



Ava E. Grannemann

January 1, 1921 - January 16, 2018

Ava Estes Payne Pitts Grannemann, age 97 of Bolivar, MO, passed away after a short illness, on January 16, 2018, in Jefferson City, MO.

Ava was born on January 1, 1921, in the community of Star Ridge in Polk County Missouri. She was the second daughter of Jesse Russell and Grace Elva (Estes) Payne. Ava was a long time member of Louisburg Baptist Church and a member of Bolivar First Baptist Church at the time of her death.

After graduating from Louisburg High School, she attended State Teachers College (MSU) in Springfield, MO, graduating in 1942. She taught in several MO school districts: Cole Camp, Buffalo, Halfway, Skyline, Polk and Bolivar. She taught Biology, Home Economics, and Science in High School and Junior HS. She was the principal at Polk Grade School, and later taught at Bolivar Elementary School where her last position was remedial math which she found the most rewarding of her long teaching career.

Ava was an avid gardener and would rather be outdoors, often barefooted in her flower beds, than anywhere else. She was an expert in plant identification, including wildflowers, garden flowers, vegetables, trees, and weeds. Ava was a warrior against Japanese beetles, Army worms, and noxious weeds, especially thistle.

Ava didn't leave teaching opportunities just to the classroom. She applied her vast knowledge everyday, whether it was a walk in the woods turned into a botany, geology, "flora and fauna" lesson, or life lessons on how to make bread, bait a hook, or shelling black eyed peas. She considered every

moment a teaching opportunity.

On November 27, 1943, Cecil Otto Pitts and Ava Estes Payne were united in marriage in Bolivar, MO. They raised cattle and farmed many years in the Star Ridge Community. She was preceded in death by her husband Cecil in 1985, her infant brother Marvin, her parents, her sister Roa, her step-mother Mildred, a step-brother Herman, and 2 step sisters Fern and Martha.

In 1986 Ava was united in marriage to Marvin E Grannemann of Tulsa, OK. He preceded her in death in December 1993.

Surviving Ava are her three daughters and their spouses, Mary and Walter Shank of Jefferson City, MO, Grace and Robert Rogers of Jefferson City, MO, and Sara and Steve (Bud) Shadwick of Springfield, MO. Also surviving her are 2 sisters, Eva Voris of Bolivar, MO and Iva Rust of Rolla, MO (formerly of Houston, MO), her step-sister Ruth Jones of Bolivar, MO. In addition, she is survived by her step-children Mike and Jim Grannemann, their sister Linda, and their children.

Ava is survived by 5 grandchildren, Christopher Rogers of Jefferson City, MO, Amy Westfall and her husband John of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Jonathan Shank and his wife Debbie of Stoughton, WI, Jennifer Lindsey and her husband Rusty of Polk, MO and Stephanie Shadwick and her significant other Nicholas Cloyd of Springfield, MO. She is also survived by 11 great-grandchildren, David Rogers, Hannah, Emma, and Nicholas Westfall, Elliana, Malachi, Myra, and Adelina Shank, and Antigone Shadwick, Cyprus, and Elijah Lindsey. A host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives also survive.

Visitation for Ava will be Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 10 to 11:00 a.m. with Services to follow at 11:00 at Butler Funeral Home, Bolivar, Missouri. Memorial Contributions to Care to Learn.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ava E. Grannemann*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Ava E. Grannemann*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Ava was such a lovely lady. She will be missed by her sisters of Kappa Kappa Iota, Zeta State. Our sympathy to her family.*

Wanita Humphrey - January 23, 2018 at 11:08 AM



“ *It was with sadness that I learned of Ava's death. My mother, Maxine Short, was her friend for many decades. Ava, Mary Parton, and my mother went to college together and were roommates in their first teaching jobs at Cole Camp. Their friendships continued throughout future years. They truly liked and respected each other. I know that Ava and my mother are now again enjoying being together again.*

John Short

John Short - January 21, 2018 at 08:40 PM

TC

“ Our sincere condolences to your family at this difficult time. We are praying all the wonderful memories you have to forever treasure help bring peace to your hearts and that you are surrounded with people that love you today. Hugs - Tami and Todd Culver

Tami Culver - January 20, 2018 at 10:01 AM

HG

“ It was a joy teaching with my friend Ava and also being in Kappa with her and at church. We have your families in our thoughts and prayers as you celebrate her life. She was a blessing to us.



Harlie and Nancy Gallatin - January 19, 2018 at 05:27 PM



“ So many memories flood my mind about Grandma Ava.

My daughter Alana's favorite memory is walking around the garden with Grandma and her taking us to the Jasmine Chinese Restaurant.

#1 thing is she loved showing off her garden and she could name every single flower, plant, weed, and tree around the house.

A few years ago we took a ride to the farm and she insisted on driving (in her late 80's) because she didn't think I could handle driving the gravel road. "Do you know how to drive on a gravel road?" - "Yes, Grandma, I can manage" - "Oh I better drive" - As we made our way she would point and name the types of cows, "that one is a black angus.. that's a heifer, etc." also she would point at houses and tell me stories about who used to occupy them. I learned a lot about her life with Cecil and my Grandpa Marvin that I wasn't aware of on that trip.

I loved hearing about her world travels with the university and the different clubs she was involved in while we stayed up late to complete the puzzles we were working on together.

She sent me a card on my 10th birthday, upon opening the card a lot of money fell out. I shouted with excitement, "I'M RICH!". She sent me 10 -\$1 bills. That made my day!

When we younger, staying at her house with all of the Grannemann kids was a joy. We would play board games, go to the tennis courts, or look through stuff in the house. Every room had new treasures to find. One time tornado sirens went off and we took precautions which felt like an eternity when you just want to play. Grandma wasn't afraid of a tornado, she knew God would protect her of any harm.

One time she asked me, "Did you know your name is in the Bible?"

Me: "no, where?" She quoted John 3:16 and said , "the 'whosoever' included my name!" This touched my heart.

She was such a sweet and knowledgable lady that will truly be missed!

-Sheli Grannemann



Sheli Grannemann - January 19, 2018 at 11:51 AM

VG

“ *Grandma Ava always had food ready for us when we would visit Missouri; even if we had just eaten. Didn't go hungry around her. She also let us kids play on the piano as much as we wanted, even though we were just being noisy & had no idea how to play. She would walk us over to the tennis courts to play & talk as young kids. I always felt very welcome in her home. I enjoyed many conversations with her at our family reunion every year. She will be missed.*

Valerie Grannemann-Barber - January 18, 2018 at 08:49 PM

MJ

“ *Marj, Paula, John, Glenda, Jim purchased the Ful I Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ava E. Grannemann.*



Marj, Paula, John, Glenda, Jim - January 18, 2018 at 01:38 PM

CH

“ I always loved visiting with Aunt Ava. She was so spry for her age! She especially liked walking me through her garden and showing me the glorious blooms on all her plants and trees. I wish I had her green thumb! But, what I loved most about Aunt Ava is that she made my Dear Uncle Marvin happy by filling a place in his heart that had lay empty for a long time. And he did the same for her. I am thankful to God for Aunt Ava and the blessings He gave to our family through her.

Carol Grannemann Hulsey - January 18, 2018 at 12:03 PM



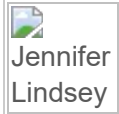
Me too. She was such a sweet lady but she was tough too! One of my favorite memories was when me, Dad and Robbie visited Uncle Marvin and Aunt Ava on their farm. The calves had just been sold and Robbie who was 2 was struck by the cows noises they were constantly making. Aunt Ava told him they were calling for their babies. He loved to walk with her to see the animals and to have her talk to him about the farm. She was so patient with him and answered every one of his questions. He was a curious 2 year old! Visiting with her and Uncle Marvin and Dad was filled with laughter as they remembered old times and shook their heads at the current state of politics and such. I know Uncle Marvin is glad to see her again and I look forward to a reunion with them one day along with all of the others gone from here to there. I do thank God for bringing Ava into our lives but especially into Uncle Marvin's. What a blessing she was! ❤️❤️

Teresa Baker - January 18, 2018 at 12:30 PM

LD

Never seen dad smile so much as when he was with Ava. I enjoyed her story of riding a buggy to the nearest farm school when young and staying warm with a heated rock in the buggy. As she was older went to town school probably around the age of 15 and lived in a boarding house. Life sure was different back then.

linda grannemann dyer - January 18, 2018 at 09:08 PM



Jennifer
Lindsey

The heated stone in the buggy was one of my favorite stories, too. :) So many things remind me of her...and wintry days make me think of that story. I tell that story often to my students....

Jennifer Lindsey - January 19, 2018 at 10:30 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Ava E. Grannemann.*



January 18, 2018 at 08:43 AM



“ *So sorry to hear of your mother's death. I pray for the peace and comfort of God to be with you and your family during these sad days.*

Linda York

Linda York - January 18, 2018 at 05:16 AM



“ *Prayers for comfort for your family. Ava and Cecil were wonderful neighbors and the kindnesses they extended to my family include many cherished memories.*

Paula

Paula - January 17, 2018 at 10:33 PM

AH

“ I really enjoyed waiting on Ava at the Mid-Missouri Bank.
She also went on several of the bank trips and I would pick her up
and
take her home. A very sweet lady.

Anne Howe

Anne Howe - January 17, 2018 at 05:33 PM