



Clessie "Kay" Louise Gilliam

October 24, 1921 - November 8, 2016

Clessie "Kay" Gilliam, 95, of Bolivar, MO, passed away Tuesday, November 8, 2016, at Citizens Memorial Health Care Facility in Bolivar, MO. She was born on October 24, 1921 in Springfield, MO to Charles Luther Coats and Mearl May Stewarts Coats. She was baptized as a young girl near her family home, and graduated from Pleasant Hope High School. She was married to James Roland Gilliam for 23 years, until his sudden death in 1973. Becoming a widow at such a young age highlighted how independent Kay was. Her independent nature remained into her older years, as she had an old, small school bus converted in to camper so she could still go camping by herself into her 80s. Camping was one of the things she enjoyed the most. She would camp at the lake where she often enjoyed a good book by the water's edge. Another activity Kay enjoyed was crafting, it was said that Kay "could transform junk into beauty". She worked for the Morrisville Post Office for 36 years and would often sub for various surrounding post offices as well. Kay is preceded in death by her parents and husband. She is survived by her children, Barbara Mincks, Bolivar, MO, Ed Mitchell and his wife Margie of Fair Play, MO, Tom Mitchell and His wife Pam, Lakeland, FL, Jim Gilliam and His wife Linda, Springfield, MO; sister, Faye Ballard, Springfield, MO; 14 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and 6 great-great-grandchild. Brother Joe Hayward will conduct graveside services at 10:00 am, Friday, November 11, 2016 at the Robberson Prairie Cemetery North of Springfield, MO. Jon Shuck, Jason Shuck, Ryan Shuck, Blade Borne, Max Davolt and Ben Gilliam

will act as pallbearers. Arrangements are under the care and direction of the Butler funeral home of Bolivar, MO.

Tribute Wall



“ *Clessie "Kay" Louise Gilliam*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Clessie "Kay" Louise Gilliam*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Oh no no no .. I can't believe this ... I thought I would be there till the end ... I remember when I was the only one to get this spunky lady to eat or at least drink a shake .. very stubborn at times but also a sweetheart who never wanted to be a burden on anyone ... I'm so so sorry I didn't make it back to Bolivar to see you .. sometimes a phone call isn't enough .. I love you Kay and will always miss you*



Crystal Lange - December 03, 2016 at 01:58 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathy purchased the Bright and Beautiful Spray for the family of Clessie "Kay" Louise Gilliam .*



Our deepest sympathy - November 09, 2016 at 09:13 AM