



**Catherine Lucy Bannister**  
1914-2012

"Mama Kay" finally met Jesus on October 2, 2012 in West Monroe after 98 full years of life. A Mass will be held for her on Friday, October 26, 10:00 am at St. Paschal's Church in West Monroe. Born in Roseburg, Minnesota to Canadian parents Charles A. Cormier and Alice Poiré Cormier. She married Norton E. Bannister at the Citadel in San Diego, California. They raised their family in Washington, Arkansas and Monroe, Louisiana. Over the years she served at our Lady of Fatima in Monroe, St. Francis in Calhoun, St. Paschal's in West Monroe, worked at St. Francis and Glenwood hospitals, and after retiring to Calhoun, donated her time and efforts to the gift shop at Conway hospital. She was awarded the Shreveport Diocesan Service Medal while at St. Francis Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Norton, daughter, Diane R. Bannister and son Charles "Chuck" N. Bannister. She is survived by son, Daniel E. Bannister and wife Pat, daughter, Mary K. Matlock and husband Matt, 10 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, 6 nephews and 5 nieces.

Following is a letter from her grandson, Dolphus:

I'm sure that saying all the usual stuff is called for at a time such as this. I should say, "Mama Kay was kind, loving and generous". You were all those things as well as tough, direct and consistent, but that's not why I loved you. I loved you because you cheered for the Saints, even when they were bad. You were the first person I thought of when they won the Super Bowl. You taught me how to play booray. You made me coffee milk. You took me to Critters Creek in the summer. You taught me how to swim. You gave me a passion for fishing. I loved the fact that when I would come to visit you would hurry me out the door so you could focus on Tiger playing golf. I remember you said, "I wish they would leave Tiger alone so that he can just play golf". As I write this my mind is flooded with memories of another time and place when I had the privilege of being your grandson. Memories of Rosary beads flowing through your hand as you said Our Father and Hail Mary. Memories of you working as a main line volunteer at a crisis hotline for those in need. You would stay by the phone late at night to help a lost soul and yet be up in the morning to fix me breakfast. I don't remember you buying me things or spoiling me. You gave me something more valuable-discipline and your time. I realize now that your faithfulness and devotion to your family is rare. In a world full of soft inconsistency you were a solid rock.

You told the doctor the last time you went into the hospital, "cure me or kill me but don't just stand there doing nothing". I promise you I will not just stand around doing nothing. I will work hard. I will volunteer my time to help others. I will be consistent. I will be tough. I know you would want me to be. I will cheer for the Saints, even when they are bad. I will have a glass of wine and toast you. I will love and serve the Lord just as you did. I promise to always remember my grandmother, Catherine Lucy Bannister. I can't wait to fish with you in heaven.

Love, D.J.  
Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.griffinfuneralhome.net](http://www.griffinfuneralhome.net)  
Griffin Funeral Home  
West Monroe, LA

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