



Janice Lessley Nunnelee

February 23, 1920 - August 23, 2016

Janice Lessley (Hartle) Nunnelee passed away Tuesday, August 23, 2016 at her home in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

She was born Monday, February 23, 1920 at Gravel Hill, MO, the daughter of A.E. (Earl) and Hema O. Lessley Hartle.

Janice and Joe Robert Nunnelee were married on August 30, 1942 in Jackson, Missouri. To this union two sons were born, Joe Mark Nunnelee and Gregory Hartle Nunnelee both of whom have preceded her in death.

She graduated from Jackson High School in 1938, continuing her formal education at Southeast Missouri State University obtaining her undergraduate degree in 1942. Her experiences as a traveling librarian and love of reading inspired her to seek further education, receiving her Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of Illinois in 1958. The joy of learning continued throughout her lifetime and she obtained additional education at the University of North Carolina and the University of Missouri.

She taught English for one year at Lutesville High School. In the schools of Mississippi County, she was a traveling librarian driving a bookmobile van to various schools. These experiences motivated her to continue her education to become a collegiate librarian at Southeast Missouri State University. She

was a reference librarian for over thirty years at Kent Library.

During her professional career, she was a member of the Missouri Library Association, the Missouri State Teachers Association, the Southeast Missouri Teachers Association, The American Association of University Women and Delta Kappa Gamma.

While her sons were growing up, she was a Cub Scout den mother and a co-sponsor of the Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF).

Her enduring love of her family, her God, and her work in education marked her life while reading, gardening, travel, and enjoyment of the beauty of God's wonderful world filled the extra moments with joy.

She is survived by a great-grand daughter, Marissa Anne Nunnelee; two great-great grandsons, Jayden and Chayse Bozman; a wonderful daughter-in-law and faithful caretaker, Sharon Slater Nunnelee, along with a host of beloved friends who were honored to know her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, former husband, both sons and grandsons, Mark Britton Nunnelee and Shelley Slater Nunnelee.

The family wishes to thank Crown Hospice and Jim and Judy Leigh for their exemplary care and support provided to Janice during her final days.

Visitation will be Saturday, August 27, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. until noon at Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home. The service will follow at noon at the funeral home with Rev. Jeff Long officiating.

Entombment will follow at Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum.

Memorials may be made to Centenary U.M.C., Crown Hospice or Doctors Without Borders, P.O. Box 110, NY, NY 10277-1218.

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-1909
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 27. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-1313
info@fordandsonsfuneralhome.com
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Service

AUG 27. 12:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-1313
info@fordandsonsfuneralhome.com
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



Tony
Harvell

“ I was a student at SEMO when Mrs. Nunnelee was a reference librarian. She was so smart and kind that she inspired me to become a librarian - a career in which I served for nearly 40 years. May she rest in peace.

Tony Harvell
San Diego, CA (SEMO '73)

Tony Harvell - January 27, 2017 at 09:19 PM



JD

“ I so sorry to hear of Mrs Nunnelee's passing. As a teenager I was friends with Greg and spent many hours at the Nunnelee home. Mrs Nunnelee was the first single mother I had know and from the start I admired her. She had a career, owned her own home, drove a nice car and had a great relationship with Greg and all his friends. She often encouraged me to study for test and to be my best. This was hard to do at 18 and 19 when I was wanting to break away from a strict father and become my own person. Those talks have always stayed with me and influenced the person I am now. I never drive on Perry Ave past the yellow house without thinking of her. I will always remember how kind she was and her great communication skills. How luck you are to be a part of her family.

Jo Duff

Jo Duff - August 28, 2016 at 10:32 PM

LF

“ I'm so sorry to see this news, Sharon. I know how much she meant to you in all the time you cared for her. You were a VERY good daughter-in-law. You were fortunate to have eachother! I'll be thinking of you these next few weeks... take care of you!
Beta/Zeta love, Laura Farris

Laura Farris - August 27, 2016 at 03:57 PM

AP

“ Janice was one of the most beautiful, kind, loving, accepting and trusting women I have ever known. She had faith in all of humankind, no matter what their walk of life! She reached out to the least of us and lifted us up, marveling at all of God's creation. She has impacted so many lives with her sense of humor, her warm quiet smile and eyes that jumped with joy! She gave so much comfort to each other...just by sitting and holding a hand. She lives on in the lives of all those that she touched. I miss her!

Adelaide Parsons - August 26, 2016 at 05:49 PM

CD

“ Carol Dawson purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Janice Lessley Nunnelee.



Carol Dawson - August 26, 2016 at 03:16 PM

SH

“ We'll continue to pray for you and your family during your time of loss.
Stan Hargis

stan hargis - August 26, 2016 at 01:00 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Janice Lessley Nunnelee*.



August 25, 2016 at 08:50 AM