

# Area Obituaries

## Sandy McCartney

Sandra "Sandy" Kay McCartney was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend. She earned her angel wings and went on to be with our Lord on February 9, 2022, at age 78.

She was born to Harold "Herk" and Nell Manwaring on February 28, 1943. After graduating from high school and working as a candy striper, Mrs. McCartney met the love of her life, Ron McCartney. Together, they had three children, Ron, Jessica "LeAnne," and Marcy.

Mrs. McCartney grew up in Tuscola, where she attended Tuscola Community High School. Ron and Sandy lived in Tuscola until retirement when

they moved to Colorado (and half-time as snow birds in Arizona). Anyone that truly knew her knew she had such a big heart. She would help anyone in need and loved to paint murals that expressed her creativity. Mrs. McCartney loved taking care of others, even into retirement. She was a registered nurse for over 30 years (retired from Carle hospital) and continued to volunteer after retirement taking blood pressures, providing medical guidance, and caring for family and friends. She loved the Colorado mountains, quilting with her friends, painting, and sewing, but most of all she loved her family.

Mrs. McCartney is survived by her husband of 60 years,



McCartney

Ron; her children, Ron Joe (wife Pam), Jessica (husband Bruce), and Marcy (husband Jim); her grandchildren, Derrick (wife Angela), Spencer (husband David Jr.), and

Kassie; her great-grandchildren, Brayden, Dekota, Jaycee, Sawyer, David, and Gavin; and her favorite uncle Walter Fifer (99 years young). Preceding her in death was her father and mother, Herk and Nell Manwaring; her mother-in-law, Lois Douthit; her brother, Robert; her grandparents, Jesse and Besse Fifer; her uncle and aunt, Earl (Squire) Fifer and Doris (Dopey) Royalty.

A memorial and celebration of life service will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, charitable donations can be sent to the Alzheimer's Association (Alzheimer's Association | Donate to Fight Alzheimer's Disease).

## Jack Ehram

John L. "Jack" Ehram, 89 of Tuscola, passed away on Friday, February 4, 2022, at Indiana University Health Hospital in Indianapolis, Ind.

Mr. Ehram was born to Arthur and Loretta (Roedell) Ehram in Dyer, Ind., on August 14, 1932.

He is survived by his wife, Phyllis, of Tuscola; and daughters, Candace (Orville) Hudson of Camargo, Kris (Gib) McMichaels of Charleston, Barbara (Dan) Alexander of Tuscola and Kay Harley of Sullivan. He is also survived by 11

grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; and one great great grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Jerry Ehram; and sister, Cathy Lehman.

Visitation was held February 10, with Celebration of Life service at First Christian Church, Tuscola.

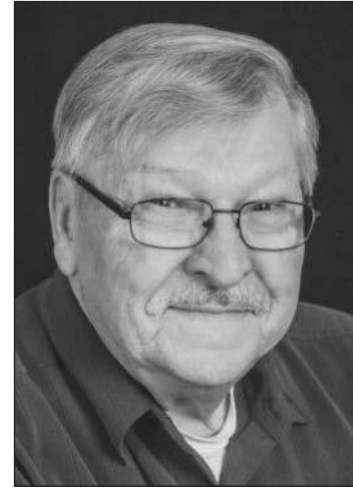
Private family burial was held prior to the service at the Tuscola Township Cemetery.

Mr. Ehram retired from USI Chemical Corporation after working for nearly 40 years. He was known for his

ability to fix or repair anything and had the patience of Job. He fiercely loved God, his wife, children and grandchildren and will be missed by everyone. Mr. Ehram served in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. He was afforded military rites. He was a member of the First Christian Church of Tuscola.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Mr. Ehram's memory to the First Christian Church.

Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home assisted the family with his arrangements. Online con-



Ehram

dolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.

## Judy Blaase

Judith Louise "Judy" Blaase, 76, of Arcola, passed away at 12:44 p.m. on Thursday, February 10, 2022, at Carriage Crossing in Arcola.

Funeral services were held on Monday, February 14, at the Edwards Funeral Home, Arcola. Burial was in the Bourbon Cemetery. Visitation was held prior to the funeral at the funeral home.

Mrs. Blaase was born on May 25, 1945, in Tuscola, to Charles B. and Louise Kate (Troop) Albin. She graduated from Arcola High School in 1963 and then attended Utterback Business College. Mrs. Blaase married Philip Blaase,

her high school sweetheart, on August 7, 1965.

Mrs. Blaase is survived by her husband, Phil; one daughter, Angela Clark and her husband Bryan; three granddaughters, Kylee Herschberger, and her husband Derrick, Lexee Clark and Laynee Clark and her fiancé, Tim Bridges; two great grandchildren, Raegan and Camden Herschberger; siblings, Lynn Albin and his wife Marcia, John Albin and his wife Debbie, and Mary Warner and her husband Jim; brother-in-law, Mike Blaase; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Blaase was preceded in death by her parents, Charles

and Kate Albin; an infant brother, Billy Albin; and her in-laws, Hoyt and Allie Blaase.

Mrs. Blaase worked as a secretary for USI and as an administrative assistant at Carle. However, Mrs. Blaase would tell you that her most favorite and cherished position was taking care of her parents. That was very important to her, and she enjoyed those special years with her parents.

Mrs. Blaase enjoyed spending time with her family including shopping with her granddaughters. Christmas was her favorite holiday and she loved wrapping presents and spoiling her kids and grandkids. Mrs. Blaase enjoyed

working with her flowers and she also loved photography. Judy and Phil were often seen at sporting events for their grandchildren. One of her favorite hobbies was scrapbooking. Judy and Phil enjoyed many vacations in Bennet Springs, Mo., with family and friends. They also enjoyed Arizona and Texas in the winter. For many years, Phil and Judy took their children and grandchildren on a Valentines/hotel weekend and that tradition continues with their children and great grandchildren.

Suggested memorials include Camp New Hope and Mike Kerner Memorial Scholships.

## Nancy Barbee

Nancy Rae Barbee, 86, of Atwood, passed away at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at the Arthur Home.

Private family services were held on Friday, February 11, at the First Baptist Church of Atwood. Pastor Brad Brown officiated. Burial was in the Cartwright Cemetery in rural Tuscola.

Mrs. Barbee was born on December 22, 1935, in Arthur. She was a daughter of Howard and Juanita (Sapp) McDade. She married Dale Eugene Barbee in 1952, in Oakland.

She is survived by her husband, Dale of Atwood; three children, Roger Barbee and his wife Julie of Pampa, Texas,

Patty Evans and her husband Tim of Charleston, and Randy Barbee of Lovington; eight grandchildren, Mike Barbee and his wife Amanda of Atwood, Chrissy Barbee of Atwood, Lynsey Smith and her husband Jarod of Pampa, Texas, Cole Barbee of Pampa, Texas, Rick Reed of Sullivan, Roger Reed and his wife Rachel of Mattoon, T.J. Evans and his wife Jennifer of Charleston, and Justin Evans and his wife Megan of Oakland; and 21 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one son, Michael Howard Barbee; and one grandson, Jimmie Barbee.

Mrs. Barbee had worked at Bryant Cleaners in Tuscola, Douglas County Court House,



Barbee

and at Ben Franklin in Tuscola.

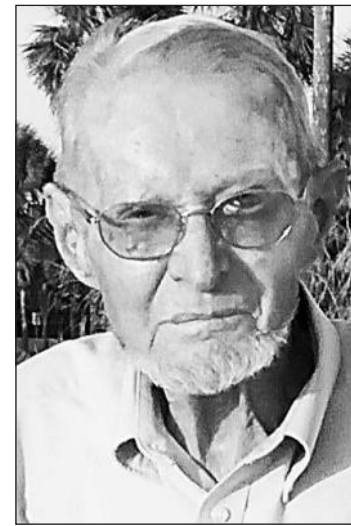
She loved listening to music; country and gospel were her favorites; but most of all she enjoyed spending time with her family.

## Raymond Bontrager

Raymond C. Bontrager, 95, of Arthur, passed away at 7:30 p.m. on Monday February 7, 2022, at his son's residence in Sullivan. Mr. Bontrager was born on July 14, 1926, in rural Arthur. He was the son of Chris N. and Lovina (Kaufman) Bontrager. He married Ella A. Miller on Dec 14, 1948. They lived in Holy Matrimony 73 years.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, February 11, at the Pleasant View Church, 155 N. CR 300 E., Arcola. Pastor Matt Bontrager will officiate. Burial will be in the Pleasant View Church Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, February 9, and from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, February 10, at the church. The Edwards Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

Mr. Bontrager was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He made his livelihood for many years as a farmer near Sullivan. He spent many winters in Florida and enjoyed taking his friends and family



Bontrager

fishing. Mr. Bontrager was one of the founding members of Pleasant View church in 1958 where he was still a member.

He is survived by his wife Ella; four children, Marie Kuhns and husband Dannie of Arthur. Ruth Kuhns and husband Gary of Tuscola, Kenneth Bontrager and wife Goldie of Sullivan, Judy Herschberger and husband Darrell of Tuscola; one daughter-in-law, Esther Kurtz and husband Nelson of Sullivan; 22 grandchildren; 46 great grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild;



Hawkins

Mrs. Hawkins retired from USI Chemical Company in 1994. She was an avid reader, loved to go antiquing and enjoyed flower gardening. She loved to be on the move and go to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren's activities.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Tuscola Public Library.

Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements. Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.

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