Obituaries



In Memory of John Kester

AUGUST 31ST 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of John Kester

John Kester, son of the late Arthur Kester and Jessie Lee Cunningham Kester, was born on November 16, 1951, in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, and departed this life surrounded by his family on August 29, 2023, at Winchester Nursing Center in Bernie, Missouri, at the age of 71 years.

Mr. Kester was a former employee of Federal Mogul and Brown Shoe Company in Bernie and Charleston, Missouri. He enjoyed fishing and loved classic cars and RC Planes.

He is survived by two sons, Terry Kester and wife Rosetta of Dexter, Missouri and Phillip Kester of Bernie, Missouri; by two sisters, Judy Bryant and Donna Robinson both of Dexter, Missouri, and by six grandchildren, Zach Kester, Toby Kester, Warren Kester, Kaitlynne Raymond, Kenadie Simmons, and Kannon Whitney.

Other than by his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Crystal Kester Whitney; by his brother, Dale Kester, and by his sister, Maria Teets.

A memorial service is being planned for a later date.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

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In Memory of Ella Marie Blankenship

AUGUST 29TH 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Ella Marie Blankenship

Ella Marie Blankenship of Dexter, Missouri, the daughter of the late Chester and Catherine Isabell (Putney) Cook was born in Geary, Indiana, on December 3, 1941, and passed from this life in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, on August 24, 2023, at the age of 81 years.

Ella lived in the Southeast Missouri area most of her life, and was of the Christian Faith. Ella enjoyed cooking and baking and working as owner of Ella's Cafe in the Cottonbelt for numerous years. She had also cooked and served for many years prior to purchasing the restuarant when it was called Eastside Cafe. She enjoyed her work, word puzzles, speaking to everyone because she never met a stranger, but most importantly spending time with family and friends and spoiling grandchildren.

She is survived by five daughters, Rhonda (Randy) Manes of Sikeston, Missouri; Tammy Creg of Vanita, Oklahoma; Paula Sneed of Dexter, Missouri; Melissa (Marvin) Robinson of Poplar Bluf, Missouri; and Gwen Joyce of Marshfield, Missouri; two brothers, Jackie Cook of Sikeston, Missouri; and Jimmy Cook of Dexter, Missouri; one sister, Kay McEnaney of St. Charles, Missouri; nine grandchildren; eighteen great-grandchildren; as well as a host of family

and friends.

Ella was preceded in death by her parents; one son, Tony Gene Blankenship; one brother, Gary Cook and one sister, Joyce Limbaugh.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. untill 1:00 p.m at the Watkins and Sons Funeral Chapel In Dexter, Missouri, with funeral service to follow with Pastor Charles Robertson of Bloomfield officiating.

Interment will follow at the Hagy Cemetery in Dexter, Missouri, with Watkins And Sons Funeral Service of Dexter in charge of arrangements.

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In Memory of Beverley J. Henderson

AUGUST 29TH 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Beverley J. Henderson

Beverley J. Henderson, daughter of the late John Carlos Pflueger and Ora B. Condict, was born on November 11, 1949, in Clines Island, Missouri, and departed this life on August 25, 2023, at her residence in Bernie, Missouri, at the age of 73 years.

Mrs. Henderson was of the Baptist Faith and a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

On October 14, 1967, in Malden, Missouri, she was united in marriage to James W. Henderson. Mr. Henderson preceded her in death on October 29, 2020.

She is survived by her daughter Toni Brigman and husband Guy of Altus, Oklahoma; by three sons, John Henderson and wife Trudy of Bernie, Missouri, Rob Henson and wife Tyra Gene of Dexter, Missouri, and Roy Boyce and wife Ashley of Bloomfield, Missouri; by three brothers, Paul Pflueger, Pete Pflueger, and Dwight Pflueger, all of Ellsinore, Missouri; by her sister, Betty Gifford of Arnold, Missouri; by eight grandchildren, Aeriel, Briana, Ashton, Clayton, Piper, Dakota, Skyla, and Illysa; and by six great-grandchildren, Christopher, Ellora, Marilee, Bjorn, Maverick, and Berkeley.

Other than by her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Ron Pflueger; and by two sisters, Aloma Drummond, and Janet Gottner.

Visitation will be held at Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. Funeral services will then be conducted in the Mathis Funeral Home Chapel on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. Interment will follow in the Missouri State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

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In Memory of Gary Dale Fuqua

AUGUST 29TH 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Gary Dale Fuqua

Gary Dale Fuqua, son of the late Dale and Eva Kilmer Fuqua was born on April 4, 1962, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and departed this life on August 23, 2023, at his residence in Bloomfield, Missouri, at the age of 61.

Gary was a veteran of the United State Marine Corp, and a truck driver. He enjoyed fishing for catfish and hunting. He was in the honors band in high school that led him to an enjoyment of music. His true love was his wife, kids and grandchildren and he would do anything for all of them.

On April 7, 1994, he was united in marriage to Lisa Williamson in Dexter, Missouri. Mrs. Fuqua survives of their home in Bloomfield.

Other than by his wife, Lisa, he is survived by one son, Luke Fuqua and wife Alison of Bell City, Missouri; by four daughters, Jeri Ann Fuqua of Bloomfield, Missouri, Robyn Dellacca and husband Ben of Autryville, North Carolina, Angela Paige Fuqua of Zalma, Missouri and Lori Lee Robinson of Dexter, Missouri; and by nine grandchildren, Carson, Lennon, Zoey, Gracie, Dominic, Gavin, Jace, Laith and Preston.

Other than by his parents he was preceded in death by his brother, Michael Fuqua.

A memorial service will be held at the American Legion building in Dexter on Thursday, August 31, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter, Missouri is assisting the family with arrangements

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In Memory of Jean Brady Matlock

AUGUST 23RD 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Jean Brady Matlock

Jean Brady Matlock born March 17, 1932, went to be with her Lord on August 19, 2023, after a long and fulfilling life of 91 years.

For those who had the privilege of knowing Jean, appreciate the fact that she had a special way of looking at the world. She had many sayings like "Take what you have and make what you need." "Love you little, love you big?" "I am not too bad for a 32 model!" These are just a few of her many sayings. She was a woman of honor and principle. She had several non-negotiables... God, family, friends, hard work, the St. Louis Cardinals, and having fun!

Jean was born in Collinwood, Tennessee, to the late Rosa P. and Orville B. Brady. The family moved to Missouri where she lived most of her life around Parma, Missouri. She was married to David Matlock in 1955 who preceded her in death in 1973, as well as a daughter, Deborah Jean Matlock Rowland in 1981.

She is survived by one son, David (Mary) Matlock, Jr. of Damascus, Virginia; one daughter, Melissa (Tre) Heigham of Fenton, Missouri; four grandchildren, Jason (Julie) Matlock; Beth (Jason) Delp; Owen Heigham and Emily Heigham; five great-

grandchildren, Nolan, Knox, Lilly, Sadie and Riley Jean; three brothers, Pat, Grady and Billy; as well as a host of family and friends.

The family would love for everyone to join them for Visitation. It will be from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 24, 2023, with a celebration of life to follow at Catron First Baptist Church in Catron, Missouri, with her son, David officiating. Watkins And Sons Funeral Service of Dexter in charge of arrangements.

Interment will follow at the Mounds Cemetery in New Madrid, Missouri.

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