

Obituaries



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In Memory of Donald H. Bates

APRIL 05TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Donald H. Bates

Donald H. Bates of Wappapello, Missouri was born to the late Robert and Marie (Pullum) Bates on October 06, 1934 in Leora, Missouri and passed away peacefully in his home on April 01, 2021 in Wappapello, Missouri at the age of 86 years.

Donald had been a resident of Wappapello, Missouri for over 40 years. He was a member of the First General Baptist Church in Puxico, Missouri. He was a member of the Masons. Donald loved music, horseback riding, fishing, rabbit hunting and spending time with his family and friends.

Donald was married to Ada Louis (Cookson) Bates on June 23, 1951 until her death on September 23, 2015.

Surviving are his four Edward D Bates of Puxico, Missouri, Sharon Joslin of Wappapello, Missouri, Bruce (Lynn) Bates of Oklahoma and Robert Bates of Wappapello, Missouri; 14 grandchildren; 20 great grandchildren and 5 great great grandchildren. He is proceeded in death by his parents Robert and Marie Bates; his wife Ada Bates; one grandson Jacob Donald Bates; two brothers Tom Bates and Jim Bates. A host of family and friends also survive.

Visitation will be held on Sunday April 04, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Watkins and Sons Funeral Home in Puxico.

Services to be held on Monday April 05, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at Watkins and Sons Funeral Home in Puxico with Brother Kenneth Lambert of Puxico, Missouri officiating.

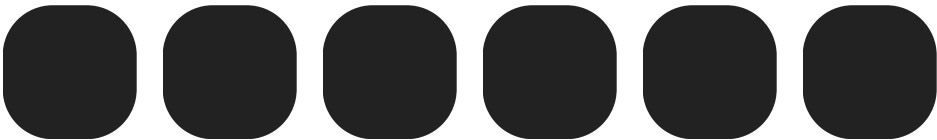
Interment will follow in the Puxico Cemetery with Watkins and Sons Funeral Service of Puxico in charge of arrangements.

Watkins and Sons Funeral Service

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In Memory of Linda Sue Litchfield

APRIL 05TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Linda Sue Litchfield

Linda Sue Litchfield daughter of the late Humor Roy Eaker and Bertha Ellen Sifford Eaker was born on March 7, 1945 in Bloomfield, Missouri and departed this life on April 3, 2021 at the Cypress Point Skilled Nursing Center in Dexter at the age of 76.

Mrs. Litchfield was a very active member of Risen Church in Dexter and was a bookkeeper for Dairl’s Automotive Repair Shop in Dexter.

On August 18, 1962 she was united in marriage to Daril Litchfield in Puxico, Missouri. Mr. Litchfield preceded her in death on November 21, 2020.

She is survived by one son and daughter in law, David Wayne Litchfield and wife Cindy of Dexter; by two sisters, Lois Osterbur of Fort Myers, Florida and Laverne Kelley of Dexter, Missouri by three grandchildren, Stephen Litchfield and wife Kristen, Crystal Litchfield and boyfriend Andrew Bland, and Jessica Litchfield and boyfriend Tyler Kolwyck; by five great-grandchildren, Hunter, Lillie, Kayden, Brylee and Jaxson; and by one niece she was very close to, Karen Kyle.

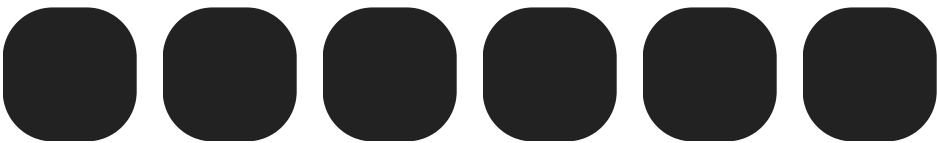
A grave-side service will be conducted on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at the Puxico City Cemetery with Rev. Alex Stack officiating.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is assisting the family with all arrangements.

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In Memory of Fannie Ethel Brigman Averett

APRIL 02ND 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Fannie Ethel Brigman Averett

Fannie Ethel Brigman Averett, daughter of the late Sullivan and Fannie Brigman, was born on October 15, 1931, in East Prairie, Missouri and departed this life on Monday, March 29, 2021, in Dexter, Missouri at the age of 89. Fannie was the youngest of six siblings: Mary Dawson, Harold Brigman, Dorothy Sailors, Ruth Sailors, and Kathryn Anderson. Fannie was united in marriage to Kenneth William Averett, Jr. on December 9, 1951, in Piggott, Arkansas. Fannie was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Averett, parents, siblings, son-in-law Alan Robinson, grandson Brent Robinson, and granddaughter Chelsea Averett.

Survivors include her four children: Jane Smith and husband Leon, Jeanie Robinson, Marty Averett and wife Lynne, and Kim Monteer and husband, Jay. She is survived by seven grandchildren: Summer McGowan and husband Todd, Dawn Smathers and husband Daniel, Gabriel Smith and wife Brooke, Jordan Averett and wife Candace, Colton Averett, Hunter Collins, and Morgan Monteer. Fannie was survived by eight great-grandchildren: Alexis Smith, Jarred Swindell, Karsyn Smith, Jeanna Smathers, Brant Smathers, Francesca Averett, Ellessandra Averett, and Griffin Averett.

Fannie was blessed with a lifetime of love and happiness, and her Christian faith was very important to her. Fannie, along with her husband, Kenneth, owned and operated the Allis-Chalmers Implement Dealership in Dexter, Missouri for 28 years. Fannie was a long time member of the Dexter Church of Christ. She also volunteered with the hospital auxiliary for many years. Fannie was an avid card player; she and her husband spent many nights playing cards with family and friends and passed along the tradition to their children and grandchildren. She was a very devoted St. Louis Cardinals fan and never missed a game. She loved to go dancing and would often be found dancing the Jitterbug in the living room with her husband Kenny. Fannie was full of personality and the loudest whisperer you ever met. You rarely had to wonder where you stood with Fannie because she would tell you. She loved to spend time with her family and could frequently be heard bragging on their accomplishments, sharing their photos, and telling others how proud she was of them.

Friends and family may call Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter on Saturday, April 3, 2021. Visitation will be held from 12:30pm to 2:30pm. Funeral services will be conducted at 2:30pm with the Stan Dauck officiating. Interment will follow in the Chalk Bluff

Cemetery.

The Averett family requests everyone wear a mask for the funeral services.

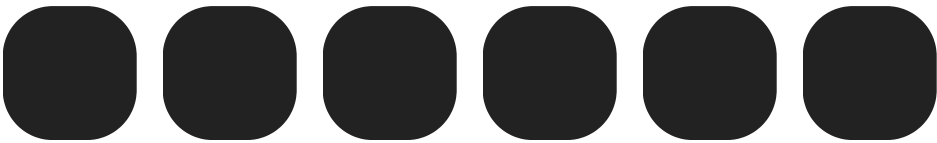
In lieu of flowers, memorials or donations can be made to Bootheel Youth Camp, P.O. Box 457, Dexter, Missouri 63841; Stoddard County Children’s Home, 208 S. Prairie, Bloomfield, MO 63825; or Meals on Wheels, 23 W. Stoddard Street, Dexter, MO 63841.

Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter is in charge of arrangements.

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In Memory of Judy Ruth (Burge) Arnold

APRIL 02ND 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Judy Ruth (Burge) Arnold

Judy Ruth (Burge) Arnold, 75, of Puxico, MO, and formerly of Poplar Bluff, MO, passed away on Friday, March 26th, 2021, at St. Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau, MO. Her death was sudden and unexpected.

She was born on September 23, 1945, to Arlie A. and Elsie (Harris) Burge in Osage County, MO. She was the youngest of seven children. She was raised in Puxico, MO, where she attended and graduated from Puxico High School in 1963. She attended Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, MO, where she obtained her Master of Science degree in Social Work. She was an active member of the Tri Delta sorority during her college years. After graduation, she began her career working for the State of Missouri at the Division of Family Services (DFS). She was well respected and admired by her co-workers. After 37 years, she retired as the area supervisor III for the Children's Division in 2002. During her retirement she enjoyed traveling, visiting with family/friends, going to casinos, antique treasure hunting and estate auctions. She also loved decorating and participated in several open houses for Christmas tours and most recently organized the drive through Christmas tour in Puxico in 2020. She was very active in her community and was a member of the board for the Puxico Library. She attended the Puxico Christian Church.

On September 1st, 1973, she married her true love, Robert E. "Bob" Arnold, at the First Christian Church in Puxico, MO. She became an instant (step)mother to three children; Tony, Bobby and Cheri. Bob and Judy enjoyed many happy years together until he preceded her in death on January 16, 2000. She was also preceded in death by her parents, Arlie and Elsie Burge; two brothers, Kenneth Brantley and Arlie Burge; one sister, Phyllis Kinnaman; two nieces, Patricia Hon and Brenda Kinnaman.

Ms. Arnold is survived by two sons, Tony E. Arnold (Debbie) of Poplar Bluff, MO, and Robert L. "Bobby" Arnold (Janice) of Whitewater, MO; one daughter, Cheri L. Morgan of Poplar Bluff, MO; six grandchildren, Ashley Cochran (Josh) of Poplar Bluff, Courtney Thrasher (Andy) of Bay, AR., Brandon Arnold (Samantha) of Whitewater, MO, Whitney Bradley (Donnie) of Chaffee, MO, Jade McKnight (Bri) of Poplar Bluff and Tristan Morgan of Poplar Bluff; and five great-grandchildren, Alyssa and Alexis Cochran of Poplar Bluff, Oliver and MacKenzie Bradley of Chaffee, and Lawson Thrasher of Bay, AR.

She is also survived by two brothers and sister-in-laws, Bill and Nelda Burge of Puxico, MO, and Floyd and Valjeane Burge of Poplar Bluff, MO; one sister, Barbara Boone of Leesburg, FL; several beloved nieces and nephews, Paul Ludwig, Pam Hubbert (Perry) and Kelley Kirkpatrick (David) all of Pulaski, TN, Lynne Wasson (Tommy) of St. Paul, AR., Anne Woker, and Art Kinnaman (Kim) of Little Rock, AR., Paula Gratton (Tom)

and Laura Burge of St. Louis, MO, Brad Wallace (Kim) of Farmington, MO, Gina Harris (Lonnie) of Waco, TX, Boyd Wallace (Whitney) of Dallas, TX, David Burge (Melissa) of Cape Girardeau, MO, Scott Burge (Kelly) of Puxico, MO, Misty Wiseman (Michael) and Aaron Burge all of Poplar Bluff, MO; and several great and great-great nieces and nephews.

She was very social and also leaves behind several special friends, Patricia Burge and Dee Dee Vance both of Poplar Bluff, MO, Chuck and Shirley Fann and Michael Brown of East Prairie, MO, Art and Sandra Norris, Robin Pastori, Lola Fowler, Pansy Barnfield, and Peter and Maryann Coutavas all of Puxico, MO, and Steve Brown of Sanibel Island, FL.

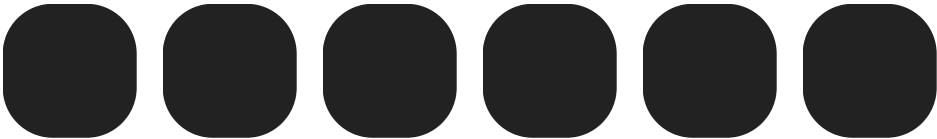
Funeral arrangements are being handled by Watkins & Sons Funeral Home in Puxico, MO. Visitation for immediate family will be from 9-10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 31st, at the funeral home. Public visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. with services immediately after at 12 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Brown Chapel Cemetery in Broseley, MO. Her nephew, Art Kinnaman, will deliver the eulogy and conduct the service and her niece Kelley Kirkpatrick will provide music. Pallbearers are grandsons Brandon Arnold and Tristan Morgan, grandson-in-law Andy Thrasher, nephews Scott Burge, Aaron Burge, and Lonnie Underberg. Honorary pallbearers are nephews David Burge and Michael Wiseman. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her name may be made to the Puxico Library.

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In Memory of Lois Jean Rutledge

APRIL 02ND 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Lois Jean Rutledge

Lois Jean Rutledge daughter of the late Rev. Charlie Bell and Hazel Thomas Bell, was born in Luxora, Arkansas on October 19, 1939 and departed this life at her residence in Rural Parma, Missouri on March 31, 2021 at the age of 81.

Mrs. Rutledge had worked at JC Penny in Sikeston, Missouri and was a Homemaker. She was a member of Mt. Olive MB Church at LaForge/New Madrid, Missouri.

She was united in marriage to Johnnie Myles Rutledge in New Madrid, Missouri on June 29, 1974. Mr. Rutledge survives in their home in Rural Parma, Missouri.

Other survivors include one son, Sean Rutledge & wife Lashun of Parma, Missouri; by one brother William Albert Bell & wife Vera of New Madrid, Missouri; by one sister Charlene Kelly & husband James of Chicago, Illinois; by one grandson, Myles Thomas Rutledge; also by other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death other than by her parents, by one brother, James Sylvester Bell; by two sisters, Ozella Johnson and Mary Helen Johnson; by one grandson, Thomas Joe Rutledge.

Friends may call at Mathis Funeral Home in Bernie, Missouri on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 from 10:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M.

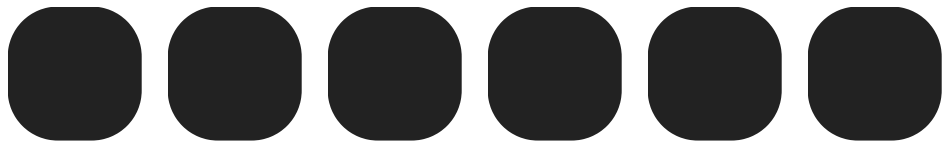
Funeral services will then be conducted in the Mathis Funeral Chapel at 12:00 P.M. Interment will follow in the Macedonia Cemetery in Malden, Missouri.

Mathis Funeral Home of Bernie in charge of all arrangements.

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