

# Mary Helen Gooden

July 30, 1923 ~ October 30, 2013 (age 90)

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Mary Helen Gooden, 90, of Hoopeston, passed away at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 30, 2013, at Heritage Health.

Mrs. Gooden was born on July 30, 1923, in Hoopeston, the daughter of Earl Palmer and Mary (Bridges) Elliott. She married Willard Eugene Gooden on June 21, 1945, at the St. Peter's Chapel in Mare Island, California. He preceded her in death on December 2, 2009.

She is survived by two daughters- Jane Lane of Hoopeston and Cathy (Greg) Baird Sr. of Henning; two grandsons- Greg Baird Jr. and Bill (Heather) Baird; two great-grandsons- Joseph and John Baird; sister-in-law- Barbara Jean Drinski of Chicago, Illinois; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, son-William Elliott Gooden, one brother and a grandson- Damon Lane.

Mrs. Gooden graduated from John Greer High School in 1941. She was a member of the Hoopeston United Methodist Church and the Gold Star Mothers. She enjoyed reading and spending time with her family.

Cremation rites have been accorded by the Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Private family services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made in her name to the Hoopeston Public Library. The family has entrusted the Brown-Alkire Funeral Home to assist them in honoring Mrs. Gooden's life. Condolences may be sent to the family at: [www.brownalkirefuneralhome.com](http://www.brownalkirefuneralhome.com).