



Mary Kathryn "Ki" Rudesill

August 5, 2014

Mary Kathryn "Ki" Rudesill, 91, of Cape Girardeau, MO died Tuesday, August 5, 2014 at Chateau Girardeau Health Center in Cape Girardeau, MO. She was born Friday, August 11, 1922 in Cape Girardeau, MO to the late Edward and Mary Lorene Litzelfelner. After her first few years living on a farm in Neely's Landing in north Cape County, her family moved to Cape Girardeau where she grew up surrounded by many aunts, uncles, cousins. Ki was a big sister to three brothers, Jack, Bob and Jim. Ki graduated from Cape's Central High School as president of the Art Club and art editor of the yearbook in 1939. She continued studying art in college (SEMO) and worked at Bartel's on Broadway doing the artwork for ads and creating window displays. During WWII Ki met her future husband, Cliff, who was a flight instructor at Harris Field south of Cape. After a long distance romance while Cliff was flying transports over "the Hump", the war ended and they married at Centenary Methodist Church, where Ki had been a long time member. During the first twenty years together they lived in Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky and Indiana. They raised Mary Gail and Mark Clifford. While they made many life long friends, Ki was very happy when Cliff took a job with Riverside Lumber, Ki worked there also using her artistic talent drawing the ads and designing displays. She also took painting classes and produced many portraits, landscapes and murals for family, friends and Centenary Methodist Church. She volunteered as a scout leader for both of her children and was very involved in volunteering for her church. Ki will be remembered by many for her

vitality, enthusiasm, friendliness and big smile. She used her gifts through her oil paintings of family and landscapes, murals, portraits and flower arrangements at church to brighten the lives of others. She was eager to teach others about her passions: painting and drawing, gardening, flower-arranging, traveling and fishing "at the cabin". She did so with grace, patience and humor. She was a big fan of SEMO basketball, the St. Louis Cardinals and her grandchildren. Survivors include her loving husband of 68 years, Clifford Rudesill of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; son, Mark C. (Charryl) Rudesill of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; daughter, Mary Gail (Brian) Rohr of Naperville, Illinois; brother, Jim Litzelfelner of Tennessee; grandchildren, Daniel (Janet) Rohr and Andrew (Sheela Fulambarker) Rohr, Margaret "Maggie" (Mark) Rohr Rubin and Caira Rudesill; 5 great-grandchildren. Ki gave them, her five great-grandchildren, her family and friends many wonderful memories. She will be sorely missed and lovingly remembered. She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers, 1 grandson and 1 great-grandchild. Visitation will be Friday, August 8, 2014 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home. Funeral service will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Centenary United Methodist Church. Entombment will be at Cape County Memorial Park and Mausoleum. Memorial contributions may be given to the Alzheimer's Association.

Tribute Wall



“ I will sorely miss those big hugs from Ki. She was always so warm and engaging. I would best describe her as ageless. Well into her eighties, she would tend to her flowers on days that kept most people indoors. Even after losing a large portion of her sight, she knelt on my driveway to do chalk drawings with my young grandchildren, who adored Ms. Ki and Mr. Cliff. We were blessed to have her as a neighbor and friend. Prayers and sympathy are extended to the entire family.

August 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Ki and Cliff lived right across the street from my family for many years in Cape Girardeau. She was a talented artist and a genuinely beautiful person. She will be greatly missed

Stacey Hawkins - August 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry for your loss; our thoughts and prayers are with you. I always thought Ki was such a beautiful and pleasant woman.

Micki Brown - August 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ What a wonderful, talented person. We treasure the paintings Ki did for us. We loved her so much and have so many great memories of visits with her and Cliff. We send our love to you all.

Cindy & Jim Culp - July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ *Mark, I was saddened to hear of your mom's passing. It has been many years since high school, but know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Jane Rader DeBoe*

Jane Rader DeBoe - July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *Dear Charryl & Mark Jim and I are so sorry to hear of Ki's passing. I know how much you will miss her. Know that she's watching over you all and that when you see a beautiful sunrise, sunset or rainbow it was painted by her. With our deepest sympathy, Jim & Dee*

Denise & Jim Hildebrand - July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM