



Sally Schmitt

August 30, 1936 - September 18, 2025

Sally “Mammo” Schmitt (Blackwell), age 89, passed away peacefully on September 18, 2025, in Peoria, Illinois, the city where she was born on August 30, 1936. Her life was a vibrant tapestry of love, faith, and joyful connection that touched all who knew her.

Sally was the beloved wife of Carl Schmitt, with whom she shared 63 years of marriage. Together they built a family rooted in warmth and togetherness. She is lovingly remembered by her children: Jennifer Costello (Jim) of Carlinville, IL; Cindy Koeppel of Gallatin, TN; and Tom Koeppel of Woodinville, WA. Her legacy continues through her grandchildren: Stefani Koeppel (Meghal Khokhani) of Seattle, WA; Brittney Chantel of Monroe, WA; Ellie Vititow of Dallas, TX; Jennifer Ipsan of Galena, IN; and Jessica Bandhu of Tampa, FL. She also leaves behind her cherished great-grandson, Harvey Chantel of Monroe, WA, and her beloved Labradoodle Bailey.

Sally was preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Doris (Burge) Blackwell; her brothers Donald Blackwell and James Blackwell; and her grandson Christian Chantel.

Affectionately known as “Mammo,” Sally lived a life filled with warmth and laughter. Her home was a haven for family and friends alike — a place where everyone felt welcome. At D/D Productions dance studio, she became a

beloved figure known for her signature “Mammo hugs” and her remarkable talent for tailoring even the most challenging costumes to perfection. Her presence brought comfort and joy to generations of dancers and their families.

Sally had an extraordinary gift for bringing people together. Whether offering heartfelt advice or hosting her legendary Wednesday summer pool parties — complete with hot dogs and mac n’ cheese — she created lasting memories for all who gathered around her. Her love for travel often took her on train rides across the country to visit loved ones, combining adventure with deep familial devotion. Mammo was known as the “favorite aunt” to her many nieces and nephews.

A devout Catholic throughout her life, Sally found spiritual grounding at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Peoria. Her faith was unwavering; she rarely missed mass and carried its teachings into every aspect of her daily life. During the holidays, she found special joy in decorating Christmas trees — always done solo and always to perfection — creating magical spaces that reflected both beauty and tradition.

Sally’s passions were as varied as they were heartfelt: reading books that sparked imagination; enjoying outings to play slot machines with playful enthusiasm; sharing meals with friends at favorite local spots; sewing with skillful hands that mended more than just fabric; and savoring countless cups of coffee that fueled conversations long into the afternoon.

Sally was also a proud patriot who deeply loved her country. She carried that pride with her always, honoring the values she believed in and instilling a respect for America in those around her.

Her honesty was refreshing, her laughter contagious, and her love unconditional. Sally’s legacy is one of deep-rooted faith, enduring love for

family and friends, and a spirit that celebrated life's simple joys.

Sally's family is profoundly grateful to their long-time neighbor and friend, Missy Edwards, whose selfless care and steadfast support brought comfort and light in the midst of sorrow.

May Sally "Mammo" Schmitt's memory bring comfort to those who knew her and continue to inspire kindness, connection, and joy in the lives she touched. A Funeral Mass will be held on September 27, 2025, at 11:00 AM at St. Anthony Catholic Church 2525 S Skyway Rd. in Bartonville, IL. There will be a visitation one hour before the funeral mass.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

SEP **27**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (cst)

St. Anthony Catholic Church
2525 S. Skyway Rd.
Bartonville, IL 61607

Tribute Wall

JM

“ I sat behind Sally and Carl at church for many years. After saying my prayers, I would continue to kneel to talk and laugh with Sally and Carl. I will miss her. Thank you for sharing “Mammo” with me.

Julie Maras - September 27, 2025 at 12:23 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sally Schmitt.



September 25, 2025 at 09:20 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sally Schmitt.

September 25, 2025 at 09:20 PM

BD

“ Bonnie, Rosanna, Chuck and Dozer purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Sally Schmitt.



Bonnie, Rosanna, Chuck and Dozer - September 25, 2025 at 07:32 PM

BD

“ Bonnie, Rosanna, Chuck and Dozer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sally Schmitt.

Bonnie, Rosanna, Chuck and Dozer - September 25, 2025 at 07:32 PM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Sally Schmitt.



September 25, 2025 at 11:06 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Sally Schmitt.



September 24, 2025 at 06:16 PM

MP

“ McKay NAPA Auto Parts purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Sally Schmitt.



McKay NAPA Auto Parts - September 23, 2025 at 11:03 AM

TF

“ The Flinns purchased the *Your Light Shines* for the family of Sally Schmitt.



The Flinns - September 23, 2025 at 07:30 AM

TF

“ The Flinns planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sally Schmitt.

The Flinns - September 23, 2025 at 07:30 AM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Sally Schmitt.



September 21, 2025 at 06:35 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sally Schmitt.

September 21, 2025 at 06:35 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray* was purchased for the family of Sally Schmitt.



September 21, 2025 at 02:46 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sally Schmitt.* ”



September 21, 2025 at 02:39 PM