



Marybelle Mueller

September 16, 1927 - October 10, 2018

Marybelle Dailey Mueller, of Jackson, Missouri died Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at Chateau Girardeau Health Center in Cape Girardeau.

She was born September 16, 1927 in Chillicothe, Missouri to Ernest Woollen and Margaret Lloyd Keiper Dailey.

She and Paul A. Mueller Jr. were married June 23, 1951 at Albuquerque, New Mexico. He preceded her in death on March 12, 1986.

Judge Mueller was a retired Associate Circuit Judge of Cape Girardeau County. She was first appointed as a Judge in 1955 and was the first woman lawyer selected as a Judge in the State of Missouri. She served for 27 years as an active judge and for four more years as a Senior Judge under the direction of the Missouri Supreme Court. She graduated from DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana in 1948, where she was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta and the University of Missouri, Columbia with a Law degree in 1950.

She was a member of the Missouri Bar, New Mexico Bar, President of the Cape Girardeau County Bar and the Missouri Judicial Conference. She frequently wrote articles for Missouri Bar publications and assisted with seminars. She also wrote articles for the Southeast Missourian on Seniors

and the Law.

Her civic activities included former Regent of John Guild Chapter NSDAR; President of Chapter DJ of PEO; Secretary of the Cape Girardeau Mill Tax Mental Health Board, Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Senior Center; Former President of the Board of Trustees of Old McKendree Chapel and member of the American Legion Auxiliary. She is a former member of the Advisory Boards of KRCU and Friends of Music, the Jackson Park Board and a former member of the Downtown Rotary Club of Cape Girardeau.

She was a member of New McKendree United Methodist Church and served on its various Boards and Committees. She also served on the District and Conference Boards of Trustees of the United Methodist Church.

Judge Mueller was a member of the Democratic Party at the National, State and Local level including Byrd Township, Cape County and the Womens Organizations.

At the time of her retirement in 1995 she was the only woman judge in Southeast Missouri (and so far none have taken her place).

Survivors include her five children, Paulette (Lewis) Frazee of Dallas, Texas, Dr. Janet Mueller of Tucson, Arizona, Dr. Robert (Elizabeth) Mueller of Columbus, Ohio, Mary Harriet (Greg) Talbut and Barbara Mueller both of Jackson, Missouri; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and three sisters.

All services will be private.

In lieu of flower, memorial contributions may be given to Old McKendree Memorial Association, New McKendree United Methodist Church, or Margaret Keiper Dailey Award at University of New Mexico Law School.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Ford & Sons Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

DC

“ Mary Harriet, Barb & Robert... was sorry to hear of your Mother's passing. Have always admired your mother for her passion in her profession, she certainly was a pioneer in her time. May peace surround you all during this time, and in the coming days. Danny Craft.

Dan Craft - October 16, 2018 at 01:12 PM

BH

“ I just saw the notice. I am so sorry for your loss. I know nothing can prepare you for losing a loved one. My prayers will be with you. She was a wonderful woman.

Bobbi Hatler - October 15, 2018 at 05:08 PM

DG

“ Mary Harriet & Greg & Riley---you have our deepest sympathy. So sorry for your loss.

Dorothy Gholson - October 13, 2018 at 04:14 PM

KG

“ My deepest sympathy to the family. Your mother and grandmother was one very special lady to me. I spent the first 14 years of my adult life working for Judge and learning a vast amount of knowledge from her. It seems like just yesterday, she was sharing information, encouraging me, teaching me or scolding me, like one of her kids. I will never forget my time with her and the wisdom she shared and imparted. I think of her often and always will. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time.
Kathy Carter Glasco

Kathy Glasco - October 13, 2018 at 04:06 PM

SM

“ My deepest sympathies to the family of Judge Mueller. She was a mentor and a friend. As a young lawyer she was an inspiration. I remember one day being in court with Judge Mueller presiding while Rebecca McDowell Cook (Bekki) was my opposing counsel. One of the male judges later commented that he never thought that he would never see such a sight. Hopefully Cape will once again have a woman judge. But she will always be the first.

Sandra Mears and Rabbi Joseph Benson

Sandra Mears - October 13, 2018 at 03:21 PM

SO

“ One fine lady. I used to work across the hall in our county court house from Judge Mueller. I had nothing but great respect for her. So said to hear of her passing.

Susan O'Connell

Susan O'Connell - October 12, 2018 at 09:40 PM



ZF

One of the finest ladies I've been fortunate to know. I am saddened to hear of her passing. Love to all of her family.

Zula Jane Fairfield - October 13, 2018 at 12:45 PM

KN

“ It was such a joy to have known the Judge. She was always willing to give her advice to any situation and I truly did take pride in the confidence that she had in me while I had the privilege of working with her. If there was ever a problem she was always willing to ask me to fix it. She was a woman that had to be tough in a man's world and she did it with such distinction. We often joked about being from different sides of the political arena but that never kept me from learning from her advice and wisdom. She will truly be missed by all that knew her.

Kristi Nitsch

Kristi Nitsch - October 12, 2018 at 11:14 AM

HH

I have always been, and will always be grateful for the care she and Paul gave my two children when I was in a terrible auto accident while visiting in Missouri back in 1964.

Harriet M. Howard - October 12, 2018 at 07:20 PM

PS

I am so sorry for the loss of Marybelle. I first knew her in the Theta house at MU when she was in Law School and then as a friend in Cape Girardeau. Steve and I played a lot of bridge with the Muellers and Limbaughs. She later moved to the Chateau where we continued our friendship. May God comfort her family in their loss.

Patricia Strom - October 13, 2018 at 11:10 AM