



## Elaine Kauffman

February 12, 1941 - September 30, 2022

Florence “Elaine” Kauffman, 81, of Chanute, Kansas passed away on Friday, September 30, 2022 at Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center. Elaine was born on February 12, 1941 to Fred and Mary Frances (Sapp) Welch in Quincey, Illinois. Their family split their time between Chanute and Illinois while Elaine and her siblings were growing up but ultimately settled in Chanute to be close to family.

She was raised in the Church of God and so developed her incredible singing ability. Elaine and her siblings could perform in a manner that would give you the impression they were a professional group, and almost obtained the backing of a sponsor. Her love for music and church led her to a young man by the name of Robert Kauffman; one could say it was love at first sight. Despite a brief separation in effort to discourage the union, Elaine completed her high school education, graduating from a high school in Oklahoma – only to return and rejoin her beloved Robert and soon they were united in marriage on August 10, 1959.

A short while after they were wed, Bob and Elaine welcomed their first daughter. Two more daughters followed. After their family was seemingly complete, however, Elaine decided she wanted more children, so the couple began to foster youth and perhaps they were the home for at the very least 75 or so children, one of whom they adopted to call their own. Their family was

always full of positivity and cherished memories of fishing trips to Santa Fe Lake, where Elaine could catch her favorite little perch and other fish. She also enjoyed trips to the Senior Center in Chanute for bingo, card games, dinners and many other activities as well as to any casino she could find herself a penny slot machine. Sometimes she would tell Bob, "Just go on and come back and get me, I'm not ready to go yet."

Elaine was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and even went so far as to become a great-great-grandmother. Her legacy of love and devotion to her family and especially her grandchildren set a foundation that will never be forgotten.

Elaine leaves behind her husband Robert of the home

A son, Russell Kauffman of Chanute

Five grandchildren

Fourteen great-grandchildren

One great-great-grandchild

A son-in-law, Bill Ammons

And several nieces and nephews

She was preceded in death by

Her parents, Fred and Mary

Her daughters:

Debra Schultz

Lorie Ammons

Crystal Kauffman

Her brother, Larry Roberts

And sister, Karen Crumbliss

Visitation will be held Wednesday, October 5, 2022 from 5-7pm at Countryside Funeral Home – 101 N. Highland in Chanute, Kansas.

Funeral service will be held Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 1:00 pm at Countryside Funeral Home – 101 N. Highland in Chanute, Kansas. Cremation will follow at request of the family.

Memorial donations in Elaine's honor have been suggested to the Chanute Senior Citizen Center and can be mailed to or left with the funeral home.

Online condolences can be left at [www.countrysidefh.com](http://www.countrysidefh.com). Services entrusted to Countryside Funeral Home, 101 N. Highland, Chanute, KS 66720.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **5**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Johnson Chapel  
101 N. Highland  
Chanute, KS 66720  
(620) 431-1220  
<https://www.countrysidefh.com>

## Service

OCT **6**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Johnson Chapel  
101 N. Highland  
Chanute, KS 66720  
(620) 431-1220  
<https://www.countrysidefh.com>

# Tribute Wall

PB

“ I was a good friend of all the Welch family, including the parents and cousins in the Nathan Welch family.

We attended the same church throughout our lives. We could all harmonize and sang in the choir.

We spent time together at each other's houses. Laughing and talking all night. Karen was one of my best friends, af year younger. I don't know where it was but I saw Bob Kauffman and "Florence", as we used to call her, at a Memorial service in Chanute several years ago.

Seems like it was for Carolyn VanWinkle, a cousin of mine. That was the last time I saw Elaine and Bob.

Had i known about Elaine, I would have been there, for the family. I will always remember her sweet smile and how she treated everyone she met. She was about 5 yrs older than me. My sister, Delores Webb, was good friends with her and Judy.

Not sure if Judy is still alive.

Bob, I am deeply sorrowful for you and entire family. As you know, without a doubt, she is where she longed to be.

It's so difficult. And yes, I do know.

Keep in touch.

Just a long time friend but loved all my friends from Chanute.

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**POLLY (Pauline) Webb Broyles** - October 17, 2022 at 09:19 PM

DW

“ My best friend and singing partner at the Church Of God. Loved all her sisters and relatives in Chanute Ks. DeloresWebb Westfall



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**Delores Westfall** - October 05, 2022 at 09:17 PM

SK

“ *Bob and Rusty: I was so very very sorry to hear of Elaine’s passing. We take the Chanute Tribune here in Texas but I wanted you to know we’re thinking of you and send our love.*  
*Sallie and Duane Knapp*

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**Sallie Knapp** - October 05, 2022 at 06:02 PM

AS

“ *She not only was my cousin but was a sweet lady to work with at Walmart for many years. I enjoyed being able to talk to her and had many good times together. Prayers for her husband, Bob and family*

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**Angela Stanley** - October 03, 2022 at 08:47 PM



“ *Donna Dye lit a candle in memory of Elaine Kauffman*



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**Donna Dye** - October 03, 2022 at 08:46 PM