



## Ruth Elizabeth "Betty" McAllister

February 8, 1930 - December 12, 2018

Ruth Elizabeth "Betty" McAllister, 88, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri died Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at Southeast Hospital.

She was born February 8, 1930 in Des Moines, Iowa to William A. and Helen L. Kidder.

She and John G. "Jerry" McAllister were married June 6, 1949 at Des Moines. They settled in Cape Girardeau in 1967 where Jerry accepted a job as a professor at Southeast Missouri State University. She was a stay at home mom for their two sons, Mark R. McAllister and Milton M. McAllister, until she decided to complete her teaching degree at Southeast Missouri State University, when the boys were in junior high school. She taught English and Reading at Meadow Heights High School in Patton, Missouri before retiring in 1988. She was the food columnist for the Bulletin Journal and then the Southeast Missourian in the 1970's and 1980's. Betty wrote and published a cookbook based on her column entitled "Family Favorites from the Kitchen of Castle Dreadful".

She was an avid knitter, reader, cook, and hostess. She lived at Chateau Girardeau the final years of her life and was actively involved with the community there. She was devoted to her family and friends.

She was a member of Centenary United Methodist Church.

Survivors include her two sons, Mark (Cheryl) McAllister and Milton (Bridgette) McAllister; three grandchildren, Jacqueline (Chris) White, Margot (Jeremy) Hart and Ryan McAllister; three great-grandchildren, Lena Hart, Jocelyn White and Liam White; one sister, Carol Bradish; four brothers, William Kidder, Robert Kidder, Douglas Kidder and David Kidder; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Celebration of life will be at 3:00 pm Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at Church of Christ, 328 S. West End Blvd in Cape Girardeau with reception to follow at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to a charity of choice.

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

Ford & Sons Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

DEC 18. 3:00 PM (CT)

Church of Christ  
328 S. West End Blvd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

# Tribute Wall



“ Dear Dr. Milton McAllister,

*My condolences to you and your family. Although I didn't know your mother, but as I know you, it is easy for me to guess that you have had a great mother. I'm so sorry for your loss. My God Rest her in peace and Bless all your family.*



*Yours sincerely,  
Mohammad-Farouq and Shadi Sharifpour*

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**Mohammad Farouq Sharifpour** - December 18, 2018 at 05:28 AM

RN

“ *My condolences to all in Betty's family. We moved to Cape in the same neighborhood within a few weeks of each other so have known her all that time - and fairly well since our son Bill and her Milton were classmates. We shared a lot of things together, had many mutual friends. She will be missed but leaves us all w/many memories. I would attend the service but am scheduled to be on my way to Georgia by then. Most sincerely, Ruth Needle*

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**Ruth Needle** - December 16, 2018 at 03:46 PM

BP

“ *Betty was such a sweet lady. I met her when I worked for Dr. Sacha and she was always so happy. She gave us all one of her cook books and I use it all the time.*

*I'm so sorry for your loss. May God Bless you all!*

*Beverly Marks Prater*

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**Beverly Marks Prater** - December 15, 2018 at 08:14 PM