



## Jean Anne Armstrong

October 10, 1937 - August 8, 2022

Jean Anne (Converse) Armstrong, age 84, of Chanute, KS, passed away peacefully on Monday, August 8, 2022, at Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center. Jean was born on October 10, 1937, in Great Bend, KS, to Harvey and Marcile (Ray) Converse. She graduated from Great Bend High School in 1955 and then again four years later from the University of Kansas with a Bachelor of Music Education. Jean received her Master of Music in Piano Pedagogy from Pittsburg State University in 1997. Jean was working as a music teacher in Wilson, KS, when she met Willis “Bill” Armstrong, Jr., a band instructor working in nearby Russell, KS. After a whirlwind courtship, the two married on March 17, 1962, at the First United Methodist Church in Great Bend, KS.

Jean is survived by

Daughter: Lisa Jo Armstrong

Son: Craig Allen Armstrong

Grandchildren: Jessica Marie Armstrong and Juan Carlos Armstrong

Sister: Patricia Sue Kuster

She is preceded in death by her husband Bill and her parents.

To say that Jean Armstrong loved music would be an understatement. Music composed every fiber of Jean’s being. She taught elementary school music at

USD 413 from 1974 until she retired in 2002. She loved every child she taught, having an uncanny knack for remembering each of their names. It was impossible to take a trip to the store with Jean without children yelling with joy, “Mrs. Armstrong,” from across the aisle.

Jean shared her love of music and musical talents with the entire community. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Chanute, where she directed the children’s choir as well as the youth and adult bell choirs for many years. In addition, Jean was a member of the St. Cecilia Music Club. Still, Jean’s pride and joy came from teaching private piano lessons. Jean taught countless students how to play the piano. Her home was always filled with the sounds of a metronome, sour notes, and the rustle of candy wrappers as “her kids” celebrated their lessons’ successes with every sweet treat imaginable.

Jean also loved animals. Her passion for all living things often filled her home with kitties, dogs, and bunnies, just to name a few. In her golden years, Jean was happiest when petting a cat on her lap while listening to it purr. She wore her title as the “crazy cat lady” with pride, never refusing a fresh bowl of milk or kitty kibble to any feline in need. Jean will forever be remembered for her extraordinary kindness to animals.

Jean was many things to many people. She was a wife, mother, grandmother, teacher, and friend. Jean loved her family fiercely, making many sacrifices for them by placing their needs far above her own. Nevertheless, perhaps the title Jean enjoyed most was that of grandma or “Granny Pants,” as she was affectionately known. Jean took her responsibilities as grandmother very seriously. She spoiled her grandchildren with her unconditional love, endless gifts of stuffed animals, and bottomless bowls of candy.

Jean will be sorely missed by all those who knew her. Her unmistakable laugh

and the fast-paced clippety-clop of her heels, clacking against hard floors, now grace the halls of her heavenly home.

A visitation will be held on Friday, August 12, 2022, from 6-8 p.m. at Countryside Funeral Home Johnson Chapel in Chanute, KS. The funeral service will be on Saturday, August 13, 2022, at 10 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Chanute, KS. Burial will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery in Chanute.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Royster Middle School Vocal Plus choir to support their upcoming performance at the Kansas Music Educators Association annual conference. Donations may be mailed to or left with the funeral home.

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

# Cemetery Details

## Memorial Park Cemetery

E.. 14th St.  
Chanute, KS 66720

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**AUG 12.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Service

**AUG 13.** 10:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

TS

“ From 1974 through 1981 I went to Alcott Elem. where Mrs. Armstrong taught music to us kids. One memory I remember well was when she would play the song "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" on the piano. We would ask her to play it again and again, faster and faster. Each time she would respond with the quickest fingers on that piano! We would struggle to say the words fast enough to keep up with her as she play without a mistake. RIP Mrs. Armstrong.

Tim Schreckhise - September 25, 2022 at 02:25 AM

MM

“ Jean and her family were great neighbors and friends.

Marilyn Mishler, Kim Sipe Bradford and Kris Sipe Hess



Marilyn Mishler - August 14, 2022 at 03:06 PM

ML

“ I knew Mrs Armstrong first as a teacher, and later in life as a friend. I was blessed by her Joy and Enthusiasm in both roles. She was loved and adored by each and every student in her music class and children's choir, and I am guessing most of us can still sing many of the numbers she put together for school and church musicals....while she calmly directed 50 or 60 grade school kids singlehandedly. She helped us grow into better people, and I feel there will never be a greater sound than Jean laughing. Rest Well Sweet Teacher, your music and spirit were some of the most wonderful gifts we have ever received.

Michelle Luellen - August 11, 2022 at 09:36 PM

MO

“ Jean was a joy to be around! Did her hair for many years, went to New Years Eve party's at their house. Sending Prayers and Hugs to Craig, Lisa and their family's.

Mary Owen - August 11, 2022 at 08:31 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jean Anne Armstrong.



August 11, 2022 at 05:48 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jean Anne Armstrong.



August 11, 2022 at 04:36 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Jean Anne Armstrong.



August 11, 2022 at 04:31 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jean Anne Armstrong.*



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August 11, 2022 at 04:08 PM



“ *Jean was an amazing person and an important part of my life. She was my piano teacher through HS and got my skills where they needed to be to pursue a music degree and become a music teacher myself. She was such a good friend and colleague to my Mom, a mentor/friend/and teacher to me, and a second grandma to Kenzie when she was little. I loved her energy and passion for life and she was such a gift to so many lives, including my own. I love you, Jean!*



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**Missy (Maxon) Kimble** - August 11, 2022 at 03:48 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jean Anne Armstrong.*



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August 11, 2022 at 12:06 PM



Jessica  
Holmgren

“ Jean introduced me to the joy of singing! I ended up doing all the choir things in my teen years because she encouraged me to sing my heart out! She is so special to me and has a special place in my heart. My brother’s and I all had her and enjoyed her class so much. We are sending you all lots of hugs as we know you will miss her greatly.

*With lots of love,  
Jessica Holmgren (Jopek)*

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**Jessica Holmgren** - August 11, 2022 at 11:55 AM

TA

“ Just this past week my thoughts went to Jean and the enjoyment I had in bell choir at FUMC. She 'rejuvenated' the bell choir when my daughter was in high school and we both joined. It was truly a blessing to practice and play as she directed our efforts. Loved her bubbly personality and remember quite well the fast paced clickity clack of her walk.

*Blessings to you and your families as you mourn her passing. May fond memories flood your mind's eye and give you peace.*

*Tamara Slane*

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**Tamara** - August 10, 2022 at 10:43 PM

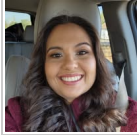


“ Cindy Adams-Harrison lit a candle in memory of Jean Anne Armstrong



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**Cindy Adams-Harrison** - August 10, 2022 at 09:52 PM



“ I am so very fortunate to have had Mrs Armstrong as my music teacher at Alcott. She was a wonderful teacher and friend! She thoroughly encouraged my love for music and singing!! I'm very appreciative of all that she did for me!! She will be missed!

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**Amanda Roles-Farris** - August 10, 2022 at 09:24 PM

AW

“ I began my teaching career in Chanute and Jean took me in and was like a mother to me. We started Children United Choir and co directed it. Jean always had hilarious stories to tell and the best laugh ever! She had a heart of gold and I am so blessed to have known and loved her.

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**Allison Wilson** - August 10, 2022 at 08:05 PM

RM

“ I remember her from when I was young and she was teaching choir at the Church. She is the one that helped me discover my love for music!! May she Rest In Peace!!

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**Randall Marts** - August 10, 2022 at 06:37 PM

SC

“ Jean was such a lovely lady. Such a delite when she came around the church when I was the secretary. Sure missed when she was unable to get a group for the bell choir. Sharon Carpenter

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**Sharon Carpenter** - August 10, 2022 at 05:43 PM