



Wilma Jean Copeland

March 7, 1930 - November 11, 2023

Wilma Jean Copeland , 93, of Cape Girardeau died Saturday, November 11, 2023 at Life Care Center of Cape Girardeau.

She was born March 7, 1930 in Lutesville, Missouri to E. Claud and Elois Puyear Clark.

She and Norman W. Copeland were married March 17, 1955 in Fredericktown, Missouri. He preceded her in death on November 14, 2001.

Wilma graduated from Lutesville High School at the age of 16 and began teaching in small rural schools. She received a degree in Home Economics from Southeast Missouri State University. She then taught home economics at Fredericktown High School and later in Cape Girardeau Public Schools.

She was a member of Grace United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women and the church quilting group. She was in charge of the church bereavement dinners and started the church luncheon for retirees. She was also a volunteer with the American Red Cross.

Survivors include two daughters, Mona (Mike Critchlow) Copeland of Cape Girardeau and Patti Maevers of Jackson; sister-in-law, Rita Clark of Poplar Bluff; two grandchildren, Michelle (Seth) Williams of Cape Girardeau and April

(Caden) Gordon of Lee Summit, Missouri; and six great-grandchildren, Malachi, Ksenia, Finnian and Eilish Williams and Casen and Luca Gordon.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; son-in-law, Jerry Maevers; and siblings, Carl Clark, Betty Runnels and Mendell Clark.

Friends may call 10:00 am to noon on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau.

Funeral service will follow at noon Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at the funeral home with Pastor Terry Williams officiating.

Entombment will be at Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum in Cape Girardeau.

Memorial contributions may be given to MO State Patrol Foundation, PO Box 922, Jefferson City, MO 65102 or online.

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum

2315 Highway 61 N
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **14**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

NOV **14**. 12:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

AP

“ Adelaide P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wilma Jean Copeland.

Adelaide P. - November 13, 2023 at 11:29 AM

AP

“ Wilma was one of the kindest people I have ever visited for Grace UMC. She was a person of strong convictions who was unafraid to speak her mind when necessary. She served as an important role model for others, especially the women of the church.

Her Third Thursday luncheons for seniors were legendary. She followed the luncheons with programs or activities for the seniors. When Covid closed us down temporarily, the seniors missed those meals. After Covid, we resurrected them as Third Saturday Breakfasts. Wow! What a hit they were!

God welcomed Wilma with open arms for sure saying "Well done good and faithful servant."

Adelaide H Parsons - November 13, 2023 at 11:22 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wilma Jean Copeland.



November 12, 2023 at 07:08 PM

CP

“ Casey, Sam, Molly and Patrick planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wilma Jean Copeland.

Casey, Sam, Molly and Patrick - November 12, 2023 at 07:08 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Wilma Jean Copeland.



November 12, 2023 at 06:16 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Wilma Jean Copeland.



November 12, 2023 at 05:58 PM