

## Donna M. Hepner, 77

Donna M. Hepner died Thursday, April 14, 2011, at Brookhaven Care Center in Brooklyn. A memorial service will take place at 10:30 a.m., Monday, May 16, at the First Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn. Following burial of her cremains, friends are invited to share lunch with the family at the church. Kloster Funeral Home, Brooklyn, is assisting the family with arrangements.



PCCR 5-11-11

Donna was born Aug. 30, 1933, to John F. and Mildred Price Roudabush in Brooklyn, where she grew up and graduated from Brooklyn High School in 1951. She attended the University of Northern Iowa and graduated from St. Luke's Methodist Hospital X-Ray Technology Program in Cedar Rapids. Donna later earned a bachelors of arts in sociology from Webster University and a masters degree in public administration and political science from the University of Missouri, St. Louis, which included a legislative internship in the U.S. Congress.

Donna married James O. Hepner of Cedar Rapids in 1960, and for several years assisted him in directing the graduate program in health care administration at Washington University Medical School in St. Louis. During that time, they co-authored "The Health Strategy Game," a book on health care administration.

Donna's career spanned several years in various segments of the health care industry and home care services for the elderly in St. Louis, Mo., and Dallas and Austin, Texas. She created "Senior Challenge," a game-like product to encourage planning and preparation for the aging process.

Upon her return to St. Louis in the mid 80's, Donna committed a great deal of time and effort to the Second Presbyterian Church's Good Ground General Store, a food pantry for the underprivileged. She also volunteered with the Metropolitan Congregations United for several years.

In recent years, Donna was plagued by severe osteoporosis and other health issues that limited her mobility. She moved to Brooklyn in November 2009, where she received significant care and assistance from her sister-in-law, Charlotte Roudabush, and her family.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents; stepmother, Helen; brother, J. Duane; sister, Dian; and niece, Denise.

Survivors include sisters, Dolores (Roger) McLain of Austin, Texas, and Dorothy Carpenter of Newton, and sister-in-law, Charlotte Roudabush of Brooklyn; 12 nieces and nephews; twenty-seven grandnieces and grandnephews, and one great-grandnephew.

Memorials may be made to First Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, Second Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, or Hospice Compassus of Cedar Rapids.

Online condolences may be extended to the family at [www.klosterfuneralhome.com](http://www.klosterfuneralhome.com).