



Mary Margaret Abernathy

November 25, 1918 - July 2, 2021

Mary Margaret Brorein Abernathy, passed away July 2, 2021, at Southeast Hospital.

She was born Nov. 25, 1918, in Parma, Missouri to Clara Croft and David C. Brorein.

Mary Margaret graduated from Parma, Missouri high school. At sixteen she enrolled in Central Methodist College where she studied music, playing trumpet in the band, violin in the orchestra and sang soprano in the choir. She was chosen as a member of Phi Beta, National Music Fraternity.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree in 1939, Mary Margaret taught music in Lutesville, Missouri where she married James W. Abernathy June 7, 1941. While Jim served in the Army during WWII, Mary Margaret stayed in Parma with their 2 girls, Nancy, and Karen. At the end of WWII, the Abernathy family moved to Brorein Acres, now a Century Farm, just west of Sikeston where they worked the farm for 55 years. Mary Margaret taught music at Sikeston Junior High and Benton Elementary.

Mary Margaret was always involved in service to her church and community in Sikeston. At the First Methodist Church she sang in the chancel choir for fifty years and served in several office positions of the United Methodist Womens for fifty years. Mary Margaret was active in the Community Concert Series every year and a Girl Scout leader for several years.

In 2000 the Abernathy's moved to Saxony Village in Cape where Mary Margaret played the piano for various singing groups in the nursing homes.

She also participated in sewing projects for overseas missions.

In recent years Mary Margaret moved to the Chateau nursing home due to failing health.

Mary Margaret Abernathy is survived by loving family and friends; two daughters, Nancy Abernathy Haertling and Karen Abernathy Fox; grandchildren, Laura Fox, Greg (Tiffany) Haertling, Brad Haertling, Krista Fox Sharpe; and great -grandchildren, Dru (Jake) Haertling Leet, Kyle Haertling, Kelsey Haertling, and Isabella Fox.

Also surviving are many nieces and nephews and special friends Don and Janet Estes Jenkins and Terry and Janet Dame.

Preceding Mary Margaret in death were parents Clara and David Brorein, her husband, James W. Abernathy, and her sister Frances Lone Knight.

Visitation will be Sunday, July 11, 2021, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel. Funeral service will follow at 3:00 p.m. with Rev. Charles Buck officiating.

Burial will take place Monday, July 12, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery at Bloomfield.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to the Humane Society of Southeast Missouri Building Fund, 2536 Boutin Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 or to Centenary United Methodist Church, 300 N. Ellis, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701.

Online condolences may be shared at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com <<http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com>>

Cemetery Details

Missouri Veterans Cemetery

17357 Stars & Stripes Way
Bloomfield, MO 63825

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 11. 1:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel

Funeral Service

JUL 11. 3:00 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/>

Burial

JUL 12. 1:00 PM.

Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Jacksonville, Missou

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Margaret was The most kind and sweet lady /teacher I ever had The pleasure to Call friend and she was also a fellow teacher.*

Carol Messmer - July 11, 2021 at 11:07 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Margaret Abernathy.*



July 10, 2021 at 10:19 AM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Margaret Abernathy.*



July 09, 2021 at 09:41 PM



“ *Greg & I offer our heartfelt condolences to Dru & family (she was our neighbor in Cape.) Prayers for peace & comfort going up!*

Kathy Kraemer - July 08, 2021 at 08:49 AM

TS

“ *What a dear, precious lady! I not only sang with Mary Margaret in the FUMC Chancel Choir but later had the privilege to direct the choir until she moved to Cape. I loved her sense of humor so much! She will be dearly missed!!!!*

Terry Sapp - July 07, 2021 at 11:34 AM

NB

“ *Nancy, so sorry to learn of your mother's passing. She lived such a nice, long life full of accomplishments. Nancy Byrd*

Nancy George Byrd - July 05, 2021 at 04:24 PM

JH

“ *Mary Margaret was a teacher at what is now Woodland High School (known then as Lutesville) when my mother and dad were students there. They graduated in 1942. They always had kind things to say about her and my mom (Freeda VanMatre Huskey) kept in touch with her through the years. I think she was probably the only living teacher they had from that era. I believe RoseMary Abernathy (Murphy) was also in that class. Joe Huskey*

Joe Huskey - July 05, 2021 at 09:48 AM

JN

“ *Nancy & family. We are sorry for your loss. May your happy memories help heal your broken hearts. Jim & Jennie Noel*

Jennie Noel - July 03, 2021 at 09:37 PM