



## Ernestine Kinsey

October 30, 1928 - September 24, 2020

Ernestine Stewart Kinsey of Wilmington, NC, formerly of Bolivar, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 24 at Bradley Creek Assisted Living. She is preceded in death by her husband James Woodrow Kinsey.

Ernestine was born October 30, 1928 to Harold and Elva Stewart and graduated from Bolivar High School in 1946. She later attended Southwest Baptist College, earning an Associate's Degree. She then worked for the Polk County Welfare Office during the 1950's. In the early 1960's she attended then Southwest Missouri State earning a Bachelor's Degree in Education. Starting in 1964, she entered the Bolivar School System teaching first as an Elementary School teacher before moving to Mitchell Junior High School. During this time, she earned a Master's Degree from Drury College. She remained at this position until her retirement in 1993.

While Ernestine's avocation resided in the teaching profession, her true passion consisted of Democrat politics. Her first exposure to politics started with her Father, who was local party chairman in Bolivar who was always involved in local and state elections. Later she elevated her political stature running successfully as a national delegate to the Democratic Convention in 1980 in New York City. Some 28 years later she again ran as a national delegate to the Democratic Convention in Denver. It was her hope that her example as a delegate in 1980 would inspire other women to become active in politics.

Ernestine is survived by her sister Harlene Esther of Bolivar, a son Tim

(Cynthia Bowers) Wilmington, and their children, Rachael Kinsey of Wilmington, Jacob Kinsey of Virginia, and Rebecca Kinsey Angel of South Bend Indiana, two great grandchildren, Jason and Kyuss and a niece Roberta Doke of Bolivar.

A visitation for Ernestine will be held from 11-12 pm, Friday, October 2 at Butler Chapel in Bolivar, MO with funeral services at 12 pm at the Butler Chapel and Graveside memorial following the service at Greenwood Cemetery.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar  
407 E. Broadway  
Bolivar, MO 65613  
(417) 326-5233  
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

OCT 2. 12:00 PM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar  
407 E. Broadway  
Bolivar, MO 65613  
(417) 326-5233  
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Ernestine Kinsey

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ Ernestine Kinsey

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ My heart is saddened to hear of Mrs. Kinsey's passing. She was a very special teacher in my life and years later when I became an adult I considered her my friend. I admired so much about her! She set such a wonderful example for all her students but especially the girls. She was a strong, proud Democrat in a place where that is not an easy thing to be!! I have many fond memories of her and know she will be missed by so many. My deepest condolences to my dear friend Tim and his family, and my apologies for not being able to attend her service.

*Brenda (Hampton) Cloyd*

**Brenda Cloyd** - October 13, 2020 at 01:54 PM

JH

“ I was blessed growing up to have friends with wonderful parents. Ernestine Kinsey was certainly one of those parents (and neighbor). I will always appreciate the hospitality she showed me when I would come back to visit Tim and my Bolivar friends. She seemed to go out of her way to be kind to me. She played a special role in the community for years. I am sure that both Ernestine and Woodrow are missed in Bolivar.

*Jim Hall*

---

**James W Hall** - October 01, 2020 at 10:54 PM

PH

“ I'm so sorry to hear this. Growing up in Bolivar I well remember both of your parents, Tim. Both were fine people. I have fun memories of them.

*Phyllis Playter Hamilton*

---

**Phyllis Hamilton** - October 01, 2020 at 08:02 PM

BK

“ *Bobbie & Kent, Kinsey purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Ernestine Kinsey.*



---

**Bobbie & Kent, Kinsey** - October 01, 2020 at 12:28 PM

CA

“ Rest in peace Ms Kinsey. I still remember things that you taught us in our Jr High Home Economics class. It was more than a practical approach to home management. You shared deeper lessons about how to care for ourselves which translated to social graces, self esteem and self respect. You influenced our local culture and many, many lives who carried your lessons forward. Those lessons could not have happened without your genuine concern for the futures of your students. Thank you for what you gave us because pieces of you live on in us and the lessons that we then passed down to our children. May God Bless your journey and your family as they mourn the loss.

*Christine Perry Atkinson*

---

**christine atkinson** - September 30, 2020 at 09:54 AM

MD

“ Both Ernestine and Woody were good Democratic friends of mine. Ernestine served for many terms as Pin Chair of the Missouri Federation of Women's Democratic Clubs, of which I was President in 2001-2003. I worked at the Capitol in Jefferson City for over 30 years and always enjoyed visiting with them. Of course, Woody was the greatest bartender during our annual conventions! Right now I am sitting on a chair with a throw with the United States Capitol on it that Ernestine has purchased on a trip to D.C. and I bought at one of our MFWDC auctions! My sympathy and prayers to the family.. Rest in peace Ernestine and Woody together.

*Marie Gladbach Dolan  
Trenton MO*

---

**Marie Gladbach Dolan** - September 28, 2020 at 12:39 PM

DO

“ I am so sorry for the families loss. Mrs. Kinsey was one of my teachers when I was in 8th grade, many years ago. Everything I learned in that class I still use today and I talk about Mrs. Kinsey to my own daughters all the time.



She taught us so many things that girls today could really use. I learned to knit, properly apply makeup, how to take care of my nails/skin, how to sit up straight and walk like a lady. Mrs. Kinsey was a hard woman to know but I admired her so much. I will continue to pass on the teachings that she gave to me through my own family and anyone else that wants to learn.

I thank God for sharing her with us. Her husband was our principal and an amazing man as well. They will truly be missed but are now reunited forever.

---

Donna - September 26, 2020 at 08:46 PM