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# In Memory of Murel Allen Leek

JULY 29TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

## In Memory of Murel Allen Leek

Murel Allen Leek of Dexter, Missouri was born to the late Amos and Allie (Williams) Leek on September 05, 1934 in Moorehouse, Missouri and passed away on July 28, 2021 in Poplar Bluff, Missouri at the age of 86 years.

Murel had been a resident of Dexter, Missouri most of his life. He also lived in Michigan. He loved to go to the casino.

Murel was married to Glenda Thorne on July 03, 1953 in Flint, Michigan. She preceded him in death on October 30, 1998.

Surviving is his daughter Kay Holmes of Dexter, Missouri; two grandchildren Tammy Holmes of Dexter, Missouri and Joshua Holmes of Colorado Springs, Colorado; three great grandchildren Forrest Holmes of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Trop Hampton of Bernie, Missouri and Mitchell Hampton of Bernie, Missouri; one great great grandchild Sophia Hampton of Bernie, Missouri; one sister Betty Foust of Harvell, Missouri. Murel was preceded in death by several brothers and sisters and one great great granddaughter. A host of family and friends also survive.

Visitation will be held on Saturday July 31, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Watkins and Sons Funeral Home in Dexter.

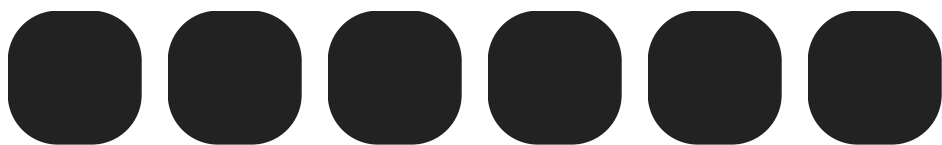
Funeral services to be held on Saturday July 31, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at Watkins and Sons Funeral Chapel in Dexter, Missouri with Rev. Mike Williams of Dexter, Missouri officiating.

Interment will follow in the Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Poplar Bluff, Missouri with Watkins and Sons Funeral Service of Dexter in charge of arrangements.

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## In Memory of James Monroe Vandergriff

JULY 28TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

### In Memory of James Monroe Vandergriff

James Monroe Vandergriff, son of the late Gilbert Monroe Vandergriff and Gladys Imogene Bird Vandergriff, was born in Malden, Missouri on July 9, 1943 and departed this life at St. Joseph Hospital in St. Charles, Missouri on July 24, 2021 at the age of 78.

Mr. Vandergriff was in the United States Army, having served in Vietnam War, he retired from the Military after serving 24 years.

He was a member of Starr Community Church of Fisk, Missouri and was a resident of Dexter.

He was united in marriage to Joyce Mae Blake in Lawton, Oklahoma on May 1, 1967. Mrs. Vandergriff survives in their home in Dexter.

Other survivors include one son, Brian K. Vandergriff of Malden, Missouri; by two sisters, Mary Lou Vandergriff Starnes and Janice Adams both of Malden, Missouri; by three granddaughters, Amber, Sadie and Casey; by other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be conducted on Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at Missouri State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield, Missouri at 2:00 P.M. with full Military Honors.

Interment will follow. Mathis Funeral Home of Bernie in charge of all arrangements.

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## In Memory of Estel M. Williamson

JULY 27TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

## In Memory of Estel M. Williamson

Estel M. Williamson, son of the late Roy Harry Williamson and Minnie Lee Crutcher Williamson, was born on September 21, 1924, in Essex, Missouri, and departed this life on July 26, 2021, at the Missouri Veterans Home in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, at the age of 96 years.

Mr. Williamson was a veteran of the United States Army, and he was a former farmer and truck driver. He was a member of the Assembly of God in Essex, Missouri, and a resident of Essex.

On January 15, 1951, in Fayetteville, North Carolina, he was united in marriage to Doris Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Williamson were married for 69 years. Mrs. Williamson preceded him in death on November 6, 2020.

He is survived by two sons, Bruce Williamson of Van Buren, and Brett Williamson and wife Ingrid of Essex; by three daughters, Kay and husband Ray Lassen of Doniphan, Ellen Williamson of Bloomfield, and Mary Ann Williamson of Kirkwood; by five grandchildren, Jonathan Williamson, Kendra (Dave) Haas, Jaime (Marcus) Davis, Rachel Darter, and Tasha Lassen; by thirteen great-grandchildren; and by several nieces and nephews as well as great nieces and nephews, friends, and family.

Other than by his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Harry Williamson and Bill Williamson; by two sisters, Margy Dopps and Patsy Quattlebaum; and by his great-grandson, Owen Hawkins and his great-granddaughter, Elizabeth Williamson.

Visitation will be held at Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Saturday, July 31, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

Funeral services will then be conducted in the Mathis Funeral Home Chapel on Saturday, July 31, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. with Rev. James Malloy officiating.

Interment will follow in Essex Cemetery.

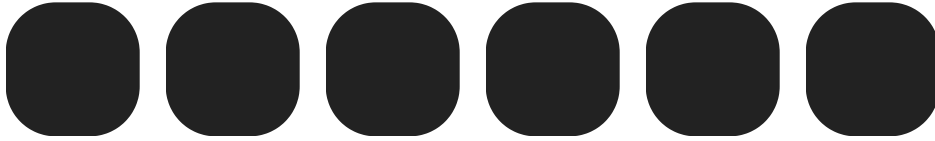
The Williamson family respectfully requests that everyone wear a mask to the visitation and funeral.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis TN 38101.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is in charge of arrangements.

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## In Memory of Nelvia Mae Rainey

JULY 27TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

### In Memory of Nelvia Mae Rainey

Nelvia Mae Rainey, daughter of the late McKinley Moore and Sanford and Mandy Jones Wilson, was born on April 15, 1931, in Boyle, Mississippi, and departed this life on July 22, 2021, at Portageville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, in Portageville, Missouri, at the age of 90 years.

Mrs. Rainey was a former employee of Bernie Public Schools in Bernie, Missouri. She was Assistant Pastor of Bread of Life Ministries and a resident of Parma, Missouri. She enjoyed reading, cooking, and she dearly loved her family.

On April 27, 1946, in Boyle, Mississippi, she was united in marriage to Nathaniel Rainey. Mr. Rainey preceded her in death on May 16, 2006.

She is survived by seven sons, Nathaniel Rainey (Laura) of Alton, Illinois, Willie Rainey (Catherine) of St. Louis, Missouri, McKinley Rainey (Madella) of Parma, Missouri, Sanford Rainey (Vicki) of Fort Madison, Iowa; Roscoe Rainey (Dorothy) of Parma, Missouri, Cornelius Rainey of Parma, Missouri and Lawrence Rainey (Angela) of Orlando, Florida; four daughters, Nelvia Donaldson of Parma, Missouri, Mandy Rainey (Glenn Smith) of Malden, Missouri; Alberta Johnson (Charles) of Parma, Missouri, and Michelle Higgs (Michael) of Palm Bay, Florida; by four sisters, Estelle Smith of Detroit, Michigan, Beatrice Johnson of Malden, Missouri, Annie Mae Johns of Malden, Missouri, and Robbie Bills of Jackson, Missouri; and by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

Other than by her husband and parents, she was also preceded in death by one son, Carl Rainey; by two brothers, Willie Moore and Henry Wilson; by two sisters, Clara Sullivan and Mandy Wilson; and by three grandchildren.

Private family only visitation will be held at Mathis Funeral Home in Bernie on Thursday, July 29, 2021, starting at 11:00 a.m. Funeral services will be conducted in the Mathis Funeral Home Chapel on Thursday, July 29, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. with Superintendent McKinley Moore and Pastor Carl Williams officiating. Interment will follow in the Stanfield Cemetery.

The Rainey family respectfully requests that everyone wear a mask.

Mathis Funeral Home in Bernie is assisting with arrangements.

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## In Memory of Gary Lee Kastner

JULY 24TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

### In Memory of Gary Lee Kastner

Gary Lee Kastner, son of the late Emanuel Kastner and Lola Eason Kastner, was born on October 21, 1946, in Bloomfield, Missouri, and departed this life on July 21, 2021, at Missouri Delta Medical Center in Sikeston, Missouri, at the age of 74 year.

When Gary was a young boy, his mother, Lola, passed away. His father remarried and he was raised by his mother, June Kastner.

Mr. Kastner was a veteran of the United States Army, serving in Vietnam. He was a former employee of Arvin Meritor in Dexter. He was a member of the Church of God in Dexter and a resident of Dudley, Missouri.

On May 31, 1969, in Dexter, Missouri, he was united in marriage to Karen James. Mrs. Kastner survives of their home in Dudley.

In addition to his wife, Karen, he is survived by his daughter, Terra Minor and husband Larry of Moberly, Missouri; by three sisters, Peggy Kirkbride of Dexter, Missouri, Renda Burton of Dexter, Missouri, and Terre Walker of Bernie, Missouri; by four grandchildren, Nia Kastner, Kaylee Smith, Payton Smith, and Coty Minor, and by one great-granddaughter, Anna Lee Kastner.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Lola Eason Kastner; by his father, Emanuel Kastner; by his mother, June Kastner; and by two brothers, Jim Walker and Richard Walker.

Visitation will be held at Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Sunday, July 25, 2021, from 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

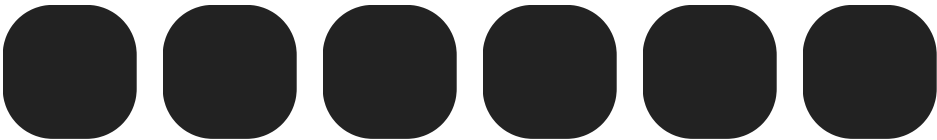
Funeral services will then be conducted on Sunday, July 25, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Interment will follow on Monday, July 26, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. in the Missouri State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield, with full military honors.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

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