

Effingham, KS

Jeanette Mae Berry, 77, of Effingham, Kansas died Monday, August 27, 2012 at Westwood Health and Rehab, Springdale, Arkansas, following a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's.

Funeral services will be Thursday, August 30th at 10 a.m. at the Effingham Union Church, Effingham, Kansas with Jeff Cochran officiating. Burial will be in the Monrovia Cemetery, Monrovia, Kansas. Visitation will be held at Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home, Atchison, Kansas, on Wednesday August 29th from 7-9 p.m. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Effingham Union Church Endowment Fund which originated with contributions at the death of Mrs. Berry's husband, Gene, and is used for scholarships for the church's youth and may be sent in care of the funeral home. Condolences to the family may be left online at www.beckerdyer.com.

Mrs. Berry was born June 2, 1935, in Atchison, Kansas, the daughter of William C. and Ella Mae (Cormode) Stutz. She was baptized in the Lancaster Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, Kansas, and became a member of that church at an early age. She was a Sunday school teacher and a Sunday school pianist at that church. When that church closed, she became a member of the Effingham Presbyterian Church which later became the Effingham Union Church when it merged with the Effingham Methodist Church. She was active in the Nite Circle and served several terms on the church's Board of Directors. She attended Monrovia District 15 grade school and graduated from Atchison County Community High School at Effingham in 1952. Following graduation she was employed at the former Commerce Acceptance Company in Atchison as a secretary for three years. When her children were small, she worked part-time at the Bank of Lancaster. She then was employed as a bookkeeper in the 1960's at the Atchison County Farmers Union Cooperative at Lancaster. After assisting her husband with the farming operation for several years in the 70's, she was employed by Bob Spanier, CPA office one year and then for ten years at the Stillings & Caplinger, Chartered law firm. After the retirement of both attorneys, she sought employment at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Veterans Affairs Hospital in Leavenworth where she worked until her retirement in June 2000. After retirement she had volunteered in various positions including the After School Program and also worked part-time in the District Court Office at the Atchison County Courthouse as bailiff.

Mrs. Berry was a former member of the Executive Committee of the Women's Christian Organization and a member of Areme Chapter of the Eastern Star at Effingham and later a member of the Eastern Star in Atchison. She was a former member of the Lancaster Rebekah Lodge, a home demonstration unit, had served on the Atchison County Extension Council and had been a sewing leader for a 4-H club.

On June 14, 1953, she married her high school sweetheart, Lewis E. (Gene) Berry, who preceded her in death on December 20, 1998. Survivors include her daughter, Pamela Jo and her husband Johnny Williams, Fayetteville, Arkansas, a son Todd Eugene Berry, of the home, three grandsons, Shaun Charles Bolinger, his wife Trisha and their two sons, Brady and Dylan, Huntsville, Arkansas, Thomas Eugene Bolinger and wife Diana, and their daughter Kennedy and son Chace, Shenzhen, China and Jason Todd Berry, Oberlin, Kansas, and a granddaughter, Lisa Kaplan and husband Andrew, Fayetteville, Arkansas, her sister, Helen S. Caplinger and husband, Robert of Kansas City, Missouri, her brother, Leroy William Stutz and wife, Karen of

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, a brother-in-law, Richard L. Berry and wife Jean, and a sister-in-law Janice McCrary, both of St. Joseph, Missouri, three nephews and four nieces. In addition to her husband, Gene, she was preceded in death by her parents William C. Stutz and Ella Mae Cormode Stutz.