



Mary Blandford

December 7, 1915 - July 10, 2008

At the age of 92, Mary Blandford's life came to a close.

Born December 7th, 1915 to William and Katie Pierce, Mary was one of seven children. She told stories of working on the family farm, picking cotton and tilling earth by hand. Though she and her brothers and sisters never made it to high school, her life experiences amount to infinite knowledge.

As her family lived through the Great Depression, a deep appreciation for her few possessions was evident. When she met Kenneth Blandford, her future husband, he arrived at her father's house wearing a hat-the sign of a gentleman by her Daddy's standards.

Mary and Kenneth married in Portageville, MO on August 25th, 1936 and had three sons in Grand Tower, IL. Kenneth enlisted in the Navy and was aboard the USS Hunt during the later part of WWII. Kenneth preceded Mary in death in August of 1955, just three months after the birth of their third son.

Her life doesn't seem like it was ever easy, especially while attempting to make a living and raising three boys as a single mom. Mary was a retired cook from the Shawnee School District and enjoyed cooking, quilting, raising dogs and small farm animals, gardening, and watching daytime soap operas.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents William and Katie Pierce, of Portageville, Missouri; her stepmother, Maude Pierce, of Hamburg, AR; her brothers Kenneth and Johnny of Hamburg, AR; her sisters Lulla Bell, of Hamburg, AR, Ethel, of Grand Tower, IL, and Nelly, of Portageville, Missouri.

Mary leaves behind 1 brother, Douglass of Hamburg, AR;

3 sons: John & Nancy of Red Bud, IL, Ken & Joyce of Jonesboro, IL, and Mike & Julie of Murphysboro, IL;

4 grandchildren: Dawna & Cory Miller of Anna, IL, Todd & Gloria of Lake of Egypt, IL, Jayme & Jared of Murphysboro, IL;

and 1 great-grandchild, Brandon Miller of Anna, IL.

Mary also has many nieces, nephews, and cousins across the country.

Mary's family knows that she is resting in a place better than this earth could be to her.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Blandford*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM