



## Bonnie Strong

September 6, 1929 - May 15, 2024

Bonnie Louise Storey Strong, 94 of Jackson, Missouri received her heavenly promotion on Wednesday May 15, 2024 at Mercy Hospital in Cape Girardeau.

She was born September 6, 1929 in Bell City, Missouri. She was preceded in death by her parents, Louis and Floy Overby Storey.

She was formerly employed by Imperial Interiors and Rust and Martin where she was a master seamstress and she was also the head waitress at the Flaming Pit in Cape.

She was baptized in the Methodist Church as a teen and was a professing believer in Christ. Bonnie took joy in accompanying her husband Jim anywhere he played music with various bands thru the years.

Survivors include her husband, James Strong of Jackson, Missouri, two sons, Douglas Best of Overland Park, Kansas and Gregory Best of Stilwell, Kansas; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Visitation will 10:00 am to 11:00 am Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau.

Funeral service will follow at 11:00 am Tuesday at the funeral home. Her

nephew the Rev. Ken Strong will officiate.

Burial will be at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield, Missouri.

Online condolences may be made at [www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Missouri Veterans Cemetery

17357 Stars & Stripes Way  
Bloomfield, MO 63825

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

## Funeral Service

MAY 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Tribute Wall

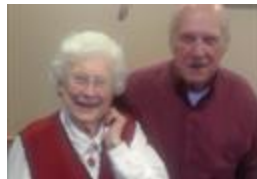
JW

“ So very sorry to hear of the loss of Mrs. Bonnie!! My prayers are with her husband and children, I always loved how she made sure her husband was taken care of when they came in to the VA Clinic! Such a special couple.

-----  
**Jessica Whittaker** - June 07, 2024 at 02:56 PM

KE

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



-----  
**kenstrong1960** - May 21, 2024 at 07:49 PM

“ CELEBRATION OF LIFE (Part 3)

*Thoughts from Greg:*

*The first memory of Mom I can remember is her coming into my bedroom when I was about 5 yrs. old. I was scared of the lights shining thru my window that were present on a wall from headlights from cars as they drove past our house on a nearby highway. She was always looking out for us.*

*Some of the memories that are most cherished would be when she would wait for me, as a driving teenager, to come home after my part-time job at a restaurant. She would always be up waiting for me to come in and would ask if I wanted anything to eat or drink. We spent most of that time talking about people and life. People and relationships were always a mystery to me because people's responses were not always the same, even though I had expected them to be that way. She would help me sort out most of those situations. Often, I would get home near the end of the St Louis Cardinals game and we would listen to that and talk during and after the game.*

*She was always very encouraging with me and my grades. A college scholarship was very important because we did not have money for college so I had to save up whatever I could.*

*She looked forward to going out with Jim whenever he played music because it was some "fun time" rather than just worrying about the bills and us boys. Her words were her best tools when dealing with me. The only words that concerned me was when the sentence started with "Gregory Lewis Best...!!!"*

*At one time, when I was not sure of her belief in God, I asked her whether I would see her in Heaven. I believe she took that to heart and began seeking Him. I think she made her choice later and now has gone to the room prepared for her.*



“CELEBRATION OF LIFE (Part 2) Jim told me the night she passed “You know she’s been wanting to go for a long time, and we need to look at it like that- she got what she wanted!”

*Becky from the Bank of Missouri said:*

*I have had the pleasure of taking care of her at the bank for I’m sure 10 years. She was my most favorite no matter what mood she was in. I would call her grandma and when I lost my grandma whom I was so very close to, she held me and said I could have her as a grandma and I sure did. I got to hug her neck and talk with her a couple weeks ago when she was in last.*

*Oh, this makes me shed tears. I’ll never forget when our receptionist told her to have a good day one day and she said in her true Bonnie stubbornness , “Don’t you tell me to have a good day, you have no clue what my life is or what I have to do today.” And as she stormed out, we all just laughed and we all made a point to make Mrs. Bonnie smile and love us. She blessed my soul. I will cherish the hours I got to spend with her. When she got their dog, she came and had me work her little flip phone to put that dogs face on her screen. She said I went to AT&T and they won’t help so she said forget it. I’ll go see Becky. I had a customer so by golly she sat and waited just for me to put that picture on that phone. So many memories. Thank you for sharing her with me.*

*Kathy Tucker Best shared:*

*I have known Bonnie for over 50 yrs. She loved her husband and sons. When possible, she attended her sons ball games whether baseball or football. She taught me much about what I know about sports. Bonnie was a good cook as was her Mom. She made the best coleslaw, chili and hamburgers. We called her hamburgers “Bonnie burgers.” When Bonnie was healthy she enjoyed being a band wife.*

*Doug shared:*

*I mostly remember her being happy while watching sports on TV with us at times. She always had a Cardinal baseball game on. She loved to watch University of Kentucky college basketball. She was passionate about Cardinal baseball and always wanted to go to St. Louis one more time but she just wouldn’t travel. When i was young*

*we watched STL Cardinal football games on TV on the weekends. She was a great mom and homemaker. Always had food in the kitchen and always prepping for her family. The house smelled like "home." Mom was always a hard worker and she never seemed to complain about working too much in those days!*

*When I think of mom I always think of her either in the kitchen making dinner, or sitting in our little living room at the Whitener house in Cape Girardeau, eating dinner off TV trays and watching football on Sundays. When I worked at Shakey's Pizza in the 1970's, I'd get off in the afternoon and bring home a pizza or some chicken, and we'd watch the football Cardinals play on Sunday afternoons.*

---

**kenstrong1960** - May 20, 2024 at 05:16 PM

“ *CELEBRATION OF LIFE (pt1)* Today we have gathered to celebrate the life of a woman of great strength, Bonnie Louise Story Strong is that woman! She was decisive, opinionated, sweet and sometimes sour, giving and supportive! A lady whose strength carried her through 9 ½ decades. Being born the year the great depression started, she started an uphill battle to defeat the negative. Her life was a mix of pessimism and joy, as most of us, but coming from the time she lived the negative is understandable. Bonnie was loyal and committed to her husband and family and she faithfully took care of her aging mother in her latter years. She always brightened up at the least gift or bit of attention from a call, a card or a small gift. Each were treated as very special and made her almost giddy. Working hard in her employments and raising two boys to be strong and successful was her goal and she succeeded in that goal. Bonnie and Jim Married on March 14, 1967 at Westside Church of God in Cape Girardeau. This expanded the family to a household of 4 with Greg 13 and Doug 10 from Bonnie's former marriage to John Linden Best. The four became a new family as Jim and she worked as a team together for 57 years this past March. She was a strong supporter and team player as she worked, organized the household, cooked meals and paid all the bills. She ran a tight ship. She followed Jim around the countryside to hear him play bass guitar in several bands for decades even until recently and she loved the music and the dancing. Several months back Nancy and I joined her and Jim at the senior center where Jim played with a local band and all the old folks got out and danced. She had a blast and said she wished that she could still dance. Of course, she critiqued the band, the sound volumes and the temperature of the food that day and we entertained because of it. LOL

*She was solid like a pillar in the home. She spoke often of her sons regretting that she had lived so far away from them and her grands. Whatever she put her hand to she was good at: like her sewing and management at the Flaming Pit where she was the head waitress. I'm pretty sure she is currently trying to manage the order of heaven! I've imagined Jesus setting her down at least once and saying "Bonnie, now sweet child, you're not in charge here." I got*

*along with Aunt Bonnie where others couldn't because we are similar in several ways. She was a bit OCD in her ways and couldn't sleep until a situation was just perfect (in her eyes anyway) and she had to talk and talk and talk every problem thoroughly out with someone until it was clear in her head.....She and I share that trait! The night before she died, I called her on video chat in her hospital room where the Cardinals game was playing on her TV. I prayed with her and made a big kissy face with 3 smooches and made her smile real big over the video (I wish I had recorded it), During this sweet and memorable moment, she motioned to the girl holding the video phone and motioning whispered (while I'm still on video chat mind you) "please turn up the game, I can't hear it." (LOL) so funny even 'til the end loving her sports!*

*I seemed to be therapist and an ear for her troubles (as were a few others like Liz the realtor that sold her their current home.) We were her spiritual advisors, therapists and psychiatrists and she talked to both of us for hours every week!*

*In recent years Bonnie would call me and tell me of her spiritual experiences in prayer. She informed me that in spite of the fact that she was baptized as a teen, only recently did she get more serious and one day she called me to tell me she had prayed with Charles Stanley on TV to be saved. Only last month she reported to me that she stayed up half the night praying and talking to God about why she was here. She wanted to go to heaven and just couldn't understand why she was still here on the planet.*

---

**kenstrong1960** - May 20, 2024 at 05:14 PM

KD

“ Dear Jim, Greg, and Doug, I'm very sorry for your loss. My memories of growing up with you and Bonnie as neighbors are beyond fond. From wiffle and step ball games, to seeing Jim leave with his guitar case and Bonnie in her Pit attire, they're all still quite vivid images to me. Bonnie was always very kind. I can see in the photos on this wall, she and Jim shared a loving and happy life together. Please accept my condolences. Be Well, Kevin Dickmann.

---

**Kevin R Dickmann** - May 19, 2024 at 12:15 PM

PC

“ We just met her and her sweet husband a few weeks back, we loved her spunk ! So sorry to hear she is gone from this world but know she is in Jesus's arms

---

**Paula Cline** - May 18, 2024 at 09:51 PM

TH

“ I am so saddened to hear of the loss of this beautiful lady. I had the pleasure of working with Ms. Bonnie and her husband Jim on the purchase of their Kia Soul. Every time she called me she always spoke so highly of the car and how much her and Jim loved it. When they would be out and about through town, they would always stop in and say hi. This past New Years Day, Ms. Bonnie invited me to her home for chili. She said I didn't make it right, but said she enjoyed it anyway. That's the thing about Ms. Bonnie, she was definitely never afraid to tell you exactly what was on her mind. It takes a lot of courage to be that authentic, and I respected that so much. I was happy to call her my adopted grandma and I will miss her very much.

---

**Terry Hill** - May 18, 2024 at 02:40 PM

KS

“ From Susan Slinkard: So sorry for your loss very sweet lady ❤️🙏  
You sent  
Thank you... Yeah I use to sit and talk to her all the time at the  
Eagles

---

**Ken for Susan** - May 17, 2024 at 07:22 PM

KK

“ From Kathy: I have known Bonnie for over 50 yrs. She loved her  
husband and sons. Bonnie loved her family! When possible, she  
attended her son's ball games whether baseball or football. She  
taught me much about what I know about sports. Bonnie was a  
good cook as was her Mom. She made the best cole slaw, chili and  
hamburgers. We called her hamburgers “bonnie burgers”. When  
Bonnie was heathy she enjoyed being a band wife.

---

**Ken for Kathy** - May 17, 2024 at 07:20 PM

EM

Greg, Doug and family: so sorry to hear your mom passed away.  
My condolences to your families.  
It's been many years since I've seen her. Such a nice lady.

*Ed Meadows*

---

**Ed Meadows** - May 18, 2024 at 12:26 AM

KB

“ *Becky from the Bank of Missouri said:  
I have had the pleasure of taking care of her at the bank for I'm sure  
10 years. She was my most favorite no matter what mood she was  
in lol. I would call her grandma and when I lost my grandma whom I  
was so very close to, she held me and said I could have her as a  
grandma and I sure did. I got to hug her neck and talk with her a  
couple weeks ago when she was in last.  
Oh this makes me shed tears. I'll never forget when our receptionist  
told her to have a good day one day and she said in her true Bonnie  
stubbornness , “don't you tell me to have a good day, you have no  
clue what my life is or what I have to do today lol!!” And she stormed  
out and we all just laughed and then we made a point to make Mrs  
Bonnie smile and love us. She blessed my soul. I will cherish the  
hours I got to spend with her. When she got their dog she came and  
had me work her little flip phone to put that dogs face on her screen.  
She she said I went to AT&T and they won't help so she said forget  
it. I'll go see Becky. I had a customer so by golly she sat and waited  
just for me to put that picture on that phone. So many memories.  
Thank you for sharing her with me.*

---

**Ken For Becky** - May 17, 2024 at 07:14 PM

AC

“ *Advanced Radiology Consultants planted a <a  
href="/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518">Memorial Tree</a> in  
honor of Bonnie Strong.*

---

**Advanced Radiology Consultants** - May 17, 2024 at 01:30 PM

AC

“ *Advanced Radiology Consultants purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Bonnie Strong.*



---

**Advanced Radiology Consultants** - May 17, 2024 at 01:30 PM