



Mary Lee Pelts

April 29, 1926 - February 14, 2021

Mary Lee Jamison Pelts, 94, of Cape Girardeau, departed this life on February 14, 2021 at her home with her daughter at her bedside.

Mary was born April 29, 1926 in Belleview, MO, daughter to John and Allie Jamison.

She married Gevell (Kelly) Pelts in 1949 in Columbia, MO.

Mary attended schools in Lesterville and Jefferson City, MO., Washington D.C., and graduated from the Cape Girardeau Business School.

She retired from Southeast Missouri State University where she served as Fringe Benefits Manager. After retiring, she operated her own business, Pelts Healthcare for several years.

Mary was a member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church. She held offices in the Elderberries Senior group and was a participant in Christ Care.

Mary's children were always her top priority and she loved spending time with them and her grandchildren. She was an avid writer and enjoyed conveying her experiences in journals over the years. Mary had a dry wit, which made her entries interesting and amusing. She authored a booklet recalling her

experiences as a government girl in Washington D.C. during WWII. In 1995, she traveled to Europe to attend the 50th anniversary celebration of V-E Day, the victory over Nazi Germany. She also visited several sites in Europe where important WWII events had happened. Mary was always interested in learning and was a member of and held offices in the Evening Toastmasters and the Ozark Society. She also enjoyed getting together with her good friends, Anita Dickerson and Gayle Hendrix, to eat out several times a week and to meet at her apartment for dinner and a movie or card game.

Survivors include a daughter Regina (Larry) McElroy of Cape Girardeau; three grandchildren, Josh (Misti) McElroy of Dudley, MO., Angela O'Connor of St. Louis, MO., and Sarah Pyeatte of Cape Girardeau, and five great-grandchildren, Madilyn and Keegan McElroy, Mason and Brinleigh O'Connor, and Jamison Pyeatte, and several nieces and nephews.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; two sons; D. Kelly Pelts and F. Jamison Pelts; three brothers; James Jamison, Melvin Jamison, and John Jamison; five sisters; Mildred Rayfield, Freeda Dennison, Norma Jean Jamison, Maxine Jamison, and Betty Pinkly.

Due to the COVID-19 Virus, a private family funeral will be held at St. Andrew Lutheran Church. Burial will be in Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Perryville, MO.

Memorials may be made to St. Andrew Lutheran Church or the Cape Senior Center.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the St. Francis Hospice nurses and aides.

Cemetery Details

Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery Perryville

Perryville, MO

Tribute Wall

GH

“ I met Mary in Toastmasters club around 1980. She would read my speeches and help me make them better. She was a great mentor and later a great friend. I have shared many evening meals, movies and laughs with Mary. No matter that sometimes life brought her difficult circumstances, I never heard her complain. She was a great rold model!

Gayle Hendrix

Gayle Hendrix - February 23, 2021 at 06:33 PM

CW

“ Dear Reggie and Family,

Mary was a very interesting woman and had such a dry wit. I met her at a women's group and she was so welcoming. I was honored to have known her. Please accept my deepest sympathy,
Carol Wells

Carol Wells - February 21, 2021 at 10:54 AM

MC

“ The moment Mary saw you, her eyes would light up and you felt her joy immediately. Every Red Hat outing she attended was more enjoyable having her there. Her seat at the Cape Senior Center can never be filled with a more lively friend! We, like you, shall miss her so much. Kick up your heels, Mary. Another adventure awaits you. God will keep and comfort those who will join you in the sweet by and by.

Marlene Cloude - February 20, 2021 at 08:36 AM

KE

“ We send our deepest sympathies. We are praying for you all.

Love, Dustin, Kelley, Reagan, Garrett & Nolan Snider

Kelley - February 20, 2021 at 05:41 AM

JF

“ Please except my sympathy. I so sorry to hear of your lose.

James Frank

James Frank - February 19, 2021 at 07:50 PM

LL

“ I met Mrs. Pelts when the family lived on Broadway across from the SW corner of Capaha Park. Kelly and Jamie played with the neighborhood gang behind Southeast Hospital. Kelly and I were about the same age and in the same grade. I remember a pleasant lady in a warm home, always welcoming young guests. I was; frankly, afraid of Regina, being painfully shy at that age.

I am thankful for the friendship of the whole family and remember well the lessons we learned together so many years ago.

Lonnie Lusk

LONNIE R LUSK - February 19, 2021 at 12:33 PM

DS

“ *What a beautiful person Mary was - inside and out. She was gracious, poised, kind, and full of love and laughter. Mary was a wonderful Mother and I was fortunate enough to know all 3 of her children who were and are as kind and loving as she was. I know how much you will miss her, Reggy but I also know that you have so many wonderful memories of the time you spent together. You were such a good daughter to her. I am sorry for the family's loss. Love, Debbie Sabella*

Debbie Sabella - February 18, 2021 at 12:07 PM