

Helen C. Bender

OBITUARY

Mass of Christian Burial for Helen C. Bender, 82, Frackville, who died Tuesday at home, will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Joseph's Church, Frackville, by the Rev. Albert J. Byrne. Interment will be in the parish cemetery, Frackville. Albert L. Gricoski Funeral Home, Frackville, is in charge.

Born in Frackville, September 23, 1914, she was a daughter of the late John J. and Margaret V. Miller O'Donnell.

She was co-owner with her husband, Andrew, of Benders Cigar Store and Bus Agency, Frackville, for 60 years until retiring and had worked at the former Bobb factory, Frackville.

She was a member of St. Joseph's Church, where she was the first female to be baptized in the new church in 1914.

She was a charter member and past grand regent of Catholic Daughters, St. James Court 1029; Frackville Elks Lodge 1533 Auxiliary; life member of Frackville Senior Citizens; past den



mother of Frackville Cub Scouts; past leader of the Frackville Girl Scouts.

She was preceded in death by three sisters, Katheryn Wettrich, in 1991, Agnes O'Donnell, in 1987, and Elizabeth Faloney, in 1970; a brother, Charles O'Donnell, in 1981.

Surviving are her husband, Andrew, to whom she was married 60 years; two daughters, Margaret Ann "Peggy" Puritano, Annandale, VA; and H. Diane Bender, Arlington, VA; a son, Samuel A., Frackville; two sisters, Marion Perrine, Frackville, and Rita Leisel, Girardville; two grandsons; nieces and nephews.