



Rosemary Cowman

February 22, 1916 - April 28, 2019

Rosemary Cowman, age 103, of Knoxville, Illinois, formerly of Maquon, Illinois, died at 6:23 P.M. on Sunday, April 28, 2019 at the Courtyard Estates in Knoxville.

She was born on February 22, 1916 in Knox County, the daughter of Roswell and Claire (Talla) Johnson. She graduated from the Knoxville Senior High School in 1933. Rosemary married Laverne Bigelow Cowman on October 31, 1936. He preceded her in death on December 18, 1982.

Rosemary is survived by her four children: Gary (and Rene Ann) Cowman of Taylorsville, Utah, Don (and Joan) Cowman of Galesburg, Rosalie (and Marty) Holzman of Julian, California, Jane (and Dennis) Larson of Knoxville; eight grandchildren: Vern (and Denise) Van de Loo of Gilbert, Arizona, Blake (and Monica) Van de Loo of Morristown, Arizona, April Janrae (and Gil) Douglas of Burlington, Iowa, Tara (and Don) Lauderback of Queencreek, Arizona, Shawn (and Diane) Cowman of Courtdale, Pennsylvania, Tori Veatch of Highlands Ranch, Colorado, Shane (and Tina) Larson of Dunlap, Illinois, Greg (and Amy) Larson of Knoxville; twenty-one great-grandchildren: Grant Larson, Macy Larson, Anna Larson, Garrett Larson, Madison Cravens, Marisa Darche, Racheal Douglas, Doug (and Rachel) Douglas, Jenny (and Kevin) Doyle, Mathew Ponsness, Katie (and Tyler) Montgomery, Justin Van de Loo, Lauren (and Nick) Garzia, Rachel (and Matt) Gidney, Tanner Lauderback, Demi Lauderback, Trevin (and Brittany) Cowman, Tyler Cowman, Trey Cowman, Ellie Veatch, Cole Veatch; and seven great-great-grandchildren: Mia, Easton and Tillman Doyle, Landon, Henley and Colt Montgomery, and Liam Walter.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Laverne; two grandsons: Douglas Todd Cowman, Craig McKenna; four brothers: Kenneth Johnson, Francis Johnson, Deane Johnson, Joe Johnson; and four sisters: Phyllis Westerfield, Janice Dewitt, Margaret Porter, and Davia Lee "Deb" Abbott.

Rosemary was a farmer's wife and worked right beside her husband in their farming business. She also had a cake decorating business for 20 years, was a 4-H leader for

many years, and was very active with the Maquon Methodist Church. Her volunteer work included cooking for senior citizens in Maquon with a group of women, volunteering at the Maquon Scenic Drive and Knox County Scenic Drive, as well as being a MYF Leader. She was a former member of the Lucretia Leffingwell Chapter of the D.A.R. and Prime Timers. Rosemary also served as the Knox County Federation President in 1933, and was the 1933 Knox County Beauty Contest Queen. In 1954, she was the first lady to be given the honorary FFA Chapter Farmer Award at Knoxville High School.

Rosemary was known for her handmade greeting cards, which she sent to family and friends and donated to the military, OSF Palliative Care, and the Maquon United Methodist Church. She was chosen in 2015 and 2018 as the WMBD CI Proud Hero of the Week. Other pastimes she enjoyed included sewing and quilting. She also enjoyed her computer and keeping up with loved ones on Facebook.

Rosemary's family would like to express their special and sincere thanks to the staff at the Courtyard Estates of Knoxville and Hospice Compassus for the wonderful care given to Mom, as well as ALL those who took time to visit Mom. She enjoyed those visits so much.

Cremation rites will be accorded. A graveside memorial service will be held at 10:30 A.M. on June 22, 2019 at the Maquon Cemetery in Maquon, Illinois, Pastor Dan Doty officiating. A Celebration of Life will be held from 12:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M. on June 22, 2019 at the Hurd-Hendricks Fellowship Center in Knoxville, Illinois. In-lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the donor's choice of Maquon United Methodist Church or the Courtyard Estates of Knoxville.

Cemetery

Maquon Cemetery

1550 Knox Highway 20
Maquon, IL,

Events

JUN 22 **Graveside Memorial Service** 10:30AM

Maquon Cemetery
1550 Knox Highway 20, Maquon, IL, US

JUN 22 **Celebration of Life** 12:00PM - 02:00PM

Hurd-Hendricks Fellowship Center
126 South Public Square, Knoxville, IL, US

Comments



“ Rosie was such a blessing to know-always a smile on her face and a kind word & fun to work with for dinners @ church. A joy when camping for 4-H along with LaVerne. So many precious memories.Naomi & David Mason

Naomi Mason - May 03, 2019 at 09:35 PM



“ Alan Ray Swearingen lit a candle in memory of Rosemary Cowman



Alan Ray Swearingen - May 02, 2019 at 08:40 AM



“ What a wonderful woman...!!! She was a joy...!!! May God comfort and less all of you.

Alan Ray Swearingen - May 02, 2019 at 08:38 AM



“ Denny & Jane: even though I only met you mother once she was very much like you Jane. She had a good long life and gave you lots of memories. I remember you both fondly from my teaching years at KHS. Will keep you all in my prayers.:

Linda (Wheeler) Grzanich - May 01, 2019 at 06:37 PM



“ Kathleen Holzman-Henry lit a candle in memory of Rosemary Cowman



Kathleen Holzman-Henry - May 01, 2019 at 09:13 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. Thinking of you Dr. Gary Cowman at this difficult time. Your Mom taught you well. You are a great man. You and your entire family is in our prayers.

Dick and Brenda Horner - April 30, 2019 at 09:57 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rosalie Holzman - April 30, 2019 at 02:35 PM



“ Aunt Rosie, You were like another grandma to me and for that, I am forever grateful. I will always remember visiting you even as a young girl. You always took the time to make me feel important. I will always think of you when I look at M&Ms because you gave them to me each year on my birthday, a gift so small and yet so special. I am so happy my kids were able to meet you and have memories of you. Give Grandma and Grandpa hugs and kisses up there in heaven!!!

Kristi - April 30, 2019 at 02:29 PM



“ We are so sorry the loss of your mother, Gary. Deb and i were just thinking about you and Dave yesterday, and this morning I receive a phone call about Rosemary. I never knew her, but I know her son. Her legacy is her children. God knows when it is time. His will is always perfect in timing. We hold you close during this period of mourning. Always remember that Jesus loves you and the Holy Spirit will comfort you. My God shed His grace upon you and give you peace.

Marvin and Deb Meservey - April 30, 2019 at 10:16 AM



“ It has been an honor knowing her and saying she was my friend. Made Adam a very nice John deer blanket when he was 2 . He still has it .

Dave Byber - April 29, 2019 at 11:37 PM



“ Rosie was a one of a kind lady. She was a great friend to me when I needed it most. She, Adela Foster and I had an exciting trip to Chicago that I will never forget. God bless her and all her family.

Claire and Jack Braten - April 29, 2019 at 08:23 PM



“ If you were fortunate enough to know this wonderful woman, you were blessed. I will miss her wit and wisdom. My condolences to the family. Ronna and Rolland Mastin

Ronna Mastin - April 29, 2019 at 01:46 PM