



Hilda Odeh

May 14, 1929 - July 13, 2018

Hilda Odeh (nee Sakhel), 89, passed away on July 13, 2018. She was born in Jerusalem on May 14, 1929. She married the love of her life, Edward Odeh in 1950. Sadly, Eddie passed away at an early age in 1964, leaving behind Hilda and their three children. A few years later, Hilda immigrated to the United States. She bravely established herself in the welcoming community of St. Gertrude Parish on Chicago's North Side. She soon involved herself in the life of the parish and the larger community and made Chicago her home. She made many new friends and created a network of other friends who had immigrated to the U.S. from Palestine and Jordan.

Hilda's life revolved around her Catholic faith, her family, and her friends. She leaves behind many people who loved her dearly, including her children, Amal Pope (Ken, RIP), Nabil Odeh (Letti), and Dima Kirland (Kerry). She was an integral part of her grandchildren's lives, spending years helping to raise them in her incredibly loving way. These grandchildren—Tanya Larese (Sean), Billy Kirland (Kelsei), Kristin, Kevin, and Natalie—were thoroughly in love with their 'Teta' and have become wonderful young adults because of her love and care.

Hilda loved her siblings dearly. The distance between her older brother, Lutfi Sakhel (Mary), who lived in London, never deterred her from maintaining a close and loving relationship with him and his family. She unfortunately lost her youngest sibling, Nina Sakhel in 1999. Nina was such a wonderful and bright figure in the lives of Hilda and all her family that Hilda spoke of her daily. And until Hilda's last days, she was best friend and confidant of her loving younger sister Alice Odeh (Jim Zakrzewski). Alice and Jim heroically stayed with Hilda until her final breath.

Hilda leaves behind many nieces, nephews, and two wonderful great-grandchildren who adored her and regarded her as their own loving mother. She was fortunate to have spent a couple of years with her great-grandchildren Alex and Austin, who gave her endless joy, and not a few panic attacks. She was wonderfully close to her sister Alice's children Shereen (Aaron), Sammy (Kris), and Ranya (Doug), all of whom regarded her as a second mother. Her grand nieces and nephews Christine, Nick, Brandon, Jessie, and Nick adored Hilda.

Hilda passed away peacefully in the presence of her family and friends after a wonderful

life filled with love and family and service to others. While we are all heartbroken that she has left us, we know it was her time and believe that she is in the loving arms of Jesus Christ now. Her faith in God was constant and unwavering and we know she is with Him and all the wonderful family and friends that preceded her to Heaven. God Bless Hilda... we will always keep you in our hearts.

Cemetery

Maryhill Cemetery

8600 N Milwaukee
Niles, IL, 60714

Events

JUL 19 **Visitation in Church** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

St Gertrude Catholic Church
1420 W Granville Ave, Chicago, IL, US, 60660

JUL 19 **Funeral Mass** 11:00AM

St Gertrude Catholic Church
1420 W Granville Ave, Chicago, IL, US, 60660

Comments



“ FEMA

Thoughts and Prayers are with you and your Family.

Bill Schmidt

Bill Schmidt - July 19, 2018 at 09:17 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Hilda Odeh.



July 18, 2018 at 03:12 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Hilda Odeh.



July 18, 2018 at 02:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Hilda Odeh.



July 18, 2018 at 12:07 PM



“ I am very saddened to hear of the loss of Aunt Hilda. She was a very beautiful lady, with a heart of gold! While she will be missed by all of us, her spirit and presence will live on in all the hearts and minds she left behind. Knowing Amal, Nabil and Dima....their truly awesome kids and grandkids, you can certainly tell there was a great 'matriarch" in the Odeh family. She has inspired all of us, lived a very full and prosperous life, and leaves behind a family that is very saddened, but who are so much better off just by having known her. Soo many great memories of a truly great person. I am honored and thankful for having her in my life. She is in a much better place and has found eternal peace. God Bless you Aunt Hilda!

Rick Kromeich - July 18, 2018 at 11:46 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Hilda Odeh.



July 17, 2018 at 11:14 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Hilda Odeh.



July 17, 2018 at 01:56 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Hilda Odeh.



July 16, 2018 at 09:06 PM

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“ Our thought and prayers are with Auntie’s family and extended family
Eternal rest grant unto Auntie Hilda, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her.
May she RIP and will be missed very much by all of us

Nabila&Tom Kearney + Clemence Masarweh - July 16, 2018 at 06:44 PM



“ Dearest Aunty Hilda no words can explain how much you will be missed. You were
and are still an inspiration to all, with a heart that radiated love and warmth through
all our lives. You will truly be missed and forever remembered. May your precious
soul rest in peace. Cynthia xxx



Cynthia - July 16, 2018 at 02:57 PM



“ My dearest Habibti Aunti Hilda words cannot describe my sadness for not being able
to be with you and my cousins at this his time.. I remember so well your last trip to
Jordan and when we drove around Amman and you were so happy to go back and
visit places which reminded you of your childhood and you said it was one of the best
days you’ve had on this trip.. I am glad I got to hear your voice last week on the
phone and I apologize for not being able to visit you and be with everyone at this sad
time.. Aunti I will very much miss our chats on the phone but I’m sure you are in a
much better place with my dearest Dad Lutfi and Aunti Nina.. Rest In Peace my
dearest Aunti

ruba sakhel - July 16, 2018 at 10:36 AM



“ I am so deeply sorry for the loss of your beloved mother, Dima. I am so glad I had the
opportunity to meet her a few times. She was exactly as you had portrayed her to
me: sweet, kind, loving and completely devoted to her family. To the Kirland siblings:
how fortunate you were to have grown up with your beloved "Teta." Those memories
will last you a lifetime and give you comfort during this difficult time. My deepest
condolences to the Odeh family and Hilda's friends.

Deborah Elston - July 16, 2018 at 09:34 AM



“ Words cannot describe the sadness and heartache I am feeling for your loss auntie Hilda .. we lived apart for so long but you were always close to my heart I can't believe that I am not going to hear your voice anymore..you struggled and fought this horrible illness for so long but still everytime we spoke we shared jokes and laughter all the time... Love you so much dearest Auntie you will always have a special place in my heart... may you rest in God's eternal peace... Vicky xxx



Vicky Sakhel - July 16, 2018 at 03:56 AM



“ January 2018 I was reunited with Auntie Hilda after a very long separation , I spent wonderful four days as her guest, where she shared with me her beautiful memories of her best friend (Josephine) my late mom (her sister in law) and the struggle of her life after she was widowed and left to the states, this woman is greatly admired as she sacrificed and put her family first, a self giving person who spreads love and warmth. Glad I had this chance to take in some love from my favorite auntie. You are in a far better place auntie Hilda, reunited with your loved ones long gone. May your good soul rest in eternal peace, love you

Hind Hussein

Hind Hussein/Dajani - July 16, 2018 at 01:01 AM