



Rita Elizabeth Kalmes

September 15, 1949 - November 27, 2014

Rita Elizabeth Beary Kalmes, 65, of Bentonville, Arkansas and native of Lovilia passed away Thursday, November 27th, 2014. She was born to Catherine Julia Knowles Beary and the late Martin Leo Beary in Albia on September 15, 1949.

She was active in 4-H, graduated Albia High School and was a clothing and textiles graduate of Iowa State University where she met and later married her adoring husband of over 40 years, Gary Joseph Kalmes.

She was a lifelong Catholic. She enjoyed football, especially college football, sewing, cooking and upholstery. But, she loved being a wife, mother and grandmother.

In addition to her grandparents, she was preceded in death by her father.

Survivors include her mother, Catherine Beary of Albia; her husband, Gary Kalmes of Bentonville, AR; her daughter, Kimberly (Shaun) Campbell of Richmond, VA; her son, Mark (Jane) Kalmes of Seattle, WA; three brothers, Donald (Mary) Beary of Kansas City, Jim (Shirley) Beary and Gene (Shelly) Beary all of Lovilia; two sisters, Marge (Gene) Waters of Muscatine and Mary Kay (Mike) Lampe of West Point; her mother-in-law, Marie Herrig of Dubuque; four brothers-in-law, Darrell (Diane) Kalmes of Dubuque, Doug (Crystal

Magers) Kalmes of Carbon Cliff, Illinois, Greg (Jeannie) Kalmes of St. Donatus and Steve (Dee Ann) Kalmes of Springville; three sisters-in-law, Jean (Steve) Sieverding of St. Donatus, Beth (Jeff) Kaiser and Denise Kalmes all of Dubuque; four grandchildren, Story and Miles Kalmes and Jackson and Taylor Campbell; as well as scores of nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends.

A visitation for friends in Arkansas was held Tuesday in Bentonville. Visitation will be from 3:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Thursday, December 4, 2014, with Rita's family present throughout at Tharp Funeral Home in Albia. A rosary will be led by St. Mary's Altar and Rosary Society at 4:00 p.m., with a Christian Wake Service beginning at 6 p.m.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, December 5, 2014, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Albia; with Fr. Michael E. Volkmer, C.P.P.S. Officiating. Interment will be at a later date in Greenwood Memorial Gardens in Richmond, VA.

Tribute Wall



“ *Rita Elizabeth Kalmes*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Rita Elizabeth Kalmes*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *Gary Were very sorry to hear about Rita she was a wonderful sister-in-law she will be sadly missed by us all*

Crystal & Doug Kalmes - Carbon Cliff, IL - sister-in-law - December 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM



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“ *Gary, Rita and I were classmates at ACHS and also classmates at ISU. We shared many high school and 4-H activities. My heart shares your pain as I just lost my husband 4 weeks ago. Remember and treasure your happy times. Rely on your faith, family and friends.*

Sue Caudill McDonnell - Charles City, IA - Albia and ISU classmate - December 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Gary and Family,
Lloyd and I were so very sad to hear of Rita's passing. I contacted Jeanette, Julie, Sandy and Portia and asked Darrell Michels to send a message to the class reunion list of emails as I lost mine with a computer crash. We send our Thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.

Mary Jo and Lloyd

Lloyd and Mary Jo Bonifas - Bellevue, IA - Classmates - December 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Gary and Family. We are so sorry and saddened to hear the loss of Rita. She was an awesome, amazing and always happy woman. She will be greatly missed. Love ur cousin

Michele, Cody, Zach and Ty Nielsen - Denver, CO - cousin - December 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Gary, with all the miles that you and Rita logged traveling to Texas because our mutual grandchildren were coming here for a visit, both of you have etched a place in our hearts, and we, too, are mourning the loss of your dear wife and companion and our dear friend. Rita was such a lovely person, always ready to join in the fun, and so devoted to her family. And, of course, the one person I could talk and talk to about our grandchildren and who was always happy to listen. Our prayers are with you and your family. May God bless and keep you.

Mark and Gloria Hannon - N. Richland Hills , TX - friend - December 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ Dear Gary, Thinking of you and your family during this difficult time. Will always remember the days you two just recently spent here with Jim and I. Let us know if there is anything we can ever do for you Gary god Bless you

Jim and Betty Jungk - Dubuque, IA - niece - December 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ To the gal that was ready to play balloon volleyball, you were a good sport and now we have those memories and many more., hosting us when you two lived in Cedar Rapids and we were on our way to Hawaii. Thanks for the memories. Rest in Peace Girl.

Doris Hntrich - Hazel Green, WI - Aunt to Gary - December 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Gary and Family, We are very saddened by the news of Rita's death. We have enjoyed her company each time she was in Texas. She was a kind and loving person who was easy to talk to and share stories. Her devotion to and love of her family was apparent from the day we met. She will be dearly missed. Her spirit lives on in her children and grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Marv and Karen Massey

Karen J Massey - North Richland Hills, TX - Friends - December 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Sorry to hear of Rita's passing. I graduated in the same class as Rita. Rita was always upbeat and easy to be around. God Bless.....

Billyohe - Davenport, IA - High School Classmate - December 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ Gary & Family -

Although only neighbors for a few years, Rita and I talked occasionally and she was always fun to talk with and a great neighbor. I did not know she was a college football fan until reading the obituary or we would have talked more frequently. Rita was always gracious and happy and was very proud of her family and glowed when talking about the grandchildren. She did lament the fact that they lived so far away but excitedly told me when they were coming to visit.

Rita was taken too early but I am sure she was at peace in her faith.

Sincerely,

Steve

Steve & Laura Earney - Bentonville, AR - Friends & Neighbors - December 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SN

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Steve & Laura Earney - Bentonville, AR - Friends & Neighbors - December 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM