



Mary Lou Barnes

March 12, 1931 - March 28, 2026

Mary Lou Barnes, age 95, of Albia, IA, passed away on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at the Oskaloosa Care Center in Oskaloosa, IA.

Mary Lou was born on March 12, 1931, in Rose Hill, IA, to Earl Ace and Mary Fern (McMillen) Johnson. She grew up attending school in Oskaloosa. On October 10, 1954, she was united in marriage to Rowland Franklin Barnes Sr. in Oskaloosa.

Mary Lou worked as a cook for the Albia Community School District for many years before her retirement. She was a woman of deep faith and was a longtime member of the Trinity United Methodist Church in Albia. Music was a joy in her life and she loved to sing, especially in her younger years when she and her sisters performed at the Iowa State Fair. Mary Lou was very kind with a generous heart and thoroughly enjoyed helping others. She enjoyed going for rides with her husband, Rowland and loved her lipstick and painted nails.

Mary Lou is survived by a son, Rowland F. Barnes Jr. (Reashell Carter-Fenton) of Albia; 2 grandchildren, Joshua Barnes and Jennifer (Joe) Sisler of Albia; and several nieces, nephews, cousins, and good friends.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Rowland Sr; a son, Charles Barnes; her parents, Earl and Fern Johnson; two brothers, Francis and Ted

Johnson and six sisters: Dorothy Stocker, Ruby Reece, Irene Johnson, Mildred Richmond, Jane Ethel Johnson in infancy, and Ethel Jane Fleener.

Visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. on Monday, April 6, 2026, at the Albia Trinity Church, with Mary Lou's family present to greet family and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, April 6, 2026, at the Albia Trinity Church with Pastor Rayl Robbins officiating. Burial will follow services at Oak View Cemetery in Albia.

An open memorial has been established to the family.

Cemetery Details

Oakview Cemetery

602 2nd Ave W
Albia, IA 52531

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 6. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Albia Trinity Church
1117 Benton Ave. East
Albia, IA 52531

Funeral Service

APR 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Albia Trinity Church
1117 Benton Ave. East
Albia, IA 52531

Tribute Wall

JS

“ Our deepest condolences to the family. May you RIP Aunt Mary Lou. 🙏



Joyce Hershey (Stocker) - April 04 at 11:07 PM

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“ My deepest condolences to the family. Aunt Mary Lou will be missed. 🙏



Shari Riner (Hershey) - April 04 at 10:23 PM

LR

“ Lovr Doug and Joan Reese purchased the Simpl y Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mary Lou Barnes.



Lovr Doug and Joan Reese - April 01 at 05:20 PM

RM

“ RIP Mary Lou.



Rhonda McGee - April 01 at 02:13 PM