

# Obituaries



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## Nancy Louise Norman Stevens

APRIL 16TH 2013 BY STAFF WRITER

### Nancy Louise Norman Stevens

**Nancy Louise Norman Stevens**, 74, of Dexter, Missouri, passed away Monday, April 15, 2013, at her home.

She was born on December 16, 1938, on the family farm south of Dexter, daughter of Geneva Bailey and Louie Norman. Mrs. Stevens and her sister, Jane, were raised by their mother and Harris "Doc" Zengerle in Dexter, where she attended public schools and was a 1956 graduate of Dexter High School.

She and the love of her life, Troy Lee Stevens, were married August 28, 1959, in Dexter. She and Troy moved to Cape Girardeau in 1962, where they raised three children. Mr. Stevens preceded her in death on December 29, 1993.

Survivors include a son, two daughters and their spouses, Mark (Glenda) Stevens of Garden Ridge, Texas, Sheri (Joseph) Johnson of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, and Cindy (Frank) Given of Argyle, Texas; seven grandchildren, Anna Alexandria and Lauren Louise Stevens, Mary Caroline, Trystan Troy, Emily Kingston, Victoria Elizabeth and Jackson Henry Given; in addition, a sister, Jane Hertzog of Greenwood, Missouri; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Lou was an avid gardener and golfer, volunteered as a Brownie and Girl Scout Leader and was on the Heritage Ball Committee. She loved fishing on Kentucky Lake, canning preserves with "The Aunts" and being a true friend to so many while living in Cape Girardeau. She returned to Dexter in 1995 and was a member of the Dexter Elks Lodge #2439. Lou was a devoted mother and wife to her family and will be missed by all who knew her.

Friends may call at the Rainey-Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Thursday, April 19, 2013, from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

A memorial service will be conducted on Thursday, April 18, 2013, at 3:00 P.M. in the Rainey-Mathis Funeral Chapel with Rev. Steve Easterwood officiating.

Interment will follow in the Sadler Chapel Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to the American Heart Association or a charity of your choice.

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## Thelma Marie Smith

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[Thelma Marie Smith](#)

**Thelma Marie Smith**, daughter of the late James Smedley and Cora Hanners Smedley was born on March 8, 1934 in Wardell, Missouri and passed away on April 15, 2013 at the Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center at the age of 79.

Mrs. Smith was a resident of Puxico and had worked as a Physical Therapist Assistant at the Dexter Memorial Hospital.

On February 10, 1951 she was united in marriage to Tee Jay Smith in Piggott, Arkansas. Mr. Smith preceded her in death on November 22, 2000.

She is survived by two sons and daughter in laws, Bobby and wife Cheryl Smith of Wappapello, MO and Vincent and wife Donna Smith of Houma, Louisiana; by three daughters, Debi and husband Leonard Parrish of Bloomfield, Kathy and husband Dennis Frazier of Essex and Karen Smith of Houston, Texas; by one brother, Alfred Lee Smedley of Arizona; by one sister, Tabitha Louise Smart of Clarkton, Missouri; by her companion, Tom Knight of Puxico; by thirteen grandchildren and twenty-two great-grandchildren.

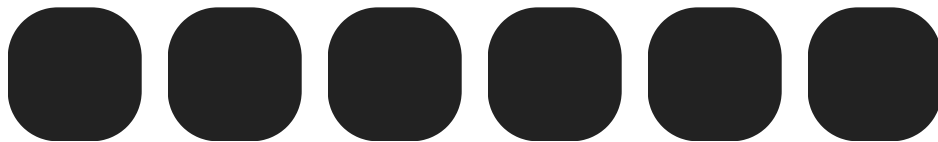
Besides her husband and parents she was preceded in death by one son, Gary Ray Smith; by two daughters, Sherrie Lynn Vaughn and Marilyn Smith; by two brothers, Bobby Ray Smedley and Jerry Gale Smedley; by one sister, Josephine Castaldi and by three grandchildren.

Friends may call at the Rainey-Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Friday, April 19, 2013 from 5:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. Funeral services will be conducted on Saturday, April 20, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. in the Rainey-Mathis Funeral Chapel. Interment will follow in the Hagy cemetery.

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## Barbara Jean Jines

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**Barbara Jean Jines**

**Barbara Jean Jines**, daughter of the late Paul Taylor and Alene Griffin Dennison, was born on July 19, 1938, in Kansas City, Missouri, and departed this life on April 15, 2013, at her residence in Dexter at the age of 74 years.

Mrs. Jines was a member of the Friendship Baptist Church in Dexter. She was a longtime resident of Dexter and a homemaker.

On February 22, 1958, she was united in marriage to James A. Jines in Benton, Missouri. Mr. Jines survives of the home.

She is survived by one son, Sammy Michael Jines, of Granbury, Texas; by two daughters, Tonya Jenkins, and her husband, Scott, and Tammy Fleeman, and her husband, Tim, all of Dexter; by six grandchildren, Dana Smith and her husband, Rick, Kristian Fleeman, Bianca Jines, Ricky Jines, Michael Jines and Brett Saylor; and by three great-grandchildren, Eva Smith, Addison Smith and Josea Saylor.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Ricky Jines.

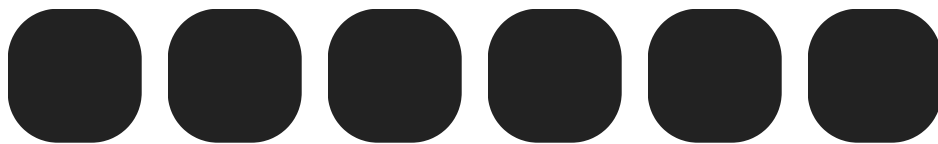
Graveside services will be conducted on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, at 10:30 A.M. in Chalk Bluff Cemetery in Dexter with Rev. Lonny Mittag officiating.

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## Bonnie Lou Parsons

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[Bonnie Lou Parsons](#)

**Bonnie Lou Parsons**, daughter of the late Reben Frances Craft and Zana Marie Gaines Craft, was born on June 11, 1937, in Malden, Missouri, and departed this life on April 14, 2013, in Dexter, Missouri, at the age of 75.

Mrs. Parsons was a resident of Dexter and she had been employed at the Elks Lodge, the Hickory House Restaurant and Elder Manufacturing in Bloomfield, Missouri.

She is survived by two daughters, Teresa Dudley of Dexter, Missouri and Regina Ann Holland of Bloomfield, Missouri; by five grandchildren, Brad Holland and Rebecca Holland of Bloomfield, Jamie Dudley and Lauren Dudley of Dexter and Melissa Pace of Camas, Washington; and by five great-grandchildren Emily Holland of Bloomfield, Jacob Ferguson, Jillian Johnson, Gabriel Johnson and Anneliese Johnson, all of Camas, Washington.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, James Craft and Dewane Craft; and by one sister, Vera Baker.

Friends may call at the Rainey-Mathis Funeral home in Dexter on Tuesday, April 16, 2013, from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

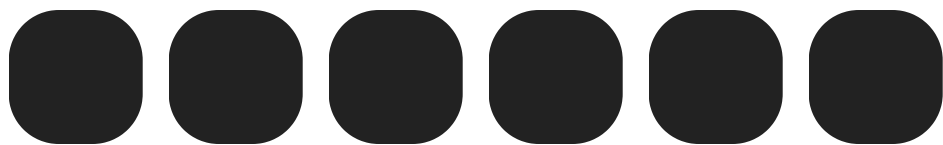
Funeral services will be conducted in the Rainey-Mathis Funeral Chapel on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, at 2:00 P.M. with Rev. Tim Russell officiating. Interment will follow in the Sadler Chapel Cemetery.

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# Birt L. Cookson

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APRIL 15TH 2013 BY STAFF WRITER

Birt L. Cookson

**Birt L. Cookson**, son of the late James Leslie and Lula Ices Montgomery Cookson, was born in Puxico, Missouri on April 28, 1926, and passed away at the St. Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau, Missouri on April 14, 2013, at the age of 86 years, 11 months and 17 days.

He was a life long resident of Puxico and was a member of the Life Chapel Assembly of God Church in Puxico. He had worked as shop foreman at Bluff City Ford and in sales at Blackwell-Baldwin before he retired. He was a member of the Travelers Protective Association for 50 years, and was on Stoddard County Democratic Committee. He was a volunteer with the Mingo Swamp Friends and enjoyed old cars.

On February 8, 1946, he was married to Opal Lee Hodge in Puxico, Missouri.

Surviving are his wife, Opal Lee Cookson of Puxico, Missouri; one son & wife, Lynn & Gail Cookson of Puxico, Missouri; one grandson and wife, Thomas & Dayna Cookson of Puxico, Missouri. Other family and friends also survive. He was preceded in death by five brothers, Homer, Avery, Alvie, James and Lawrence Cookson; two sisters, Delena Cousins and Bernice Burge.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday April 16, 2013 after 6:00 p.m. at the Watkins and Sons Funeral Home in Puxico, Missouri.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday April 17, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Watkins and Sons Chapel in Puxico, Missouri with the Rev. Tony Cookson of Advance, Missouri officiating.

Interment will follow in the Puxico Cemetery in Puxico, Missouri with Watkins & Sons Funeral Service of Puxico in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to the Life Chapel Assembly of God Church, 502 W Richardson, Puxico, MO 63960.

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