



## Rosemary McAllister

July 6, 1927 - July 15, 2021

Rosemary McAllister, 94, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri passed away Thursday, July 15, 2021 at the Lutheran Home.

She was born July 6, 1927 in York, Nebraska, the daughter of Ray and Eva Gudgel Conrad. She was raised in York and graduated from York High School.

She married her high school sweetheart, Rupert Duane McAllister on September 14, 1944. He passed away in 2015, just after celebrating their 70th Anniversary. Together with their children they traveled for 30 years as a military family with tours in Japan and England and many places in between.

Through these years she volunteered as Den Mother for her sons, David and Richard and as a Girl Scout Leader for her daughter, Debra and in military hospitals. She was a lifetime member of VFW Auxiliary #3838.

In 1974 they retired to Estes Park, Colorado, enjoying 20 years of Rocky Mountain splendor. They opened the Yarn and Needle Shop, designing counted cross stitch patterns of mountain scenes, flowers and birds of the Rockies. In 1993 they had to leave the mountains for a lower altitude and relocated closer to family. They settled in Cape Girardeau near their son, David and volunteered many years at Southeast Hospital. Rosemary loved to

be busy with new artistic projects and blessed family, friends and community with her scrap booking, birthday cards, hundreds of hand knitted caps for newborns and homeless families, blankets for Veterans and prayer shawls.

She was an avid reader and loved to tell stories. She tried to live out Erma Bombeck's saying, When I stand before God at the end of my life. I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, "I used everything you gave me".

Survivors include a brother, Walter Conrad of Florida; three children, David (Larue) McAllister of Cape Girardeau, Richard (Brenda) McAllister of Payson, Arizona and Debra (Robert) Gerling of Guthrie, Oklahoma; 11 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Rosemary was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Duane McAllister; and a sister, Frances Conrad.

Visitation will be 9:00 am to 11:00 am on Saturday, July 17, 2021 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau.

Funeral service will follow at 11:00 am Saturday at the funeral home led by the Rev. Rodney Pense of UCC.

Internment will be at Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be given to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Online condolences may be made at [www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com).

Ford & Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.



# Cemetery Details

## Missouri Veterans Cemetery

17357 Stars & Stripes Way  
Bloomfield, MO 63825

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 17. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

## Funeral Service

JUL 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Tribute Wall

JK

“ I’m disappointed that I missed a chance for one last goodbye to my friend Rosemary who, over the last two years, I have gotten the opportunity to know. Her obituary was a wonderful tribute and I’m so thankful to have gotten a chance to be a part of her life, even for such a short time. Prayers for your family as you grieve the loss of such a special person.

*Jeannie Knotts, FNP*

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**Jeannie Knotts** - July 19, 2021 at 09:59 AM

PP

*I am so sorry to learn of Rosemary's passing. She meant so much to me and my family. Over the years, I learned so much from her. After she and Duane moved to Cape Girardeau we enjoyed many phone conversations. We will sorely miss her as we miss Duane. Again, it's hard to express how much she meant to us and how much we will miss her. Pat and Jerry Palmer, Estes Park, Colorado*

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**Patricia Palmer** - July 31, 2021 at 05:20 PM