildren Julie and Robert Carrick who will forever remember her as a guiding light filled with grace, humility, and love. She is preceded in death by her mother and father, John and Cecilia Riley.

A mass will be held on Saturday, April 11 at 11am at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, with a celebration of life to follow at DeGusipe Funeral Home in Maitland.

Friends, former students, and all whose lives were brightened by Mary Helen are invited to attend and celebrate her life.

May she rest in the peace of Christ, whom she faithfully served.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

APR 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

Good Shepard Catholic Church
5900 Oleander Drive
Orlando, FL 32807

For those unable to attend in person, please join us remotely via this livestream link <https://www.youtube.com/live/-YTDhjfEBvc?si=cqqNqPxA7YCPbXDR>

Celebration of Life and Reception

APR 11. 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory Maitland Chapel
9001 N. Orlando Ave
Maitland, FL 32751
(407) 695-2273
todd@degusipe.com
<https://www.degusipefuneralhome.com>

For those unable to attend in person, please join us remotely via this livestream link <https://www.youtube.com/live/Q1u-2stIG-Y?si=Jni4Oy5ShuEhepDY>

Tribute Wall

VP

“ I am so very sorry to hear about the passing of Mary Helen. I worked with Alan for many years through TRB, APTA, and FPTA, and I'm glad I got the chance to finally meet Mary Helen at an FPTA event a couple of years ago, she was so friendly and kind. I was hoping to make it over to Orlando on April 11, but it overlapped with a previously scheduled trip and I was unable to make it work.

My thoughts are with your family 🧡
Sincerely,
Vicky Perk

Victoria Perk - April 22 at 03:14 PM

AS

“ So very sorry to hear about the passing of Mary Helen! She was a beloved teacher at Good Shepherd School for many years and an inspiration to so many! She will be very missed by her beloved Alan, daughter Sarah, and dear friend Margaret. Hugs and prayers to all of you!

Ann Schmidt - April 13 at 08:37 PM

OF

“ Osmun & Woerner Families purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.



Osmun & Woerner Families - April 10 at 06:01 PM

OF

“ Osmun & Woerner Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Helen Danaher.

Osmun & Woerner Families - April 10 at 06:01 PM

BD

“ Brenda, Mike, and Hannah Dayton purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.



Brenda, Mike, and Hannah Dayton - April 10 at 12:59 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.



April 09 at 11:08 PM

JP

“ Jenifer Palmer purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.



Jenifer Palmer - April 09 at 07:16 AM

JP

“ *Jenifer Palmer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Helen Danaher.*

Jenifer Palmer - April 09 at 07:16 AM

MM

“ *I'm so sorry I can't be there to give a hug and be with you during this time, but please know I'm holding you close in my thoughts and prayers. I hope you can find comfort in the beautiful memories you shared and in the love that surrounds you. She was such an amazing woman, and I was blessed to have her as my Godmother. Sending love, Mary Beth Mueller*

Mary Beth Mueller - April 07 at 11:00 AM

MF

“ *Mary Beth Mueller and Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.*



Mary Beth Mueller and Family - April 07 at 10:52 AM

TF

“ *The PhanTasticSmile Family purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.*



The PhanTasticSmile Family - April 01 at 09:30 AM

TF

“ *The Keicher Family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.*



The Keicher Family - March 31 at 07:49 PM

BC

“ *Bryan and Kim Carrick purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.*



Bryan and Kim Carrick - March 23 at 05:55 PM

AF

“ *Adriana Rodriguez and family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.*



Adriana Rodriguez and family - March 19 at 09:49 PM

EK

“ *Elaine K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Helen Danaher.*

Elaine K. - March 17 at 10:02 PM

FF

“ From Joyce Breckenridge and Albert Feher purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.



From Joyce Breckenridge and Albert Feher - March 17 at 07:16 PM

FF

“ From Joyce Breckenridge and Albert Feher planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Helen Danaher.

From Joyce Breckenridge and Albert Feher - March 17 at 07:16 PM

SC

“ This Earth was blessed to have you a part of it. Love you and miss you mom.



Sara Carrick - March 17 at 05:42 PM

MI

“ Mary Helen was an awesome teacher to every student who had the privilege of knowing her. She was such a blessing to Good Shepherd school and the programs she established like Celebration of Speech Day and our drama program still holds strong today. What an honor to work with such a wonderful, humble lady. My family all benefited from the gifts God gave her. Rest in peace, you beautiful servant. Mary Iaccarino

Mary Iaccarino - March 17 at 12:32 PM

TF

“ The Brocket Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mary Helen Danaher.



The Brocket Family - March 17 at 09:13 AM

TF

“ The Brocket Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Helen Danaher.

The Brocket Family - March 17 at 09:13 AM