



# Rita A. Jensen

SEP 27, 1938 - DEC 24, 2021



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**John Breen Memorial**  
FUNERAL HOME, INC.  
AND CREMATION SERVICES

# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Events</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 6



## **Rita A. Jensen**

SEP 27, 1938 - DEC 24, 2021

**R**ita A. Jensen, a lifelong resident of Lawrence, died December 24, 2021 at the Holy Family hospital in Methuen, surrounded by her loved ones.

Born on September 27, 1938 in Lawrence, Massachusetts, she was the beloved daughter of Frank and Marion (Moore) Jensen. She graduated from Saint Patrick Grammar School and Saint Patrick High School as Salutatorian. She attended Merrimack College on a full tuition scholarship and graduated Magna cum Laude in 1960 with a Bachelor's in history.

Upon graduation, she went to Navy Officer Candidate School in Newport RI, where she was commissioned as an Ensign. She then reported to CINCLANTFLT (Commander in Chief, US Atlantic Fleet) as a Communications Officer. After leaving the Navy as a Lieutenant junior grade, she was awarded a Graduate Assistantship to Boston University and received a master's degree in History. Rita then worked at Dracut High School as a dedicated social studies teacher for 35 years and was involved in many school activities.

After retirement, Rita was a very active volunteer at Saint Patrick Parish. She taught in the Adult Confirmation Program, Led the Christian visitation program, and volunteered at Cor Unum. In addition, Rita volunteered with the Irish collection at the Lawrence Public Library, as well as at Lawrence Catholic Academy.

A daily communicant, she was a member of Our Lady's Sodality, the St. Clare League and LAOH Division 8 of the Hibernians. She belonged to the American Legion, post 315, Waves National, and various educational organizations. She was an avid walker, especially at Hampton Beach where she summered for many years.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her brother, Commander Carl T. Jensen, USN. She is survived by 2 nieces, Cheryl Hudson of Florida and Kristen Eggert of Missouri, a nephew, Keith Jensen of Florida, and many dear friends. She also leaves 2 very special people, Meaghan (Reardon) Choate, her beloved Godchild,



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and Keara (Reardon) Sem, both of whom were her family and who added so much love to her life.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Sisters of Charity 125 Oakland Street

Wellesley, MA 02481-5338 (<https://www.elizabethseton.org/donate>) or

to the USO, P.O. Box 96860, Washington, DC, 20077

(<https://www.uso.org/donate/donate-in-honor/?sc=WW14IMOIHO>)



# Events

**Rita A. Jensen**

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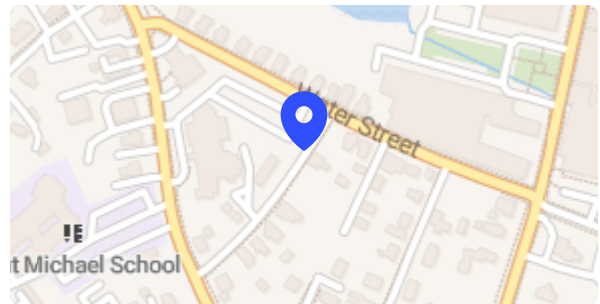
## Calling Hours

 **Monday**, January 3, 2022

 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET


 **John Breen Memorial Funeral Home, Inc. - North Andover**

35 Merrimack St., North Andover MA 01845



## Funeral Mass

 **Tuesday**, January 4, 2022

 10:00 AM ET

 **St. Michael Church**

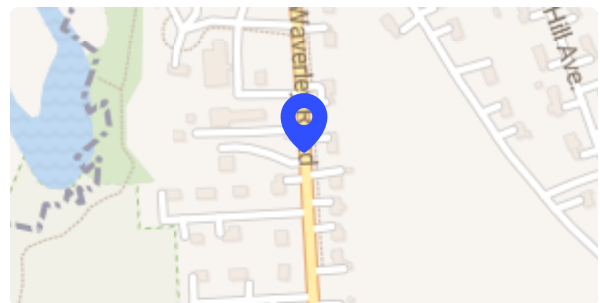
196 Main Street, North Andover MA



## Cemetery Details

 **Holy Sepulchre Cemetery**

Waverly Road, North Andover MA 01845





## Tribute Wall

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BH

**Bruce Hutchins** posted:

We will miss a wonderful teacher, person....She brought much to Dracut High School--more than just American History,,,,she brought friendship to faculty, honesty to administration, charity to those in need, respect of and from students.Bruce Hutchins, Principal retired

January 3 at 7:17 AM

JD

**Janet L Dadoly** posted:

I loved Miss Jensen class. I remember debating current events and learning Civics. She was a lovely lady.

December 30 at 1:44 PM

KO

**Kathy Pagones Oneill** posted:

Miss Jensen was one of my favorite teachers at Dracut High School. She inspired learning by treating us as adults and her passion for history was contagious. It was an honor to have Miss Jensen as my history teacher. My condolences to her family, Kathy Pagones O'Neill

December 30 at 8:52 AM

BH

**Brent T. Hibbard** posted:

My Condolences to the family Rita was a great teacher and a great person. She served the High School with dedication and was always happy around her students even ornery ones like I was. May she rest in Peace.

December 30 at 6:57 AM

TK

**Tom Kelleher** posted:

To the Family of Rita,My sincere condolences! Rita and I were colleagues for more than 30 years at DHS. She was kind, thoughtful and always ready to lend advice, or a helping hand. When I started at DHS, she was the first person to welcome me. Rest In Peace!Tom Kelleher

December 30 at 5:01 AM



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**Kathy Sullivann Dube** posted:

Rita was always the first to send sympathy cards upon the death of our loved ones! It was very much appreciated! Rest In Peace Rita! 🍀

December 29 at 7:47 PM



**Andrea Cauldwell** posted:

I was just talking about Rita on Christmas Day to friends and how she was a creative teacher for her students. She commanded respect and loved her work. She was a positive force at Dracut High School. Andrea Cauldwell, Librarian, retired

December 29 at 4:24 PM



**Anne T Collins** posted:

With sympathy to the Reardan family and her nieces and nephew. May Rita rest in peace. Anne T Collins

December 29 at 7:47 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Jensen family.



December 29 at 5:45 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Rita by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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