



Marilyn Jo McDonald

December 26, 1929 - February 5, 2021

Marilyn Jo Workman McDonald, age 91 of Howard, KS, passed away February 5, 2021 at her home.

Jo was born December 26th, 1929, to Carl Albert and Thelma Violet (Fiscus) Workman. She was born at home a mile and a half east of Howard. She grew up as a happy farm girl, with her brother, Jack and sister, Helen. She attended rural school until the eighth grade, then she went to School at Longton, and graduated from Longton High School on May 15th, 1947.

The morning of May 16th, 1947, she married Fred McDonald in a civil ceremony at Howard, Kansas, with Judge Miriam O. Beaty officiating. They were married for 63 years.

In 1953, they were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Teresa and in 1957 another blessing with the birth of their daughter, Sherri. Jo was a stay-at-home mom, keeping books for the LP Gas Company that Fred worked for and she babysat in their home.

In 1967, Fred and Jo went into partnership with Fred's brother and his wife; in 1974 the partnership dissolved. Fred chose another career and Jo enrolled in cosmetology school in Independence, Kansas, fulfilling a lifelong dream, of being a licensed hairdresser, owning and operating her own salon, from June

1975 until retiring in February 1994. Fred and Jo were fulltime RVers from April 1994 until April 2009. For 15 years, their life as RVers was an extremely happy life for both of them. They loved backpacking in Wyoming, fishing, dancing, playing cards and spending time with family and friends. Spending their summers in Northern Minnesota and their winters in Aransas Pass, Texas.

Jo loved to play bridge and watch sports on TV. She also wrote an article for the Prairie Star called Howard Happenings for several years. Her biggest joy was being a Mother and Grandmother. The love she shared with her two daughters, her three grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren made her the happiest.

Jo was a member of The Howard United Methodist Church, a 58th year member of the Order of the Eastern Star which she held many offices and was Grand Esther and was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

She is survived by daughter's:

Teresa Ann Heilevang, and son-in-law, Kjell of Howard, Ks
Sherri Lynn Wilder, and son-in-law, Curt of Texas

Grandson's:

Danny Cookson and wife Ronda of Howard, KS
Derek Cookson and Lady Sarah of Howard, KS

Granddaughter:

Tania Mariman, and husband, Brett of Colby, Ks

Extended Granddaughters:

Teri Cookson of Marion, KS
Rochelle Cookson of Howard, KS

Great grandchildren: Caleb, Ashley, Mason, Harper, Cooper, Ella and Cole

Sister, Helen Troutman of Salina, KS

A host of nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Fred; her parents, Carl and Thelma Workman and brother, Jack Workman.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, February 14, 2021 at 4:00 pm at Countryside Funeral Home, Howard, KS

Memorial contributions can be made to the Howard Public Swimming Pool and can be mailed to or left with the funeral home.

Services entrusted to:

Countryside Funeral Home, 206 E. Washington, PO Box 1233, Howard, KS
67349

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB **14.** 4:00 PM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Howard
206 E. Washington
P.O. Box 1233
Howard, KS 67349
(620) 374-2381

Tribute Wall

KE

“ *Kathy Evans lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Jo McDonald*



Kathy Evans - March 11, 2021 at 11:42 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Countryside Funeral Home - February 17, 2021 at 11:39 AM

RS

“ *We were so sad to hear of your mom. She was one special lady. Always a smile. Wish we could be there today. We think of you girls often. Smiling at the thought of your folks and Randy folks playing cards or frog hunting. Love you all. Keeping you in our prayers.*

Randy Smith - February 14, 2021 at 09:48 AM

TH

Thank you so much. Wilma and O'Neal were the best of friends for as long as I can remember. I have more stories about them and the things they did could fill a small book. We kids had more fun together and I have memories galore of those times.

Thank you for your thoughts and your prayers. Mama is happy right now and we are happy that she's happy. She's with everyone she loves that's not on the Earth.

Teresa Heilevang - February 16, 2021 at 09:05 AM

FO

“ Fred and Tammy Osborn purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Marilyn Jo McDonald.



Fred and Tammy Osborn - February 14, 2021 at 08:44 AM

SS

“ Sylvia Spurrier Stites lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Jo McDonald



Sylvia Spurrier Stites - February 13, 2021 at 02:05 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Marilyn Jo McDonald.



February 12, 2021 at 01:46 PM

JN

“ *Sharing in your loss.
Bob and Judy Nungesser*



Judy Nungesser - February 12, 2021 at 11:27 AM

TH

Thank you so much. We have all had some good times together that's for sure..😊

Teresa Heilevang - February 16, 2021 at 09:06 AM

TM

“ *Tula Murphy lit a candle in memory of Marilyn
Jo McDonald*



Tula Murphy - February 10, 2021 at 03:12 PM

TH

Thank you.....💜

Teresa Heilevang - February 16, 2021 at 09:19 AM

JH

“ From the first time I met Jo, I felt as though I'd known her forever. I feel so blessed to have enjoyed time with her during her "big adventure" to Tyler TX. I will always cherish the time spent around my kitchen table, talking, laughing, and sharing, not to mention her wonderful emails over the years. Such a fun, sweet lady...She will be missed by many.

Jan Hatherly

Jan Hatherly - February 09, 2021 at 06:07 PM

TH

Mama laughed and was fun no matter where she went and no matter who she was with I'm glad you have that time that you got to see and enjoy that part of her. Thank you for bringing that memory up so it stays forever. ❤️

Teresa Heilevang - February 16, 2021 at 09:09 AM

CR

“ *Charmaine Ryan lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Jo McDonald*



Charmaine Ryan - February 09, 2021 at 03:29 PM

TH

*She sure did love you..she could hardly tell me a story about what you both had talked about without laughing so hard she could hardly get it out sometimes.
She will be missed!!*

Teresa Heilevang - February 16, 2021 at 09:17 AM

KC

“ Kelly M Crum lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Jo McDonald



Kelly M Crum - February 09, 2021 at 02:05 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Marilyn Jo McDonald.



February 09, 2021 at 11:38 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marilyn Jo McDonald.



February 09, 2021 at 10:07 AM

TH

“ She always hugged you like she meant it. When she asked you how you were doing she really wanted to know. Jo was beautiful both inside and out.

Terri Hubbell Harroald - February 09, 2021 at 07:55 AM

KS

While I only got to see Jo in person a couple times, I felt I had always known her. One of the most loving ladies I've ever been blessed to know. ❤️

Kyle Smith - February 09, 2021 at 01:25 PM

TH

Thank you both so much.. yes she was a hugger and a toucher and when she hugged you she did mean it..she was fun and had a heart as big as you could possibly get for everyone around her. ❤️

Teresa Heilevang - February 16, 2021 at 09:11 AM

SW

Thank you Kyle! She loved you the minute you walked into the church at Great Bend! She would say , "that man has the prettiest blue eyes I've ever seen"

sherri Wilder - February 16, 2021 at 10:13 AM

PO

So sorry about your Mom. We have so many great memories and good times growing up with your family. She was a wonderful Mother, and will be missed. Our thoughts are with you.

Peggy Juairé & Jan Osborn

Peggy Juairé & Jan Osborn - February 16, 2021 at 04:17 PM

CH

“ Jo - such a funny, sassy, classy lady. I will miss her.

Chris Hollis

Chris Hollis - February 08, 2021 at 08:34 PM



TH

Yes she was! She was witty.. fast on her comebacks. She will certainly be missed by a lot of people..❤️

Teresa Heilevang - February 16, 2021 at 09:14 AM

DH

“ *Dan And Stefni Hebb lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Jo McDonald*



Dan and Stefni Hebb - February 08, 2021 at 07:18 PM

TH

Thank you...💖

Teresa Heilevang - February 16, 2021 at 09:18 AM