

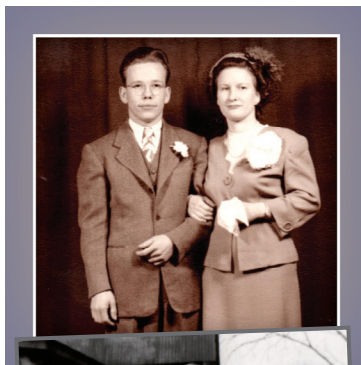


she loved to attend. She also made a point to attend her high school and nurses' school reunions to renew old acquaintances that she held dear. Not only did Mary enjoy reminiscing her youth, but she also had an amazing ability to remember who was related to whom. Mary enjoyed working with Elmer at the Paulding County Historical Society, including dressing in period costumes to reenact a school or store setting. Together they also enjoyed gardening and preserving the various fruits and vegetables they grew. Mary was a very skilled seamstress who also enjoyed knitting and crocheting.

With enduring love and generosity, she taught so many beautiful ways to live a God-centered life. Mary lived with patience, compassion, and a happy heart, hummed joyfully, and enveloped others with gentleness and love.

On Monday, June 8, 2020, Mary was peacefully called to her heavenly home at the age of 97. All of her children were blessed to spend some final moments with her on that day. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Elmer Hinschlager on January 16, 2007; her brother Ralph Beckman on June 19, 1995; and a daughter-in-law, Lynn Hinschlager on July 23, 1996. She will be greatly missed by her children and their spouses: Janet (Carl) Knippen, Karen Brown, Robert (Rebecca) Hinschlager, Charles (Theresa) Hinschlager, and Carol (Gene) Stallings; as well as by 15 grandchildren, their spouses, 22 great-grandchildren and all who knew her.

Private family services will be held at Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp. She will be laid to rest at Rochester Cemetery. The family of Mary Hinschlager would like memorials directed to Zion Lutheran Church, 210 N. Wayne Street, St. Mary's Ohio 45885, with the designation on the memo line or envelope "Pre-Born", a pro-life ministry supported by the church. Fond memories may be shared at dooleyfuneralhome.com



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Mary Hinschlager

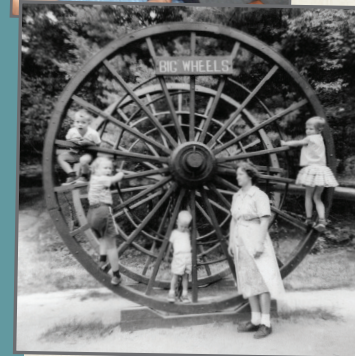
MARY'S LIFE STORY

With a welcoming smile, warm heart, and a sweet, gentle spirit, Mary Katherine Hinschlager lived a life firmly rooted in faith and family. Mary was a wonderful, devoted wife and mother who always put her family's needs and comfort ahead of her own. She was patient, wise, considerate, and compassionate. She was a good listener and her common-sense allowed her to bless her children with sage advice. Mary lovingly welcomed her children's spouses into the family with open arms and doted on her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren whenever she could.

The 1920's was an age of dramatic social and political change. Post-war peace, a booming economy, rising wages for most Americans, and falling consumer prices gave rise to a higher standard of living for many. The world quickly changed with the invention of washing machines, vacuum cleaners, band-aids, and the first automobiles with combustion engines. Tremendous confidence, prosperity, and previously unknown comforts marked this roaring decade. These factors enabled a person to determine their destiny by following their dreams and by working hard to achieve those goals. Many of these advances were not experienced in rural Paulding County at that time. This includes the humble homestead of Charles Henry and Eliza Susanna (Gombert) Young who lovingly referred to their farm as Poverty Knob.

On March 21, 1923, Charley and Lizzie welcomed their daughter, Mary Katherine, into the world. She grew up on the farm along with her half-brother, Ralph Leland Beckman, who was ten years her senior. Her hardworking parents and brother were often kept busy with farm duties leaving Mary to entertain herself, often playing with her kittens. Her primary education was attained at the Molasses Gap School, a one-room schoolhouse located a mile north of the farm. Mary walked to school there daily and enjoyed playing baseball when there were not enough boys to form two teams. She attended Paulding High School, at first in the old 1884 building as she watched them construct the 1938 building from her classroom window. Then she enjoyed learning in that new school until graduating in 1941.

Mary went on to study nursing at Robinwood Hospital in Toledo, Ohio. While most students were transported to school by their parents, this adventurous country girl boarded a bus to make the



significant trip on her own. Owned and operated by the Federated Lutheran Benevolent Society of Toledo, Robinwood was a not-for-profit Christian institution that was well known for excellent care. This teaching-hospital was instrumental in changing the notion of hospitals being a place where people went expecting to die, to being a place where health could be restored. This was primarily accomplished by a doctor who was trained in Germany in the importance of handwashing: the practice of which in turn was implemented at Robinwood. Mary took particular note of this, understanding that such a simple discipline could make such a big difference. Upon graduation from Robinwood, Mary traveled home with her parents. They stopped in Defiance, Ohio and mentioned to someone that she had just become an RN. This person said they knew that the Defiance Automatic Screw Company (later called Zeller's) was in need of a nurse. She went there and was hired on the spot. She was employed there as a factory nurse for the duration of World War II. Through the years to come she worked at various times at several area hospitals.

Through her early life Mary attended church with her family at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Paulding, Ohio. While attending church and participating in the youth group, she became acquainted with Elmer Sturm Hinschlager who moved to Paulding just before his senior year of high school. When Elmer served in the South Pacific with the United States Navy during World War II, he and Mary kept up regular correspondence. Upon his arrival home after the war, their love continued to grow and the happy couple married on December 20, 1947.

Mary and Elmer settled into married life in Paulding, welcomed their first child, Janet, and proceeded to build the house that would be the home where they raised their family.

Over the years they welcomed four more children, Karen, Robert, Charles, and Carol. Mary dedicated herself to the care of her husband and children. Her unwavering faith served as the firm foundation upon which she created a loving home for her family. Mary lived each day for Christ: she embodied the principles of her faith in every aspect of her life. In so doing, she proved to be a powerful role model for her children and all who were blessed to know her.

Mary joyfully attended church regularly throughout her entire life and successfully encouraged her children to follow her example. She actively taught children's classes, participated in women's and quilting groups, and served on various committees of the church. Quick to offer her time and talents in service to her community: she worked with the girl scouts, the board of elections, the bloodmobile, and helped facilitate the Molasses Gap – Keck School reunions that

