



Mary Louise Estes

March 5, 1932 - December 27, 2016

Mary Louise Estes, 84, of Cape Girardeau, MO passed away Tuesday December 27, 2016 at Chateau Girardeau, surrounded by loved ones.

Mary was born March 5, 1932 in Atchison, Kansas to Senator F. Steadman and Eleanor Ball. She was the eldest of three girls, followed by Susan and Nancy.

Mary loved music. At the age of 3, she began playing the piano and continued to play for 80 years. She and her younger sister Susan used to play and sing together: Mary would play piano and sing some, and Susan would sing and play violin. Mary played piano for her middle and high school choirs and a local dance studio.

Mary attended Atchison High School, was a debutant, and graduated in 1950. She continued her education in Topeka, Kansas at Washburn University where she graduated with a degree in Sociology in 1954. Mary married her high school sweetheart James Carl Estes later that same year. When her husband's job with J.C. Penny's moved them to Lawrence, Kansas, she worked briefly at the University of Kansas. Mary remained an avid Jayhawk fan until her death.

In 1956, James, Mary, and their one-year old son David moved to Cape

Girardeau, MO. For a while, Mary used her degree and worked as a social worker. Their family added three more children over the next seven years: Sandra, Daniel, and Richard. Mary remained very involved in the local community over the next six decades.

Mary was a charter member of the local P.E.O Chapter, JN of which her daughter and granddaughter are also members. She helped start Westminster Presbyterian Church in Cape Girardeau shortly after they moved, where she was a choir director and youth leader prior to attending Abbey Road Christian Church. Since then, Mary faithfully attended Abbey Road Christian Church, where she sang in the choir. Mary also helped found the Cape Evening Lions Club where she was active until 2015.

When her daughter and son-in-law started SERVPRO of Cape Girardeau & Scott Counties in 1992, Mary became their first secretary and continued to work there until October 2015.

Mary loved teaching music. She taught piano and organ at Shivelbine's years ago, and she taught private piano lessons out of her home for 60 years. Composing music was also a hobby of hers, and her church group performed several of her pieces. She also sang in a community choir called Sweet Adelines for a number of years.

Those that know and love Mary will remember her for her love of music, her wit, and her caring nature. Mary was always asking how she could help. She was a friend to many and will be greatly missed.

She is survived by her sister Nancy Youngman and Bill; sister-in-law Joy (Estes) Cole; brother-in-law Harley Brown; her four children: son, David Estes and Elizabeth of Chesterfield, Missouri; daughter, Sandy (Estes) Hastings and Richard of Jackson, Missouri; son, Daniel Estes and Anne of Wentzville,

Missouri; son, Richard Estes and Cindy of Webster Groves, Missouri; 18 grandchildren: Kristin (Estes) Messey and Dale, Joe Estes, Kelly (Estes) Hoelscher and Jason, Andy Estes and Brittany, Brittany (Hastings) Davenport and Mac, Hayley Estes, Helene Estes, Sara (Hastings) Wingate, Alex Brockman and Catherine, Olivia Brockman, Cori Radetic and Travis, Ashli Durham; nine great-grandchildren: Samuel, August, Kinley, Hunter, Roslyn, Alexis, Joshua, Ty, and Brandon; great-nephew, Aaron Repp; other relatives.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents Senator Francis Steadman Ball and Eleanor Margaret (Campbell) Ball; sister, Susan (Ball) Brown; niece, Tana (Brown) Repp; grandson, Kendal Brian Hastings.

Visitation will be Friday, December 30, 2016 from 10AM-12PM at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home.

The funeral service will be at 12PM Friday at the funeral home with Pastor Jeff Long and Mac Davenport officiating. Burial will be at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Abbey Road Christian Church.

Special thanks to the compassionate care staff at Chateau Girardeau and Southeast Hospice.

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

DEC **30**. 10:00 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

DEC **30**. 12:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
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Tribute Wall

AM

“ Ashley, Bryony, Jen, Kristen, Liz and Mindy purchased the *Basket of Memories* for the family of Mary Louise Estes.



Ashley, Bryony, Jen, Kristen, Liz and Mindy - December 29, 2016 at 05:01 PM



“ *Garden of Memories* was purchased for the family of Mary Louise Estes.



December 29, 2016 at 03:13 PM

TF

“ *The Davenport Family* purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of Mary Louise Estes.



The Davenport Family - December 29, 2016 at 12:46 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Mary Louise Estes.



December 29, 2016 at 12:31 PM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Mary Louise Estes.*



December 29, 2016 at 12:27 PM



“ *I will miss Mary a lot.....we were P.E.O. sisters for a long time. I enjoyed Mary's sense of humor, friendship, her smile, and her kindness to others!! I visited her in the hospital...even though I am sure she didn't truly know me, when I told her who I was she 'acted' like she remembered me :-). I told her that her P.E.O. sisters missed her and she replied 'I just haven't been able to get to the meetings' . I didn't stay long but when I told her I was leaving she said ' thank you for coming'!! I am glad I had the chance to call Mary Estes my friend my P.E.O. sister!!! Sue Hellwege*



Sue Hellwege - December 29, 2016 at 11:51 AM



“ *You were the best mom anyone could have ever ask for. You were a beautiful, kind, caring, smart and witty woman. I loved to laugh with you and could always count on you to cheer me up and make me smile when I was down. You always knew just what to say to make things better. You were truly an amazing woman who touched so many lives throughout your short time on this earth. The world was a better place with you in it. I already miss you more than you will ever know, so please come visit when you can. You'll be forever in my heart! All my love , Dick*

Dick Estes - December 29, 2016 at 11:34 AM

SD

“ *To Mary's family;
I met Mary when I began attending (what was then) FCC in Cape.
She was a warm and welcoming woman, and a very hard worker for
the church. I served with her on several committees. She was
always the one you could count on to not be bashful, and say what
others were thinking. But, she always did it in a kind way. Although
we have been gone from Cape for ten years, I remember Mary so
fondly. I just want to express my deepest sympathy to all of those
that loved Mary. And, there were SO MANY!!! God Bless you all in
this time of grief.*
Sheri and Richard Draper

Sheri Draper - December 29, 2016 at 11:17 AM

DE

“ *1 file added to the album Mom*



Dick Estes - December 29, 2016 at 11:08 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for
the family of Mary Louise Estes.*



December 29, 2016 at 10:43 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Mary Louise Estes.*



December 29, 2016 at 10:18 AM



“ *Phil & Mary Hogan & family purchased the Full O f Love Bouquet for the family of Mary Louise Estes.*



Phil & Mary Hogan & family - December 29, 2016 at 09:33 AM



“ *I love you mom. Your selflessness and generosity made us proud. You will be missed more than you can ever imagine.*

David - December 29, 2016 at 09:17 AM



“ *My sympathy to the Mary Estes Family. I took organ lessons from Mary for several years at Shivelbines and sometimes at her home. She was always so encouraging. She was certainly a very special person and made learning to play a real joy. Greg Illers*

GREG ILLERS - December 29, 2016 at 08:30 AM

PH

“ Mary was always like a second mother to me. She made me feel like I was part of her family. She was a fine lady whom I am going to miss terribly. Rest in Peace, Mary.

Phil Hogan - December 29, 2016 at 08:25 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Louise Estes.



December 28, 2016 at 11:56 PM

BD

“ Grandma loved to chat. On a Friday evening about two years ago, I decided to call her because I hadn't talked to her in a while. It was about 5 o'clock. She was so glad I called because she couldn't figure out what to do that evening, so we talked. And by "we," I mean her. I contributed, but I just let her talk about whatever she wanted. Over THREE HOURS later, we finally said our goodbyes. Glad I could be her source of entertainment for the evening. I loved calling her because I know she loved hearing from me. It was a nice, simple circle of caring. Love you, Shortie.

Brittany Davenport - December 28, 2016 at 11:03 PM

TF

“ The Craig Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mary Louise Estes.



The Craig Family - December 28, 2016 at 09:14 PM

DT

“ *Denise Holtz and the entire Spok Marketing Team purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mary Louise Estes.*



Denise Holtz and the entire Spok Marketing Team - December 28, 2016 at 04:30 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Mary Louise Estes.*



December 28, 2016 at 10:39 AM

JS

“ *Jay Jodi Rylee and Tatum Stafford purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mary Louise Estes.*



Jay Jodi Rylee and Tatum Stafford - December 28, 2016 at 10:33 AM