



## Helen Milligan

September 18, 1923 - January 3, 2012

Helen Dacenko Milligan

Rayne - Funeral services will be held at Gossen Funeral Home Chapel, Friday, January 6, 2012 at 2:00 P.M. for Helen Milligan, 88 who died Tuesday, January 3, 2012 in Rayne Guest Home.

Interment will be in the Rayne Cemetery Inc., Rayne, LA.

Surviving are four sons, Howard Milligan, Jr. and wife Cindie, Dr. Edward Milligan and wife Laura, Donald Milligan and Michael Milligan and wife Desi; 8 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and two sisters of Kiev, Ukraine.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Howard Milligan, Sr. and her parents Florian and Alexandra Dacenko; one sister Tonya; and her grandchild and precious angel Jacob Paul Milligan..

She was born Tuesday, September 18, 1923 in Kiev, Ukraine, Daughter of the late Florian Dacenko and the late Alexandra.

She was a member of Louisiana Retired Teachers Association.

Friends will be received 11:00 A.M. until 8:00 P.M., Thursday, January 5; and 9:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. Friday, January 6, 2012. at Gossen Funeral Home, Inc., Rayne, LA.

The family would like to thank Hospice of Acadiana's and Rayne Guest Home's medical personnel and staff for their tender loving care and service, along with Dr. Mark Dawson.

Friends may view the obituary and guestbook online at  
[www.gossenfuneralhome.net](http://www.gossenfuneralhome.net).

Arrangements have been entrusted to Gossen Funeral Home, Inc. of  
Rayne, LA, (337) 334-3141.

Gossen Funeral Home, Inc.

# Tribute Wall

MB

“ I was so sorry to learn of the death of Miss Milligan. She taught me in the 8th grade at Rayne Catholic and made a lasting impression on me. She was a brilliant woman and opened up for us a world which we did not know existed outside of our little community. I've thought of her often over the years and really appreciate all that she did for us. I remember clearly how adamant she was that we never refer to Christmas as "X-mas", as "x" was a symbol for the unknown, and Christ was certainly not unknown. That lesson has stayed with me for almost 40 years! Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss. What a courageous and lovely woman!

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M'elise Beslin Trahan - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

AM

“ I am so very sorry to hear about the loss of Ms. Helen, especially so soon after the loss of Jacob. Ms. Helen was my friend in the 80's and 90's, as she was a lead soprano in the choir I direct at First Baptist Church in Rayne. When I became a teacher at Rayne High School, she drew even closer to me, sharing her expertise on any occasion I asked her for it. When attending a 70th birthday party for my husband's grandmother, Willie Whatley, Ms. Helen visited with us a long time. It was then that she first shared her life's story with me, holding me spellbound with stories of her youth and her misfortune of having worked with the German army during World War II. What a rich legacy she leaves you all! More than once I asked Ms. Helen to visit my history class at RHS to share her story. She never could for fear that she would get emotional. I urged her time and time again to write her story down, perhaps in a book for publishing. She said, "No one would believe me." I sure hope that you have recorded her experiences for future generations to treasure!

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Amy Whatley - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

KY

“ I would like to extend my deepest heartfelt condolences to the Milligan family on the loss of Mrs. Hellen Milligan. I don't think I would be the person I am today if she would not have been my Teacher, my Mentor, and most of all my friend. She was the most Interesting and Informative Teacher I have ever had. I guess you could say that she was my all time favorite teacher. She taught me biology in my sophomore year at Northside High School back in 1979. At the time she was the smartest person I knew. 32 years later I don't think I have ever met anyone with the Intellegence that she possessed. I was so facinated by the 7 languages that she could speak fluently and the stories she used to tell me about her life in the Ukrane. I remember staying after school just to listen to her stories and her advice on what to expect from life when I became an adult. I have been an adult for 30 years now and everything she told me and taught me was so very true!!! She guided my life in the right direction and for that I will always be greatful to her. What a wonderful person she was and what a terrible loss to her family as well as the world. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her. I love you Mrs. Milligan, until we meet again, God Bless You, and May You Rest In Peace For All Eternity.

Kyle Trahan - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

J.

“ Please accept my sincere condolences. May you find comfort in knowing that one day we will reunite with our love ones. John 5:28,29 This is a promise from God. May this passage console you, durring these trouble times.

J. Brown - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

JM

“ My Deepest Condolences and prayers to the Milligan Family at this time of loss. May she rest in Peace. Love, Jeanne Menard Guidry & Patrick Guidry

Jeanne Menard Guidry - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

JA

“ My deepest sympathies are with the Milligan family.

Mrs. Milligan was my 9th grade Physical Science teacher at Northside High School. I didn't appreciate what she was giving me at the time, but as years went by, and I became a teacher myself, I often found myself referring to her in my classes. I only wish I had taken the time to thank her for giving us her time and knowledge. I know that she impacted us all in a positive way.

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this most difficult time.

Janice Adams - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

MO

“ I have placed the Milligan Family on our prayer list at my church FBC of Basile.

*Mr. Don,  
You are in my thoughts and my prayers.  
With sincere sympathy,  
Mona Jenkins*

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**Mona Jenkins** - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

JA

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Milligan Family. I remember my friendship with Howard and Ed ( Duck ) growing up in Rayne. Most significantly, I remember the respect and admiration I had for Ms. Helen. She was a major inspiration for me.*

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**Jack Bonin** - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

DE

“ *Ms. Milligan taught me biology in high school. I loved her accent and I still pronounce some words with an accent because that was how I learned to say them.*

*Ms. Milligan was the only teacher I ever had who left a profound impression on me. I sent her a card expressing these feelings after I completed her class. When I ran into her several years later, she was still carrying that card in her purse.*

*My deepest sympathy to her family.*

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**Debra E. Miller** - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

CD

“ *I would like to express my sincere condolences to the Milligan family. I have fond memories of her. She taught me at Rayne High. I know it was a Biology class, but was a better history class. I was fascinated with her accent and stories. She will be missed.*

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**Cynthia Morgan DeVille** - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

CM

“ Miss Helen was my mother, Florence Hebert Meaux's, mentor and life support when she was a young girl in Rayne. She was a sort of mythical figure all of my life. I have had the privilege of meeting her several occasions when when my sisters and I were little girls ourselves and later as a grown woman. She was a remarkable woman. The world has been a better place with her in it. My condolences to her entire family.  
May you all find strength and peace.  
Sincerely,  
Cassandra Meaux McDuffie

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**Cassandra McDuffie** - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

DH

“ Donald & Mike - Your mother was one of my favorite teachers. We always loved to listen to her accent & her wonderful stories. You and your family are in my prayers.

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**Debbie Heinen Robichaux** - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

BD

“ My sympathy to all of the Milligan family. Mrs. Milligan will be missed.

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**Brian David Constantin** - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM

SF

“ I am sorry to hear of your mother's death. I remember going to your home as a child with Howard and my fascination with her accent and stories.  
My prayers are with your family for peace in this time of sorrow.  
Susan Petitjean Flores

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**Susan Petitjean Flores** - October 29, 2013 at 04:07 PM