

Obituaries



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In Memory of Dorothy Lee Gillespie

FEBRUARY 19TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Dorothy Lee Gillespie

Dorothy Lee Gillespie, daughter of the late James H. Fulkerson and Beulah Alma Robertson Fulkerson, was born on January 23, 1927, near Sikeston, Missouri, and passed away peacefully in her home in Bloomfield, Missouri, on February 12, 2024, at the age of 97.

Dorothy was a beautician for 14 years and also worked at the Missouri Driver's License office in Bloomfield. The job she loved was at Ms. Gail's Day Care, working there for several years and lovingly known as Ms. Dorothy. She lived in the Bloomfield Community all her life and was a dedicated member of the Bloomfield First General Baptist Church until failing health. She will forever be known for her coconut crème pies and being a great cook. Her family was the sunshine of her life, and she enjoyed nothing more than having them around her table with an abundance of food and desserts. She loved watching her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren play sports. She was an avid St. Louis Cardinal fan and loved anything Mickey Mouse. Most of all she loved Jesus.

She is survived by her husband, Dale Gillespie of Bloomfield, Missouri; by her son, Dennis (Phyllis) Gillespie of Nolensville, Tennessee; by her daughter, Angie (Bob) Barnfield of Bloomfield, Missouri; by three grandchildren, Christian (Mendy) Bell of Dexter, Missouri, Dr. Ryan (Kristen) Gillespie of Nashville, Tennessee, and Dr. Leslie (Skye) Marthaler of Chesterbrook, Pennsylvania; by six great-grandchildren, Carson Bell, Clayton Bell, Cameron Bell, Olivia Gillespie, Hazel Gillespie, and Magnus Marthaler; and by her sister, Beulah Eaton of Bloomfield, Missouri.

Other than by her parents, she was preceded in death by three sisters, Pearl Stone, Opal Williams, Alma Lewis, and three brothers, Jim Fulkerson, J.W. Fulkerson, and Glenn Fulkerson.

Memorials may be made to St Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St Jude Place, Memphis TN 38105, 18 Fore Life, c/o Scott Kruse, 705 Laurie Circle, Dexter MO 63841, VNA Hospice of SEMO, PO Box 768, Kennett MO 63857, or the Alzheimer's Association, 11433 Olde Cabin Road, Ste 100, St. Louis MO 63141.

The family could not have gone through this journey without the VNA Hospice Team. Thank you for loving and caring for our loved one.

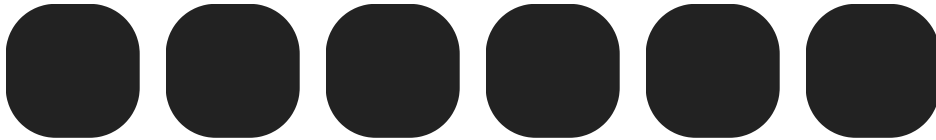
A private family service will be held at Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Saturday, February 17, 2024. Interment will follow in the Dexter Cemetery.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

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In Memory of Theodore G. “Ted” Matthes

FEBRUARY 19TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Theodore G. “Ted” Matthes

Theodore G. “Ted” Matthes, son of the late Theodore R. Matthes and Ruby Fraser Matthes, was born on June 1, 1942, in DeSoto, Missouri, and departed this life on February 10, 2024, at Saint Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, after a short illness.

Mr. Matthes was a veteran of the United States Army, serving in Vietnam. He was a member of Crossroads Methodist Church in Dexter, Missouri.

He is survived by his wife, Vicki Minton Matthes of Dexter, Missouri; by two daughters, Kate Parsons of Dexter, Missouri, and Jessica Matthes (Caleb Bartlett) of Maryland Heights, Missouri; by his son, Stephen Matthes of Messina, New York; by two grandchildren, Rhys Parsons of Dexter, Missouri, and Mackenzie Matthes of Messina, New York; and by his sister, Barbara Thompson (Charles) of Ladue, Missouri.

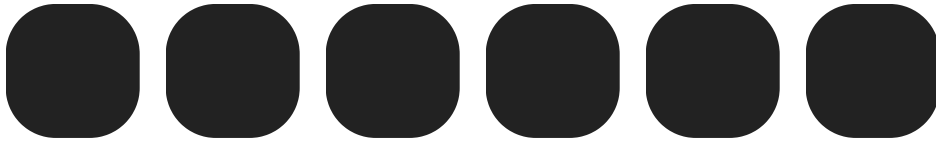
Graveside services will be conducted at the Missouri State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield on Friday, February 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. with full military honors. A reception at Crossroads Methodist Church in Dexter will immediately follow.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting with arrangements.

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In Memory of Gary Dennie Kitchen

FEBRUARY 19TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

[In Memory of Gary Dennie Kitchen](#)

Gary Dennie Kitchen, a respected member of the community, passed away on February 10, 2024, at Saint Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. He was born on July 30, 1946, in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, to Jewel (Cotton) and Lorine Kitchen.

Mr. Kitchen had an exceptional military career, serving his country with dedication and honor. He proudly served in the United States Marines, United States Army, and the Missouri Army National Guard. His commitment to service exemplified his patriotic spirit and love for his country.

Beyond his military service, Gary Dennie Kitchen was a man of many interests and hobbies. He held the title of Past Master Mason of the Dexter Lodge and served as DDGM for five years. Additionally, he was an active member of the 911 Board and the American Legion, and member of the Puxico VFW. Mr. Kitchen's dedication to public service extended to his role as a former Schreiner and a member of the Stoddard County Honor Guard. He also enjoyed operating as a Ham Radio Operator.

Survived by his beloved wife Kathy Kitchen of 29 years, Gary Dennie Kitchen leaves behind a legacy of love and cherished memories within his family and friends circle. His three daughters Leslie Sifford of Poplar Bluff, Melissa Crowley and Annie Crowley both of Van Buren, Missouri will forever remember his kindness and guidance. One granddaughter Isabella Sifford of Poplar Bluff will hold her treasured memories of her grandfather close to her heart.

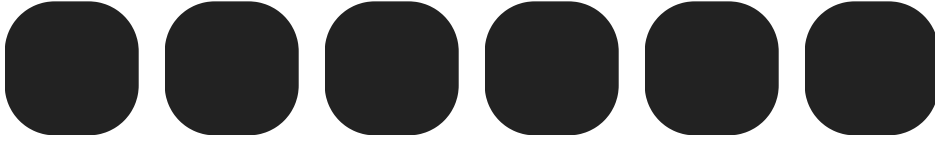
In addition to his immediate family members are surviving sister Carla West of Montgomery City, Missouri as well as three close friends Denny Noland, Mike McMunn, and Ronnie Potter (Potsey). Their bond is sure to endure beyond Mr. Kitchen's physical presence.

A Memorial Service honoring Gary Dennie Kitchen's life will be held on February 23rd, 2024 at the Missouri State Veteran's Cemetery in Bloomfield. The service will begin at 15:00 and conclude at 16:00. The cemetery is located at 17357 Stars and Stripes Way, Bloomfield, MO 63825, United States, with Pastor Chares Robertson of Bloomfield, Missouri officiating with Watkins and Sons Funeral Service in charge of all arrangements.

Gary Dennie Kitchen's commitment to his country, community, and loved ones will always be remembered with admiration. His love for life and dedication to service inspire all those who knew him. We celebrate the remarkable life of Gary Dennie Kitchen and offer our condolences to his family and friends during this difficult time. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

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In Memory of Ricky Lane Roper

FEBRUARY 14TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Ricky Lane Roper

Ricky Lane Roper, 63, of Bloomfield, MO, passed away February 9, 2024, at Southeast Health Center of Stoddard County in Dexter. He was born March 12, 1960, in Advance, the son of Bonnie Bloyce and Mary Sue Howard Roper.

For 35 years, Ricky worked as a heavy equipment operator. In the early years of his career, he worked alongside his brothers, Ronnie, Larry, Eddie, and cousin, Tony, building houses and working construction. Later, he moved on to working as a heavy equipment operator. His knowledge and work ethic helped create and build Roper Excavating in Bloomfield, with his sons.

Ricky was a tried-and-true cowboy. He lived his life and raised his family in the cowboy way. One of his most proud accomplishments was winning “The Snowy River Race” at the National Chuck Wagon Finals in Clinton, AR, on his horse Chip. He enjoyed hunting on horseback. He spent time tinkering with ponies and carts. He had a special interest in teaching his grandchildren to ride horses. Arrowhead hunting and camping had been a lifelong hobbies. Ricky always enjoyed having jacked up trucks/toys.

He was a dedicated husband, father, and Papa. He was the type of man who had too many friends to count. Ricky was quick witted, always having something to say. Usually cracking a joke at just the right times, always making everyone around him laugh.

Ricky and Letitia Gail Parker were united in marriage on January 19, 2010, at Bloomfield and she survives of the home.

Survivors include: wife, Letitia Roper; three sons, Josey (Justine) Roper of Essex, Brandon (Chelsea) Roper of Bloomfield, and Blake (Jessica) Roper of Bloomfield; a daughter, Brittney (Blake) Clark of Dexter; three step-children, Morgan (Josh) Sifford of Bloomfield, Cole (Whitney) McClard of Bloomfield and Dalton (Shelby) McClard of Oran; three brothers, Ronnie Roper of Dexter, Larry Roper of Advance, and Eddie Roper of Advance; two sisters, Barbara Phillips of Advance and Trish Stoker of Advance; 13 grandchildren, Kasen Clark, Karleigh Musgrave, Mila Clark, Van Bolt, Dax Roper, Wyatt Golden, Waylon Roper, Hank Roper, Tripp McClard, Tuck McClard, Taylor McClard, Della McClard, and Clara Sifford; and Tonya Roper, who he shared three children.

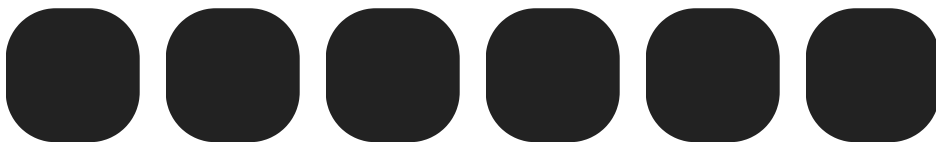
He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, February 14, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Morgan Funeral Chapel in Advance. A funeral service will be held at 12:30 p.m. at the chapel with Rev. Jamie Jones. Burial will be held at Rock Point Cemetery near Bloomfield, with a cowboy sendoff.

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In Memory of Brenda Kay Miller

FEBRUARY 12TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Brenda Kay Miller

Brenda Kay Miller, 77, born on August 17, 1946 to Claude and Ruby Lincoln in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, passed away peacefully on February 5, 2024, surrounded by her family at home in Eldon, Missouri. She was a graduate of Dexter Senior High School where she met the love of her life, Glenn Miller. They married on June 20th of 1964. For most of their married life, they resided in Dexter with their four children. She and Glenn served faithfully in ministry at First Assembly of God. During her time in Dexter Brenda and Glenn owned and operated nursing homes during the span of 1966-2003. As God led them, they continued to serve in their local communities and church.

Brenda had three passions in life—God, family, and worship. There was not a person that Brenda met that she didn't share the love of Jesus with. Her desire in life was to make sure everyone she knew and loved had a relationship with Jesus Christ. Brenda was also devoted to her four children, her 9 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. She spent many miles on the road traveling to her grandchildren's events. Brenda's final love was her ministry in worship. For more than 54 years she used her gift of singing to lead in worship. If you spoke with Brenda, she would probably have a song to share with you in some form or fashion.

Brenda is survived by her four children. Brad (Sherry) Miller of Cabool, Brian (Beth) Miller of Springfield, Gavin (Kristin) Miller of Bloomfield, and Genee (Kent) Fischer of Tipton. She has 9 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. She is also survived by her brothers Jim (Judy) Lincoln of Eldon, Don (June) Lincoln of Dexter and Nelda (Terry) Combs of Jefferson City.

Brenda was preceded in death by her husband, Glenn and her parents, Claude and Ruby Lincoln.

Expressions of sympathy can be made to First Assembly of God Versailles.

Funeral service will be held at 11:00 am, Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at Ford and Sons Funeral Homes in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, 1001 N. Mount Auburn Rd, Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701.

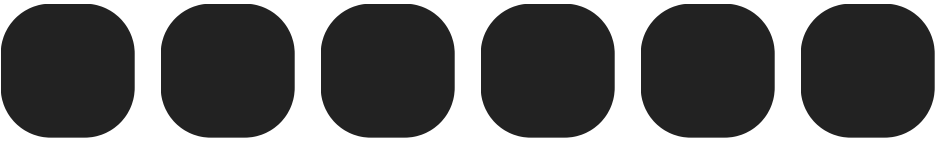
Burial will follow on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, in Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery, in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, 63701.

Arrangements are under the direction of Hedges-Scott-Millard Funeral Homes, 902 East North Street, Eldon, MO 65026 (573) 392-3351. Condolences may be left online for the family at www.millardfamilychapels.com.

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