



## Bonnie Lou Wilkening

September 25, 1930 - July 18, 2016

Bonnie Lou Wilkening, 85, of Cape Girardeau died Monday, July 18, 2016 at The Arbors at Auburn Creek in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

She was born September 25, 1930 in Jackson, Missouri to Roy B. and Rika K. (Loos) Smith.

She and Lynne R. Wilkening were married May 25, 1952. He preceded her in death in February of 1957.

Bonnie was a member of the Evangelical United Church of Christ in Cape. She received a bachelor's degree in Library Science and a master's degree in History from Southeast Missouri State University. Bonnie was a librarian in the Cape Public Schools for many years. Bonnie loved children, traveling, birds, flowers, and working in the yard.

Survivors include a son, R. Matthew Wilkening of Boise, Idaho; daughter, Kim (Jeff) Pickel of Cape Girardeau; grandchildren, Alicia N. Wilkening of Boise, Idaho, James F. Pickel, II and Bonnie L. Pickel of Cape Girardeau; brother, R.B. Smith of Lovell, Wyoming.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; brother, Richard "Dick" Smith; sister, Shirley M. Statler; step-sisters, Dorothy Shea and June Hilpert.

Bonnie's last selfless act was donating her body to Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis for research purposes.

Her family will have a memorial service at a later date.

The family would like to say a special thank you to all the caring staff at The Arbors and Saint Francis Hospice for the exceptional and loving care Bonnie received.

Memorial contributions may be given to Disabled American Veterans, 400 S. 18th St., Rm 119, St. Louis, MO 63103 or Cure Alzheimer's Fund, 34 Washington St., Ste 200, Wellesley Hills, MA 02481.

# Tribute Wall

LF

“ I am so saddened to hear of Bonnie's passing. I loved that lady. She was a ROCK all the years that I was fortunate enough to work with her at LJ Schultz School while she was the Librarian. There is no way to recount all the positive things she did for the faculty, employees and for the students. She was so witty, so smart and so loving, too. She truly cared. I will never forget her. We both cried and hugged when Schultz closed and that special hug is forever embedded in my mind. She hugged like my Mom...they held nothing back! My only regret is not having visited her after I left the school system. She will leave behind many people who loved and who will miss her. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. God Bless you Kim and family.

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**Linda Farrar** - July 21, 2016 at 11:46 AM

BB

“ So very sorry to hear of your loss. She was a classy lady. I was blessed to have known her. God bless you as you deal with her passing. Bob Bohnsack

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**Bob Bohnsack** - July 20, 2016 at 07:45 PM



“ I don't know where to start...I only knew Bonnie the past 6 months or so but she was a pleasure to be around and I'll miss her. She would tell stories and get chuckled about how ornery RB was growing up. Or once I was reminding her that Kim has a daughter named after her, and she teared up and asked me why Kim did that... or the time I asked who was a better swimmer, Matt or Kim, she didn't know-- when I asked if she was drowning who would she want to save her, she replied Matt because he's strong...long story short Matt's stronger, but Kim's smarter. I enjoyed reading the cards her kids would send her, they were short and humorous and Bonnie would just roll her eyes and smile. I'll miss Bonnie and Kim coming by the Arbors to visit

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**Rachel Poythress** - July 20, 2016 at 06:39 PM