



Virginia Kessler

Wood River | Wednesday, November 30 2016

Virginia C. Kessler, 86, formerly of Wood River, passed away Wednesday, November 30, 2016 at Lewis Memorial Christian Village in Springfield.

Born Jan. 2, 1930 in St. Louis, Mo., she was a daughter of Joseph H. and Mary T. (Mehrtens) Benz.

She married John William “Big John” Kessler Sept. 9, 1950 in St. Louis. He passed away Dec. 7, 2012.

Virginia worked as an admitting clerk for the former Wood River Township Hospital. She was a member of Holy Angels Catholic Church, formerly St. Bernard’s.



Survivors include a daughter, Kathleen (Dennis) Holsapple of Tuscola, Ill.; two sons, Michael (Lucinda) Kessler of Springfield and Mark Kessler of Staunton; 2 grandchildren, Joseph (Betty) Kessler, Sr. and Timothy (Maria) Kessler; great grandchildren Mary Beth, Joseph Jr., John Paul, Luke and Justin Kessler.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Esther Benz; and a brother, John J. Benz.

Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2 at Paynic Home for Funerals. A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 3 at Holy Angels Catholic Church, with Father Donald Wolford as Celebrant.

Burial will follow at Rose Lawn Memory Gardens in Bethalto.

Memorials may be made for Masses or to the 5 A’s animal shelter.

Online guestbook is available at www.paynicfh.com