

Are Free Obits On Way Out?

We were saddened last week to lose the company sponsor of our free obituaries. Longtime readers have told me they appreciate *The Telegraph* printing obituaries.

The local daily newspaper, as do most newspapers, charge a fee, that frequently runs \$150-\$225, to print obituaries. The *Telegraph* has always printed them free, and could do that since some funeral homes advertised with this paper.

Now, without any funeral homes advertising to support this, we may have to consider charging for obits, and only printing "death notices" for free.

The Telegraph would appreciate your ideas, feedback and any suggestions for our dilemma: info@stjtelegraph.com

- Atkins, Edward - 78
- Calovich, Carol - 83
- Carpenter, Tyson - 90
- Downer, Duane - 74
- Hamlin, Jean - 79
- Maxwell, Marilyn - 84
- Mayhew, Norman - 73
- Norris, Georgia - 75
- O'Keefe, Wilma - 82
- Oyler, Bessie - 95
- Roth, George - 91
- Smith, Kenneth - 84
- Willis, Dale - 86

EDWARD M. ATKINS

1931- 2009 | Age 78

Edward M. (Fonzie) Atkins, 78, St. Joseph, died Friday, February 5, 2010 at a local hospital.

Mr. Atkins was the son of Raymond and Ruth (Miller) Atkins, who preceded him in death.

Mr. Atkins was a member of Savannah Avenue Baptist Church, and attended King Hill Christian Church.

He loved football and rooted for the KC Chiefs and Mizzou.

Survivors: wife, Jean (Mattice) Atkins, of the home; son, Tom Atkins, St. Joseph; daughters, Tammie Pankratz (Darrell) and Teresa Bulla (Joe), all of St. Joseph; former wife, Mary Pittman, St. Joseph; sister, Sharon Paxton, Jenkins, MO; six step-children; 37 grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Private inurnment at a later date. The Family suggests memorial gifts to the American Heart Association.

Online guests book and obituary at www.meierhoffer.com.

CAROL L. CALOVICH

1926- 2009 | Age 83

Carol L. Calovich, 83, St. Joseph, died Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at North Kansas City Hospital, Kansas City, MO.

She was born March 7, 1926 in St. Joseph. She attended grade school and junior high in St. Joseph, and was a graduate of Central High School. She attended Valparaiso University in Indiana, where she was a member of the Chapel Liturgical Choir, the University A Cappella choir, and the Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

September 17, 1949, she married Frank J. Calovich, Jr. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. In March of 1953, they moved to Independence, MO.

She was active in PTA; a troop leader in Brownies and Girl Scouts;

as well as a troop organizer; troop consultant and served on the executive committee of the Pioneer Trails Counsel.

In 1983, she moved back to St. Joseph after the death of her husband, Frank J. Calovich, Jr.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, Herbert and Louise Krueger.

(Survivors:) her daughters, Deborah Stein and Lynnette Murdock; five granddaughters; 4 great grandchildren.

(Services:) Monday, Feb. 8 at Memorial Park Mausoleum. Inurnment Memorial Park Cemetery. Care provided by Meierhoffer Funeral Home & Crematory. The Family suggests memorial gifts to St. Paul Lutheran Church.

DR. TYSON CARPENTER

1919- 2009 | Age 90

Dr. Tyson Carpenter, 90, a longtime St. Joseph resident and physician, passed away Friday, February 5, 2010.

He was born in Goshen, IN to Anna and Ernest Carpenter. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Jane (McPherson) Carpenter, St. Joseph; sister, Beth Carpenter, Fort Wayne, IN; son, David (Darcy) Carpenter, Kansas City, MO; and six grandchildren, Cory Carpenter, Kansas City, MO, Kyle Carpenter, St. Joseph, Elyse, Max and Blair McBride and Gray Carpenter, Kansas City, MO.

He is preceded in death by a son, Tyson Jr. who passed away in September, 2009.

After receiving his Bachelor's Degree from DePauw University, he attended Northwestern University and was awarded his M.D. degree.

He served a three year residency at the Mayo Clinic, then served three years in Germany as a Captain in the US Medical Corps during World War II. During the latter part of his military service, he was assigned to the military tribunal in Nuremburg, where he was in charge of the military medical staff taking care of high-profile prisoners on trial.

After the war, Dr. Carpenter moved to St. Joseph and helped begin the Thompson, Brumm, Knepper Clinic with a number of area physicians. He specialized in internal medicine, and practiced here for almost 50 years, retiring in 1995. He was proud to be a physician in the golden years of medical care when patient appointments lasted for 30+ minutes, and house-calls were a nightly occurrence.

While in St. Joseph, Dr. Carpenter was a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church, served as the President of the Buchanan County Medical Society, was a member of the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs, a volunteer at the Free Clinic at the Patee Hall, and a tutor for disadvantaged students at various schools. He was an avid golfer, tennis player, hunter, and fisherman. He was an Eagle Scout, and served faithfully as a leader and mentor in his two sons' Boy Scout Troop 45, where they both received their Eagle awards.

VAN VICKLE MONUMENTS, INC.

1717 Frederick Ave. | St. Joseph, MO 64501
[816] 232-5882 | [877] 232-5882

Services Meierhoffer Funeral Home & Crematory. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery. The Family suggests memorial gifts to the Friends of the Free Clinic, 904 S. 10th Street, St. Joseph, MO 64503.

Online guests book and obituary at www.meierhoffer.com.

DUANE H. DOWNER

1935- 2009 | Age 74

Duane H. Downer, 74, Gravois Mills, MO, formerly of St. Joseph died February 4, 2010 at the University of Columbia Hospital.

Duane was born August 8, 1935 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa to Harold and Sophia Downer. He graduated from Central High School and the University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK.

Duane married Darla L. Ehlert on June 9, 1956. She preceded him in death on September 20, 2000.

He was also preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter, Franki Triano in 2009; and brother, Dick Downer.

Duane retired from Bio-Zyme Inc. in St. Joseph as Vice President. He loved to boat, fish and be around the lake. Duane was a Chiefs fan.

Survivors two daughters, Deborah L. Triano (Nick), Leawood, KS and Darcy L. Parisoff (Cory Soukup), Gilbert, AZ; son, Donald D. Downer (Jennifer), St. Joseph; three granddaughters, Taylor Triano, Maggie Triano and McKelvey Parisoff; companion, Anne Rowan; granddog, Mr. Big Downer; nieces and nephews.

Services Monday, Feb. 8 at Meierhoffer Funeral Home & Crematory. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery. The Family will receive friends 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. Sunday, Meierhoffer Funeral Home & Crematory. The Family suggests memorial gifts to the American Cancer Society and the American Stroke Association.

Online guests book and obituary at www.meierhoffer.com.

AMY JANE FOSTER

1937- 2009 | Age 73

Amy Jane Foster 73, of Saint Joseph, MO passed away Tuesday, January 26, 2010.

She was born January 19, 1937 in Bethany, MO, daughter of Lena and George McCoy.

Amy was preceded in death by her parents, and son Randy Foster.

Survivors include, daughter, Debra (Larry) Stafford of Saint Joseph, son, Christopher (Marlys) Foster of Ford City, MO, Brothers and sisters George, Mary, Grace, Rosalie, Rex, Betty, Ruth, Virginia and Roger, and 8 grandchildren.

A Graveside Memorial Service and inurnment was at Memorial Park Cemetery, Saturday, January 30, 2010. Online condolence and obituary at www.ruppfuneral.com.

JEAN I. HAMLIN

1930- 2009 | Age 79

Jean Hamlin, 79, of St. Joseph, passed away Sunday January 31, 2010 at a local health care center.

Jean, the youngest of seven children, was born March 20, 1930, to Henry and Barbara Fellers in Winona, MN. On January 13, 1979 she married Raymond Hamlin in Minnesota. They later moved to St. Joseph from Hibbing, MN.

Jean was a Certified Nurses Aide and a member of the Methodist Church. She loved to knit, crochet, travel, and volunteer at the Comm-

unity Hall. She was always there for anyone in need of a helping hand.

She is preceded in death by her adoptive parents, Jesse Paul and Melva Marie Smith; her birth parents and two stepsons, Pat and Mike Hamlin.

Jean is survived by her husband Raymond of the home; six sons and their spouses, Bruce (Bonnie) Petersen, Minneapolis, MN, Raymond (Annie) Petersen, Wrenshall, MN, Rick (Dawn) Becker, Billings, MT, Bill (Sachico) Becker, Japan, Mark (Margaret) Hamlin, Duluth, MN, Terry (Julie) Hamlin, Aurora, MN, one daughter; Coleen Hamlin, Dallas, TX, two brother-in-laws; Jim (Donna) Hamlin and Jack (Gayle) Hamlin, both of St. Joseph, two Sister-in-laws; June (Bob) Carson and Ramona Hamlin and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Hamlin has been cremated under the direction of Clark-Sampson Funeral Home, St. Joseph. A Memorial Service was held Saturday, February 6, at the Methodist Church in Wetmore, KS with Pastor Cathryn Love officiating.

Online obituary and condolences at www.clarksampson.com

MARILYN E. MAXWELL

1940- 2009 | Age 69

Marilyn Eileen Maxwell, 84, St. Joseph, died Saturday, January 30, 2010 at Heartland Regional Medical Center.

Ms. Maxwell was born September 24, 1925 in Keokuk, IA, the daughter of Fred and Grace (Jester) Maxwell. She grew up in Quincy, IL and moved to St. Joseph with her family in 1942.

Marilyn graduated from Central High School, St. Joseph Junior College and the University of Missouri. She taught Spanish, English, and Mathematics in the St. Joseph School District for 42 years; 21 at Lafayette High School and 21 at Central High School.

She was an active member of Ashland United Methodist Church. She was a former member of the St. Joseph Landmark Commission, current member of the Senior Center Foundation Board, and the third Vice-President of the St. Joseph Retired School Personnel Assn.

Marilyn was among a group of residents of the Lovers Lane area who organized the Lovers Lane Neighborhood Association and brought about the construction of the Lovers Lane Historical Marker which connects the historic street with Eugene Field and his poem, "Lovers Lane St. Jo." She was the first president of the neighborhood association.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents; and sister, Margaret Davidson.

She is survived by her sister, Barbara, of the home; her nephew, Kevin Davidson, his wife, Karen, and their sons, Jeffrey and Christopher, Martinez, CA; and her niece, Denise Warren, her husband, Richard and their son, Jerry, North Las Vegas, NV.

Services Friday, Feb. 5 at Ashland United Methodist Church. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery. The Family suggests memorial gifts to the American Lung Association or Retired School Teachers Foundation.

Online guests book and obituary at www.meierhoffer.com.