



Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen

June 10, 1922 - April 8, 2018

Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen, age 95, of Chanute KS, passed away April 8, 2018 at Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center. Betty was born in rural Chanute on June 10, 1922, the daughter of John William & Velma Leora (Bower) Thielen.

Betty was a lifelong resident of rural Chanute, graduating from Chanute High School with the class of 1940. She attended Chanute Junior College and PSU, and acquired her emergency teaching certificate during WWII. She then purchased a horse and saddle to ride and teach at Bunker Hill, a one room school, for one year.

On Sept 12, 1943 Betty married the love of her life, Clay Eugene "Gene" McMillen in Erie, Ks. To this union, 7 children were born. Raising her children and being Gene's partner on the farm were her pride and joy. Eventually, the McMillen home became known as the McMillen Museum, with 60 books of family and area history, family antiques and keepsakes.

Faith, Family, and Farm were Betty's main priorities. Being a great Historian, she recorded history for Wilson and Neosho Counties, churches and cemeteries. She recorded the family's history back to the 1580's. She was also involved in 4-H, NFO, and Vilas Home Builders Unit.

She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and was known as “Grandma Betty” to everyone in town. Betty was also known for her “Brain Blitz” motivational speeches which she gave for several organizations at the age of 84.

Betty was currently a member of the First United Methodist Church, having been baptized at St Patrick Catholic Church at a young age. She was a previous member of the Zion Methodist Church and High Prairie Methodist Church In Wilson County. Betty had many loving qualities. Everyone always felt welcome in her home as if they were the most important person in the world. She loved her God, and was well known for saying “Praise the Lord”. She was church historian, and held many positions in the various churches.

Betty is survived by:

Children:

Edward McMillen and wife Connie of Anacortes, WA

Sandra Stewart and husband John “Chip” of Las Vegas, NV

Linda Goodson and husband Harry of Edwards, MO

Glen Lee McMillen and wife Charlotte of Chanute, KS

Judy Dillow and husband Ernie of Chanute, KS

Alice Myers and husband Bob of Humboldt, KS

Daughter-In-Law: Kathy McMillen of Derby, KS

Sister:

Carol Lea Rhodes of Ft. Dodge, IA

Sister-in-Law:

Mary McMillen of Chanute, Ks

18 Grandchildren

32 Great Grandchildren

1 Great-Great Grandchild

10 Step Great Grandchildren

5 Step Great-Great Grandchildren

Numerous Cousins, Nieces and Nephews

From the union of Gene and Betty, there are 97 immediate family members with that number growing.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Gene McMillen; youngest son, Kent McMillen; and brothers, Johnny Thielen and Charles Thielen.

A visitation will be held on Wednesday, April 11 from 5:00-8:00 PM at First United Methodist Church of Chanute. The funeral service will be held Thursday, April 12 at 10:00 AM at the First United Methodist Church. Interment will follow at Neosho County Memorial Park Cemetery in Chanute. Betty will be wearing her charm necklace with the names of all of her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and step grandchildren and step great-grandchildren that she started over 50 years ago when her first two grandchildren were born. Also she will be wearing her custom made bracelet that was made from Gene's wedding ring.

Online condolences may be left at www.countrysidefh.com. Memorials have been suggested to Zion Methodist Cemetery Monument Fund and can be left with or mailed to Countryside Funeral Home. Arrangements have been entrusted to Countryside Funeral Home, 16 N. Forest, Chanute, KS 66720.

Cemetery Details

Neosho County Memorial Park

21st Street
Chanute, KS

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 11. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church-Chanute
202 S. Lincoln
Chanute, KS 66720

Service

APR 12. 10:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church-Chanute
202 S. Lincoln
Chanute, KS 66720

Tribute Wall



“ *Love you*



lost fox - April 24, 2019 at 06:56 PM



“ *Marian And Richard Drake lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen*



Marian and Richard Drake - April 11, 2018 at 09:47 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen.*



April 11, 2018 at 09:03 PM



“ We miss you Grandma and we know we have the greatest, most glorious Guardian Angel looking over all of us now!

Love, Christina, Shawn, Angela & Heather Carpentier



Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 03:11 PM



“ 2 files added to the album McMillen Family



Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:56 PM



“ Christina Lynn Mcmillen carpentier was added to the Family Tree.

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:42 PM



“ Kent Eugene Mcmillen was added to the Family Tree.

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:35 PM



“ Alice Dean Mcmillen myers was added to the Family Tree.

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:33 PM

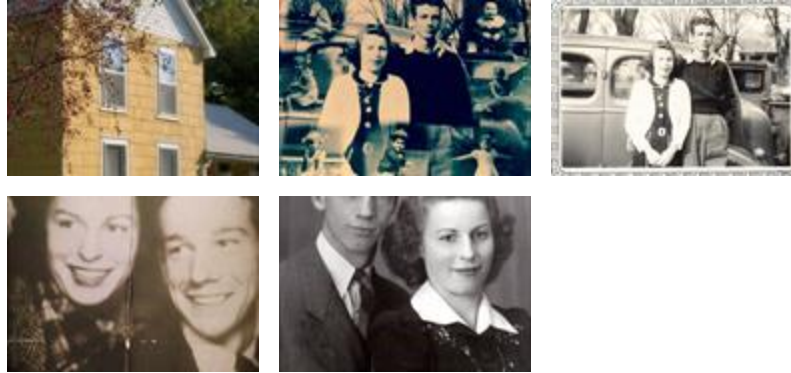


“ *Judy Lynn Mcmillen dillow was added to the Family Tree.*

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:29 PM



“ *5 files added to the album Betty Jane McMillen*



Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:24 PM



“ *Glen Lee Mcmillen was added to the Family Tree.*

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:22 PM



“ *Linda Mcmillen goodson was added to the Family Tree.*

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:21 PM



“ *Sandra Sue Mcmillen stewart was added to the Family Tree.*

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:20 PM



“ *Brian William Mcmillen was added to the Family Tree.*

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:18 PM



“ *Scott Edward Mcmillen was added to the Family Tree.*

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:18 PM



“ *Christina Lynn Mcmillen carpentier was added to the Family Tree.*

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:16 PM



“ *Edward William Mcmillen was added to the Family Tree.*

Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 01:14 PM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 12:55 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 12:54 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Betty Jane McMillen*



Christina Carpentier - April 11, 2018 at 12:51 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen.



April 11, 2018 at 11:34 AM



“ *So very sorry for your loss. Keeping you all in our prayers. David & Sherry Stapleford*



David & Sherry Stapleford - April 11, 2018 at 10:20 AM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen.*



April 11, 2018 at 08:54 AM



“ *Without a doubt, Betty was greeted by her Savior with..."Well done, good and faithful servant." What a lovely, loving example she was for all. She is already being missed.*

*Mike and Peggy Myers
Mackenzie Leroy*

Peggy Myers - April 10, 2018 at 10:57 PM



“ *Myra Rhodes Marc Rhodes lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen*



Myra Rhodes Marc Rhodes - April 10, 2018 at 07:07 PM

MR

“ Betty Jane was an awesome lady. I will never forget the many , many hours we spent together on the phone working on a birthday gift I was making for mom Rhodes 75th birthday. I learned so much from her about so many things. She taught me so much about 1935 and the history that came from the years before that even. But 1935 was the year my mother in law was born. I made a huge book representing that year from prices of food to you name it. I learned about the dust bowl and Betty Jane's love for her Little sister Carol Lee. She loved her little sister so much. She shared stories about Carol and she also shared hardship stories about the tough times. Her times riding her horse to her job and pasturing her horse right outside in a fenced in a area I believe. I am so grateful to be part of such a big family, a kind and loving family. So thank you Betty Jane for sharing so much with me and giving me the chance to get to know more about my mother- in- law carol Rhodes. May you rest in peace and may Heaven be the perfect place to lay your head to rest.

Myra and Marc Rhodes

Myra Rhodes - April 10, 2018 at 07:06 PM

MR

“ Myra Rhodes lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen



Myra Rhodes - April 10, 2018 at 06:55 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen.*



April 10, 2018 at 04:26 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen.*



April 10, 2018 at 11:07 AM



“ *Craig McMillen and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Elizabeth "Betty" Jane McMillen.*



Craig McMillen and Family - April 10, 2018 at 08:15 AM



“ *She was a lady who treated everyone like her family and will be dearly missed by those who knew her and loved her. What a treasure to her grandchildren!*

Denise Seiler - April 09, 2018 at 07:45 PM