



Mary Margaret Cooper

March 26, 1927 - September 16, 2012

Mary Margaret Cooper, age 85 of Albia, passed away on Sunday, September 16, 2012 with her family present, under the care of Hospice of Monroe County.

Mary was born March 26, 1927 to Walter and Fern (Gray) Montgomery in Hiteman, IA. She attended school in Hiteman, and was runner-up in the National Spelling Bee as an 8th grader, entitling her to a trip to Washington, D.C.

Mary married Elster Cooper on January 8, 1944 and to this union five children were born, including two sets of twins.

Mary worked at a hatchery in Newton when she was first married, and later held several part-time positions until beginning work at the VA in Knoxville, until her retirement in 1981, after 15 years. Mary enjoyed her work as a caregiver, but also loved traveling with Elster, and especially enjoyed her bowling group, the Happy Hookers. She was an avid reader and card player, and loved to play Bingo.

Mary is survived by her twin sons, Gary (Lorraine) Cooper of Albia and Larry (Genny) Cooper of Ottumwa, Nikki (Paul) Ammons of Albia, and twins, Tim Cooper and Kim (Doug) Bacon of Albia. She has nine grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren. Mary is also survived by one sister-in-law, Deanie

(Lloyd) McDowell of Moravia, and many nieces and nephews.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; a sister and brother-in-law, Norma and Vernie DeVries; and sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Willis Cooper, Betty and Raymond Pyle, and Gene Walsh.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, September 19, 2012, at Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Pastor Lynda Carlson officiating. Burial will be in Oak View Cemetery in Albia.

Visitation will be Tuesday, September 18, 2012 from 2-8 p.m. at the funeral home, with Mary's family present throughout the afternoon and evening.

Memorials have been established to Monroe Care Center and Hospice of Monroe County.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Margaret Cooper*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Mary Margaret Cooper*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *I KNOW MARGARET THROUGH HER SONS LARRY AND GARY COOPER. WE WERE BIG PALS WITH THEM WHEN WE LIVED IN HITEMAN. I ALWAYS THOUGHT THEIR MOTHER WAS A VERY NICE PERSON AND WAS ALWAYS FRIENDLY TO ME. I SINCERELY GIVE MY HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO LARRY AND GARY AND THE REST OF HER FAMILY. GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU.*

Zella (Bettis) Orendorff - Grant City, MO - friend - September 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *To Larry, Gary, Nikki, Tim and Kim & families - I was so sorry to hear of Aunt Margie's passing. We're not able to come back for the services but know that we're thinking of all of you. I loved Aunt Margie and have so many great memories that have carried through to this day. I have a lifetime of memories from a single family vacation to Lompoc, CA in which she kept us all laughing the entire trip. Aunt Margie still kept in touch with regular phone calls and we were looking forward to seeing her next month when we come up. Celebrate the joy she brought to life to help get through the grieving. Love, Dennis/Tammy Pyle & family*

Dennis Pyle - Monett, MO - Nephew - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“*Mary Margart was such a special lady..always caring and dedicated to those she loved. I was also a member of the "Happy Hookers" bowling team and what times we had and what fun, but her family always came first with her. She was full of joy and was always ready for a good time. I loved her laughter and loved her as a person. Rest in peace Marg...I will miss you. Hugs forever, Nancy*

Nancy Hope McDonald - Albia, IA - friend - September 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM