



## Mary Helen (Zahn) "Snooks" Kessler

March 26, 1948 - September 26, 2020

KESSLER,

Mary Helen (Zahn) "Snooks", 72, passed away Saturday, September 26, 2020.

Snooks was a teacher for Assumption High School for 35 years while coaching several sports teams before retiring. She was inducted into the KHSAA Hall of Fame for her many years of coaching. She was an avid sports fan, especially the University of Tennessee, enjoyed fishing and spending time at her parents lake home on Rough River.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Wendell Kessler; and father, Wilton "Jim" Zahn.

She is survived by her mother, Mary (Liebegott) Zahn; siblings, Kathy Keeton (David) and James "Jimmy" Zahn (Susan); niece, Brittany Arnold (Don); nephews, Michael Leach (Susan) and Kevin Zahn (Abby); several great-nieces and great-nephews; her lifelong friend, Judith Manning; and her beloved schnauzer, Allie.

There will be a celebration of life for Snooks in Spring 2021 due to the restrictions imposed by Covid currently.

Donations may be made in her memory to Assumption High School.

# Tribute Wall

LS

“ For 45 plus years Snooks has been apart of my life. From the moment I step into the doors of Assumption life as I knew it, would never be the same in so many ways. Snooks became my Mentor, my teacher, someone who reached out to me and we became friends. She help guide me and always had a way to explaining, what life throws at us and how no matter what ,I would get through this as well. There are so many stories, from sitting on bee's in P.E. to us making Chicken Beast. Not Breast, beast. We always laughed about that. As a Coach, her enthusiaism was over the top and she would always encourage us, whether we started or came off the bench, her attitude was the same. As a person I never found a person with a bigger heart. She had MS,for years before we found out about it, who knew! I loved her laugh and her smile, I never dreamed I would have to say good-bye this way. I will miss you dearly. The loss of you, is a loss for so many. I hope you knewn just how many people you have touched in this life. You are a once in a lifetime ! My prayers and thoughts go out to Mary Helen's Family and her friends.

*This is a prayer Snooks taught me a long time ago,  
Remember almost gracious virgin mary, that ever was it known.  
That anyone who fled to thy protection employed thy help or sote  
intersection, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence I fly unto  
thee,oh virgins of virgins of mothers. To thee we come before thee  
we stand oh sinful and sorrowful. Oh mother of the word of  
incardient dispise not my petition but in your mercy hear and answer  
me.*

*Anyone that ever played under Snooks said this prayer before every  
game. Ive never forgotten it. I'll never forget you Snooks, I love you.*

---

**Lauri Simpson** - September 29, 2020 at 10:51 AM

CR

“ *Snooks was always a presence at AM. She shone as an athlete. My sympathy to my friend, Kathy, and the rest of Snook’s family and friends.*

---

**Christine Riddle** - September 29, 2020 at 05:52 AM

BH

“ *Ms Zahn was my coach. I never was an A player, more like a good B player who sat the bench. But she made me feel OK and as an awkward teenager was something special she gave to her students*

---

**Becky (Raque) Haire** - September 28, 2020 at 03:47 PM

GT

“ *During my time at Assumption, Snooks was a good friend. She had a wicked sense of humor and was so welcoming to all of us. Her influence on the students was tremendous; Mary Helen was a great role model and helped change the lives of so many young women. She will be greatly missed.*

---

**Glenda Tingle** - September 28, 2020 at 02:58 PM