



Mary Jo Shelton

November 5, 1934 - April 6, 2026

Mary Jo Shelton – Jackson, Missouri

1934 to 2026

Born in Cape Girardeau, Missouri on November 5, 1934 to Charles E. and Mary E. Feverston, Mary Jo completed life's journey peacefully at home on April 6, 2026.

Her family was of the utmost importance. She loved every moment of time spent together playing games, working on puzzles and projects, making crafts, and vacationing.

Being outdoors observing nature was her solace. She enjoyed gardening, being near the water, and walking in the woods. Mary Jo was a talented seamstress, crafter, collector of antiquities, lover of the arts and an avid reader. She was a thoughtful listener and exuded grace and empathy.

As a researcher of genealogy and history her late-life career was serving as the Librarian for the Cape Girardeau County Historical Society from 2016 to 2024. Much of that time was spent on the executive board. At 90 years old she felt it was time to “retire” and return to being a docent at the Cape Girardeau History Center so she could interact more with the public.

Her early careers were positions of trust and competence. She worked as a legal secretary, and in the banking industry for over 24 years as a loan officer and secretary to the Vice President.

Mary Jo was a 1952 graduate of Central High School in Cape Girardeau, a Girl Scout Leader, Daughter of the American Revolution and member of

Eastern Star Sparta Chapter 441.

She is survived by her daughter, Jodie Shelton-Herman (Adam), grandsons James Ratz (Jamie) and Jonathan Ratz, great grandchildren Carson and Shelbie Ratz, her care provider and honorary daughter Barbara Tripp, along with her loving nieces, extended family, and dear friends who all held such a special place in her heart.

She was preceded by her husband James D. Shelton and daughter Julie Ann Ratz.

The family would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to St. Francis Hospice nurses, care providers and aides for their attentive care.

Services will be held at the Mausoleum in Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery located at 2315 US-61 Cape Girardeau, MO. Visitation is from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm and services begin at 3:00 pm. Ford and Sons Funeral Home, is handling the arrangements.

A memorial reception will be held immediately afterward at Buckner Ragsdale Event Center located at 132 Main Street, Cape Girardeau, MO. The building is wheelchair accessible and has an elevator.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her honor can be made to the Cape Girardeau County Historical Society, 102 S. High Street, Jackson, MO 63755

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum

2315 Highway 61 N
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 10. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum
2315 Highway 61 N
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Funeral Service

APR 10. 3:00 PM (CT)

Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum
2315 Highway 61 N
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

JH

“ *Mary Jo was a very sweet lady. A real dear, kind-hearted lady. Deepest Sympathy to her family ~♡*

Jeffry (Boswell) Hawk - May 07 at 03:24 AM

JR

“ *I had worked with Mary Jo years ago at Colonial Federal. I enjoyed every minute of work and friendship then. I will be praying for her family. She will be missed!*

Jane Radetic - May 02 at 06:47 PM

KT

“ *I am so sorry to hear of the passing of my my dear friend. We worked at Colonial Federal together and we became the best of friends. We had great times at work and outside of the office. She always had a smile and a kind word . Mary Jo you will be missed but never forgotten*

KATHY Lewis Thomas - April 29 at 09:07 PM

MM

“ *I was Mary Jo's roommate in Mrs. Summers' boarding house in '53-'54 and cherish those memories to this day. I can hardly believe she has now gone to be with the Lord. May God bless you as you adjust to living without this important person in your lives. Margaret Miller, 256 Legacy Dr, Apt. 4, Waterloo, IL*

Margaret C Miller - April 11 at 02:42 PM

RS

“ *Mary Jo was such a wonderful neighbor.*

Rocky Shields - April 10 at 02:53 PM

KF

“ Keith Shelton and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mary Jo Shelton.



Keith Shelton and family - April 10 at 12:56 AM

BG

“ I have many happy memories growing up around Mary Jo. The UNO card games, watching movies, the Cedar Shingle and fall festivals...Rest in peace Mary Jo.

Bryan Gosche - April 09 at 06:47 PM

DM

Mary Jo worked with my mother, Julia Simms, at Colonial Federal. Mom loved both her and Jim. They were both great people! They are together again!

Deborah McClinton - April 10 at 10:12 AM

SK

“ Sarah K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Jo Shelton.

Sarah K. - April 09 at 05:35 PM

FF

“ From the Loesche Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mary Jo Shelton.



From the Loesche Family - April 09 at 05:06 PM

KG

“ Karal and Macy Grayce purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mary Jo Shelton.



Karal and Macy Grayce - April 09 at 03:51 PM

KG

“ Karal and Macy Grayce planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Jo Shelton.

Karal and Macy Grayce - April 09 at 03:51 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mary Jo Shelton.



April 09 at 09:58 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Jo Shelton.

April 09 at 09:58 AM

TF

“ The Schaefer Families purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mary Jo Shelton.



The Schaefer Families - April 08 at 01:08 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Jo Shelton.*



April 08 at 12:16 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Jo Shelton.

April 08 at 12:16 PM



“ *Cathy and Larry Corbitt purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mary Jo Shelton.*



Cathy and Larry Corbitt - April 08 at 11:15 AM



“ *Cathy and Larry Corbitt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Jo Shelton.*

Cathy and Larry Corbitt - April 08 at 11:15 AM



“ *Oh Mary Jo! I remember her as a child always hanging out with my grandmother Julia J Simms! They were always cutting up and having so much fun! I will miss knowing she is on this earth. RIP* 💕💕

Libby Bullard - April 08 at 10:38 AM

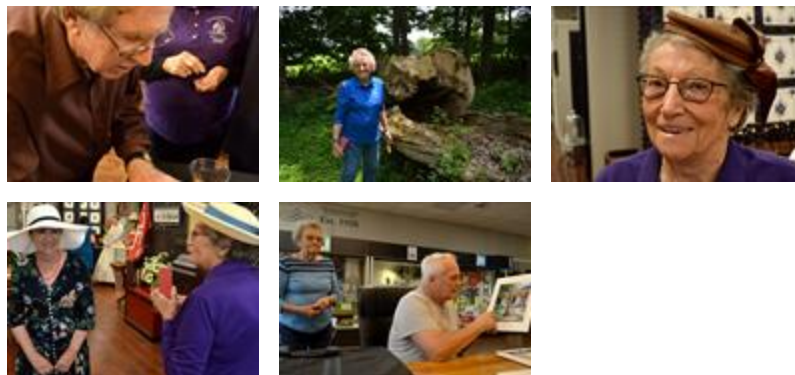
DE

“ *Mary Jo was the sweetest lady. She and my mom JJ Simms were good friends. When mom would have her get together at her house with the girls from Colonial Federal, we always had a good time.* ”

Donna Essner - April 08 at 10:38 AM

KS

“ *5 files added to the album On the road with MJ* ”



Ken Steinhoff - April 07 at 09:17 PM