

*Pallbearers*

*(Active & Honorary)*

Gerald Brefka, Robert Brefka, Joey Brefka, Jaymes Degrate, Davey Brinkley  
Billy Cotner, Nick Cotner, Cody Cotner, Daniel Darby, Dulano Degrate

*Flower Bearers*

Friends of the Family

*Interment*

Forest Lawn Cemetery  
3210 South Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, Michigan 48701

*An Old Door*

Death is only an old door  
Set in a garden wall.  
On quiet hinges it gives at dusk  
When the thrushes call.  
Along the lintel are green leaves.  
Beyond, the lights lie still.  
Very weary and willing feet  
Go over that still  
There is nothing to trouble any  
Nothing to hurt at all.  
Death is only an old door  
In a garden wall.



**Paradise Funeral Chapel**

3100 South Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, Michigan 48601  
Phone (989) 754-4826 / Fax (989) 754-3740  
pfc@saginaw@paradisefuneralchapel.com  
Sharise Steele-Phillips, Manager  
Ivan E. Phillips, President & Owner



==== Celebrating the Life of ====

*Mrs. Marilyn Jean Brefka*

Sunrise: March 28, 1944 - Sunset: August 9, 2025

11:00 AM  
Wednesday, August 13, 2025

*Paradise Funeral Chapel*  
3100 South Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, Michigan 48601

*Minister David Brinkley, Officiating*

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# Order of Service

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Prelude ..... Musician  
Processional ..... Family  
Scripture Reading ..... Old & New Testament ..... Minister  
Prayer ..... Minister  
Selection ..... Amazing Grace (YouTube)  
Obituary ..... Read Silently  
Expressions ..... Please Limit to 2 Minutes ..... Family & Friends  
Selection ..... Peace in The Valley – Elvis Presley (YouTube)  
Eulogy ..... Minister David Brinkley

Committal, Benediction, Recessional

## *The Chain*

We knew little that morning,  
God was going to call your name.  
In life we loved you dearly,  
In death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you,  
You did not go alone,  
For part of us went with you,  
the day God called you home.

You left us beautiful memories,  
Your love is still our guide  
And though we cannot see you,  
You are always by our side.

Our family chain is broken  
And nothing seems the same  
But as God calls us one by one  
The chain will link again.

Ron Tranmer

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# Obituary

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Mrs. Marilyn Jean (Newcomb) Brefka went to be with the Lord on August 9, 2025, at the age of 81.

She is survived by her three children, Gerald Brefka, Anne Marie (Billy) Cotner, and Robert (Tikini) Brefka; five grandchildren, Nick (Jenna) Cotner, Cody (Kari) Cotner, Summer Cotner, Alexis Brefka, and Joey Brefka; and one great-granddaughter, Daisy.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond Brefka and son, Timothy Brefka.

Marilyn's family would like to extend heartfelt thanks to Magline and Bobby Whitley and their family for their loving devotion and compassionate care of Marilyn for almost three decades. They also want to thank the Toni and Trish House (Hospice) for their kindness and provision in her final hours.

## Acknowledgement

All over the world there are people – special people like you who make life so meaningful and worthwhile, who are always there when needed – as in our bereavement hour – who will always be special in our hearts. May God bless and keep you. Many thanks for everything and may God create many more special people like you.

“The Family of Marilyn Jean (Newcomb) Brefka”