



Helen Frances Lower

December 27, 1922 - November 22, 2018

Helen Frances (Hammer) Lower, 95, passed away in her home of nearly 66 years on November 22, 2018 in Fair Play, Missouri. She was the loving and devoted wife of William Bernard Lower. They shared their entire 65 years of married life together at the farm in which they lived beginning the first day of their marriage.

Helen was born in Norborne, Missouri on December 27th, 1922, to Luther and Nellie Hammer. The family later moved to Goodson, Missouri, where she attended grade school and high school, and spent a brief period in Santa Paula, California attending high school during the Depression. Helen was an excellent student and valedictorian of her high school class. She especially loved geography and continued to be interested in local and world events throughout her life.

She was saved at an early age and attended a Missionary Baptist Church in Goodson. Her love and commitment to Christ continued to grow throughout her life. Helen was a faithful member of the Fair Play First Baptist Church for over 60 years where she built loving relationships with numerous friends of the faith. She taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, as well as contributing to many other church activities.

During the hard years of the 1930's, she helped support herself and the family

by trapping, working in a tomato canning factory, helping on the farm, and even raising and selling canaries. Throughout her marriage, she was a diligent homemaker and a supportive and willing partner in all farm work. Helen's love for her husband and children was evident in her hard work and selfless sacrifices throughout her years as a mother. When her children were grown, she worked many years at Lower's Greenhouse, before "retiring" to garden, quilt, bake, tend her flowers, and especially help raise grandchildren. Throughout her life as a mother and grandmother her pride and joy were her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Helen and Bernard cherished the opportunity to travel in later years, seeing many parts of the United States and making many friends. Anyone who knew Helen, soon realized her passion was people. Whether with new or old acquaintances or with family members, she thrived on building and maintaining relationships.

She was preceded in death by her father, Luther Theodore Hammer; her mother, Nellie Mae (Van Trump) Hammer; brother L. T. Hammer; an infant granddaughter; and granddaughter Jessica Lyn (Lower) Hopper.

Helen is survived by her husband of 65 years, William Bernard Lower of the home; son Billy and wife Janetta of Fair Play; son Sammy and wife Cathy of Marshfield; daughter Linda (Lower) Hall and husband Ward of Fort Wayne, Indiana; daughter Cathy (Lower) Whaley and husband Greg of Fair Play; and son Jimmy and wife Diana of Fair Play, as well as 13 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

Visitation will be at Butler Funeral Home on Monday, November 26th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Services will be held Tuesday, November 27th at 10:00 a.m. Graveside Service will follow at Barren Creek Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Missouri Baptist Children's Home, or Barren Creek Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Barren Creek Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **26**. 5:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

NOV **27**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar
407 E. Broadway
Bolivar, MO 65613
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<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Helen Frances Lower*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Helen Frances Lower*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Bernard and Family,*

So sorry to see Helen has passed. Such a fine christian lady and a great neighbor as well. Helen as well as all her family are good examples of a fine christian family.

I pray for God to comfort you all in your time of grief.

May God Bless,

Joe Quillin

Joe Quillin - November 29, 2018 at 07:26 PM



“ *Helen was the first Sunday School I can remember. She was kind, affirming and joyful. I can also now add she was genuine; because the attributes I remember as a Sunday School teacher are the same ones she exhibited to everyone. I loved her. My condolences to all of the Lower family.*

Tim Underwood - November 27, 2018 at 08:11 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Helen Frances Lower.*



November 26, 2018 at 12:28 PM



“ *Such a lovely lady who gave us a wonderful family. She was everyone's grandmother. Even though I've been gone from the area for 14 years, it was always a joy to stop by and see her and Bernard when I came south. She will be missed, but we all have memories we will cherish.*

Bernard and family, my sympathies and I send you my love.

Bob Reynolds

Robert Reynolds - November 26, 2018 at 11:28 AM



“ *Linda & the Hall Family,*

So sorry that we couldn't be there to give you all a hug in person, but today as you surround yourself with family and loving memories of your Mom, we pray that it's God's arms around you that you feel, comforting you and giving you peace that you loved her well, and that she raised a beautiful, Godly daughter who I am honored to call one of my dearest friends.

*Love you so much,
Doug & Angie Kirkland*

Angie Kirkland - November 25, 2018 at 09:22 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Helen Frances Lower.*



November 25, 2018 at 09:18 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Helen Frances Lower.*



November 25, 2018 at 06:28 PM



“ *Beverly & Dale Bozarth lit a candle in memory of Helen Frances Lower*



beverly & Dale Bozarth - November 25, 2018 at 06:09 PM



“ *Helen Lower was one the most kind & gracious women That I've ever known!
This world will very much Miss Her!!!*

Beverly Bozarth - November 25, 2018 at 05:51 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Helen Frances Lower.



November 25, 2018 at 01:32 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Helen Frances Lower.



November 25, 2018 at 11:28 AM



“ Susie Price lit a candle in memory of Helen Frances Lower



Susie Price - November 24, 2018 at 11:54 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Helen Frances Lower.



November 24, 2018 at 10:02 PM

TS

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Your mother sounded like a wonderful person that touched many lives.

Tom & Phyllis Shockley

Tom & Phyllis Shockley - November 24, 2018 at 08:25 PM

KD

“ I loved to visit with Helen. She was faithful to always get her pressure canner tested at the Extension office. I remember the years she got corn from us to make homemade hominy. She was a very sweet lady, hard working lady.

Kathy Drake - November 24, 2018 at 07:33 PM

JH

“ I first met Helen and Bernard when I was 17 years old. She was as sweet hen as she was at 95. Such a precious lady. Loved by all who knew her. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her and especially her loving family. So, so sorry for your loss.

Judy Guinn Houghman - November 24, 2018 at 06:32 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Helen Frances Lower.



November 24, 2018 at 04:07 PM

JT

“ Kaye and I are very sorry for your loss!

James and Kaye Thomas - November 24, 2018 at 07:34 AM

AH

“ *This lady was as pretty on the inside as she was on the outside.*

Anne Howe - November 23, 2018 at 04:21 PM

AH

“ *One of my favorite favorite ladies. Sweet, kind and can not say enough good things about Helen. So sad to read this!!!!*

Anne Howe - November 22, 2018 at 09:11 AM