

CARRUCAN

Helen Mary

12.10.1946 - 06.01.2024

Peacefully at home, in the care of her wife Sandy Anderson and surrounded by family.

Loving wife of Sandy for 31 years.

Daughter of Clare and Cornelius Carrucan (both dec) and loved sister of Frank Carrucan and sister-in-law Kathy.

Much loved and proud mother of Danni, Peter (dec), Kathy, Susie, Greg, Chrissie and loved step-mother of Jason and Karissa.

Mother-in-law of Bill, Geoff, Shaz and Luke.

Loving Grandma to Krystal, Billy, Peter, Josh, Zoe, Tara, Taylah, Trent, Jack, Bella, Chelsea, Henry, Liam, Cam, Taz and Hannah.

Delighted Great Gram to Penelope.

In our hearts forever

Carrucan

Helen Mary

12/10/1946 to 6/01/2024

Daughter of Con Carrucan and Clare Carrucan (nee McArdle), niece of Lil McArdle (all dec.).

Sister of Frank Carrucan and sister-in-law of Kathy Carrucan. Aunt of Andrew and Claire Carrucan, and Claire and Lucas Oddo and their families.

Niece of Trish Wilson of Nazareth house.

Cousin of the extended McArdle family from Ballarat, Melbourne and beyond.

Well-loved also by Carrucan cousins, locally and in Ireland.

A wonderful strong woman. A life very well lived

Helen lived in remission of cancer for many years, controlled more or less by medication.

Tragically, she developed a further stage of aggressive lymphoma in the last five weeks of her life.

Sandy is an accomplished nurse (OAM for cancer prevention and Aboriginal women's health) and thus was able to nurse Helen, with Hospice assistance, which allowed her to die at home. Sandy also skilfully managed visitors during these final weeks, to limited time and numbers to protect Helen. She successfully carried out a difficult balancing act and has the gratitude of all the family.

Helen was the great-great granddaughter of Patrick and Mary Carrucan who immigrated from Ireland, arriving in Australia in 1857. She was a member of the Carrucan family history group and contributed to the family history book 'Dirt Poor, Spirit Rich.

Helen and Sandy visited Ireland a few years ago and were planning another trip, but her illness intervened.

She was a recorder and researcher of the history of sexual abuse in Victoria and a member of the Loud Fence movement. One of Helen's last public appearances was, to go to Government House for an event to recognise Loud Fences work in assisting survivors of sexual abuse.

Her funeral was streamed from Tobin's website and viewed nationally and internationally by family and friends.

By Frank Carrucan