

Obituaries



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In Memory of Doris Lea Nelson

JANUARY 15TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Doris Lea Nelson

Doris Lea Nelson, daughter of the late Berninard Killian and Marjorie Fellows Cox, was born on November 22, 1942, in Dexter, Missouri, and departed this life on January 8, 2024, at Jackson Manor in Jackson, Missouri, at the age of 81 years.

Mrs. Nelson was a former licensed practical nurse, and she was a resident of Dexter, Missouri.

She was united in marriage to William Nelson. Mr. Nelson preceded her in death on June 18, 2013.

She is survived by her daughter, Darla Young (Eric) of Hamilton Ontario Canda; by her sister, Cathy Starnes (Gary) of Dexter, Missouri; by her step-brother, Floyd Cox Jr.; by her step-children, JoAnn Lloyd, Susan Jarrell, and Danny Nelson (Donna); by her grandchildren, Jennifer McGarrah (Cecil), Justin Christman (Lynne), Whitney Payne (Tyler), Jerimy Obergoenner (Lucia), Jill Watkins (David), Shawn Lloyd, Michael Lloyd, LaDawn Crowe, Christal Thomas (Matthew), Robert Christian, and Don Christian (Freda Mae); by her great grandchildren, Dayla McGarrah, Raelyn McGarrah, Georgia Christman, Logan Christman, Tucker Payne, Gavin Thomas, Abbie Lloyd, Ethan Christian, Emily Christian, Taylor Christian, Zoey Christian, Emmie Christian, Payton Christian, and Nate Prince; and by her nieces, Ashley Starnes, Amber Starnes, and April Wamble (Brent).

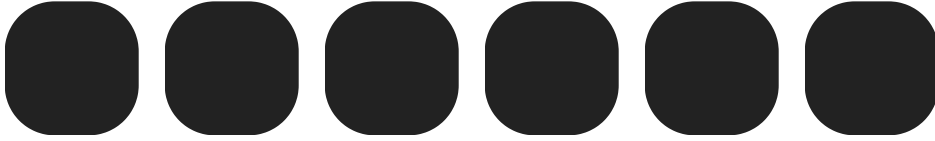
Other than by her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Dwane Allan Owens; by two daughters, Velva Foyle and Marietta Obergoenner; by six brothers, Thomas Killian, Dean Killian, Randall Killian, Morris Cox, Leslie Cox, and B.J. Cox; and by her sister, Elfreda Cox.

Visitation will be held at Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 am. Funeral services will then be conducted in the Mathis Funeral Home Chapel on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. Interment will follow in the Dexter Cemetery.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

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In Memory of James “Fletch” Leggett IV,

JANUARY 13TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of James “Fletch” Leggett IV,

James “Fletch” Leggett IV, son of the late James Leggett III and Doris Stroup Leggett, was born on February 23, 1955, in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, and departed this life on January 11, 2024, at his residence in Bloomfield, Missouri, at the age of 68.

Mr. Leggett had worked in IT and was a musician, playing the guitar, bass, keyboard, and saxophone. He had a dry sense of humor, and he loved all animals.

He is survived by two daughters, Jennifer Leggett of Bloomfield, Missouri and Andrea Leggett of Aurora, Colorado; and by his sister, Susan Shea of Bloomfield, Missouri.

Other than by his parents, he was preceded in death by his long-time companion, Audrey Rhodes-Ragsdale.

In honor of “Fletch”, memorials may be made to any animal shelter.

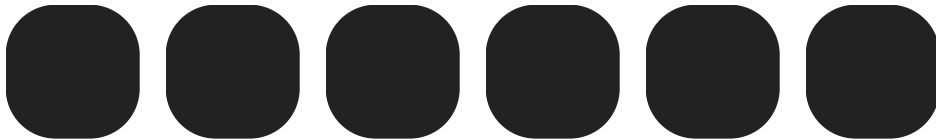
No services are planned.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter assisted with arrangements.

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In Memory of Marla June Stroup

JANUARY 13TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Marla June Stroup

Marla June Stroup, a beloved school teacher at Sikeston Public Schools where she taught Kindergarten, has passed away at the age of 53. Marla was born on March 7, 1970, in Creve Coeur, Missouri. She peacefully breathed her last breathe at her residence in Bloomfield, Missouri, surrounded by her loving family on January 11, 2024.

Marla had a passion for education, which led her to earn a Bachelor's degree in education. For many years, she dedicated herself to shaping the minds of young children and instilling within them a love for learning. Marla's commitment to teaching went far beyond textbooks and

classrooms; she cared deeply for her students' well-being and was known for going the extra mile to support them.

Not only was Marla an exceptional educator, but she was also a devoted wife, and mother. She shared countless beautiful moments with her husband Harvey Stroup, whom she adored dearly. Their love served as an inspiration to all who knew them. Together they created a warm and loving home for their four daughters: Oceanna Stroup of Bloomfield, Missouri; Viola Stroup of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; Rachael Otten of Norman, Oklahoma; and Erin Stroup of Bloomfield, Missouri. Marla cherished every moment spent with her family and took great joy in nurturing her children's growth.

In addition to her immediate family, Marla is survived by one grandchild who brought immeasurable happiness into her life. She reveled in the role of being a doting grandparent and cherished the opportunity to create special memories with her grandchild.

Marla was also close to her extended family members who provided unwavering support throughout her life's journey. She held a special bond with her brother Myron Rhodes and his wife Addie of Desoto, Kansas; sister Carol Jean Burnell and her husband David of Norman, Oklahoma; and her dearest friend Mary Beth Davis.

Outside of her professional and family life, Marla had a variety of hobbies and interests that made her shine. She possessed an undying love for musicals and could often be heard singing show tunes with a smile on her face. She enjoyed going on trips, allowing herself to explore new places and create lasting memories. Marla was a former Girl Scout Leader and a member of the Missouri Teachers Association.

The impact Marla had on the lives she touched will never fade away. Her love for teaching, devotion to her family, and vibrant personality will forever be remembered. Her legacy lives on through the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to have known her.

Visitation services for Marla June Stroup will be held on January 16, 2024, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Watkins Funeral Homes - Bloomfield located at 106 N Prairie, Bloomfield, MO 63825. A funeral service will take place the following day, January 17th, at 10:30 AM at the same location with Pastor Jonathan Rice officiating. Interment will follow the funeral service at Mt. Zion-Walker General Baptist Church located at 20002 Co Rd 510, Bloomfield, MO 63825.

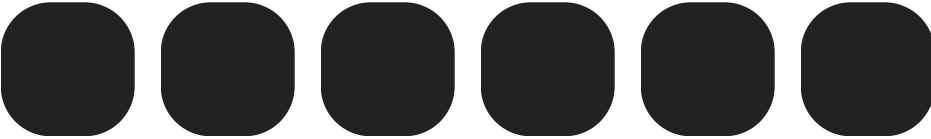
During this time of mourning, let us remember Marla's vibrant spirit and loving nature that brought joy into the lives of so many. May we draw strength from the cherished memories we shared with her and find solace in knowing that she would want us to live our lives to the fullest, just as she did.

Marla June Stroup was an extraordinary woman whose kindness, warmth, and love touched the lives of everyone around her. She will forever be missed but never forgotten. As we say our final goodbyes, let us celebrate the remarkable life she lived and hold tight to the beautiful memories we shared. Rest in peace, dear Marla.

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In Memory of Wilma Lee Burch

JANUARY 10TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

[In Memory of Wilma Lee Burch](#)

Wilma Lee Burch, daughter of the late Lawrence Eugene Mason and Edith Opal Fields Mason, was born on January 1, 1944, in Poe, Missouri, and departed this life on January 9, 2024, at her residence in Wappapello, Missouri, at the age of 80 years.

Mrs. Burch was a former licensed practical nurse at Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center. She was a member of Faith Baptist Church in Wappapello. She loved spending time with her family.

On July 30, 1959, in Malden, Missouri, she was united in marriage to Bobby Ray Burch Sr. Mr. Burch preceded her in death on June 2, 2021.

She is survived by her son, Bobby Ray Burch, Jr. (Kerri) of Wappapello, Missouri; by two daughters, Cheryl Smith of Wappapello, Missouri and Laura West (Terry) of Doniphan, Missouri; by her brother, L.C. Mason of Poe, Missouri; by her sister, Linda Ann O'Daniel of Bloomfield, Missouri; by nine grandchildren, Charity Smith of Springfield, Missouri, Bobby Smith Jr. (Shanell) of Roy, Washington, Johnny Cullum (Christy) of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, Lucy Burch of Wappapello, Missouri, Brandy Ross (Michael) of Bloomfield, Missouri, Christina Cavenar (Tim), Jordan Burch, Victoria Lynn Payne Burch, and Thomas Burch, all of Wappapello, Missouri; and by fourteen great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Other than by her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her daughter, Deborah Kay Christman; by two sons-in-law, Bobby Gale Smith, and Bill Christman; by two brothers, Jim Buck Mason, and James Eugene Mason; by five sisters, Anglee Barnes, Mildred Hampton, Eva Tipton, Alma Pospeshil, and Nina Hartle; and by two grandchildren, Joshua David Smith, and Tanya Rene Cullum.

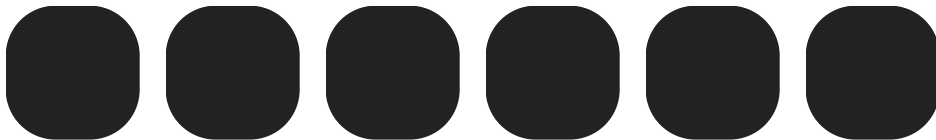
A memorial service will be held at Faith Baptist Church in Wappapello, Missouri on Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

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In Memory of Robert Adam England

JANUARY 09TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Robert Adam England

Robert Adam England, 84, of Advance, passed away January 6, 2024 at his home. He was born May 10, 1939, the son of Troy and Ida Hitt England. He was raised in Arbor, Missouri.

After his service in the Army as a military policeman, he began his 25-year career at Inland Shoe Factory. Later in life he worked for Nearly Perfect Shoes setting up stores all over this area.

He was a founding member of the Advance Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #4154. He enjoyed working in his garden and was proud of his huge, delicious tomatoes. He always shared his garden vegetables with his family and friends.

In 1964 he met his wife, Patricia, on a blind date. They were wed May 28, 1966. Their family grew over the years: daughter Tracy (Roger) Slinkard, grandsons Ryan (Amber) Slinkard and Tyler (Jade) Slinkard. His greatest joy was his 6 great- grandchildren: Briella, Lexington, Grayson, Lainey, Judith and Bowyn.

He was sadly preceded in death by his parents, his brother Charles Ray (Patrice) and many beloved family and friends.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Morgan Funeral Chapel in Advance. A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the chapel with Rev. Greg Teague officiating. Burial will follow at the Missouri State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield.

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