



## Ruth Eckinger

July 5, 1942 - October 7, 2019

Mary Ruth Miller Eckinger, born July 5, 1942, to Tommy and Meda Miller in Bolivar, Missouri. Ruth gained the victory over cancer on October 7, 2019, and went home to be with her Savior. She grew up and attended school in Bolivar, graduating high school in 1960. She spent many hours at her father's store, Northside Market. She was saved as a young woman. She married Richard Cleaver on December 20, 1968, and was the wonderful mother to her two children, Greg and Rhonda. Her children were truly the loves of her life. When Richard passed, she married her sweetheart, Duane Eckinger on March 7, 2001. Along with this new marriage came Duane's two daughters and a son. Ruth loved them as her own. Ruth and Duane spent the last several years ministering to the wonderful residents at Parkview Nursing Home, Butterfield Assisted Living, and CMHCF Nursing Home. Ruth loved being outdoors and you would see her speed walking throughout her neighborhood and community. Her last church membership was Berean Baptist, Springfield, and she attended Heritage Baptist Church in Bolivar. She built many friendships with neighbors and the community with her compassionate nature. Many of these friends attended to her in her last weeks. They were truly blessings to Ruth and her family.

She was preceded in death by her Mother, Meda Miller, father, Tommy Miller, brother Charles Miller, sister Joyce Staker, and first husband Richard Cleaver. She is survived by her husband, Duane, children Greg (Tresa) Cleaver,

Rhonda (Terry) Butcher, Denise (Kody) Crawford, Duane (Bambi) Eckinger, Dawn (PJ) Sribuarat, sister Delores (Roy) McElwee, brother-in-law Ron Staker, brother-in-law and sister-in-law Wally and Marilyn Illsley, 14 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren.

Visitation for Ruth Eckinger will be held Thursday, October 10, 2019 from 10:00-10:45 AM at the Butler funeral Home in Bolivar, MO. A graveside service will be held at 11 AM on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at the Mt. Gilead Cemetery in Bolivar, MO.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Gilead Cemetery

1401 E 464th Road  
Bolivar, MO 65613

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **10**. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

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

## Graveside

OCT **10**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. Gilead Cemetery  
1401 E 464th Road  
Bolivar, MO 65613

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth Eckinger*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Ruth Eckinger*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Duane i as you would know am happy she has finished her fight and is now with Jesus.I know how she has touched so many and will be missed.*

*I am still eddie ray and am always praying for you also. May God comfort you as you*

*face your battle and grief and bev and i am always here.*

*eddie ray robertson and bev*

**eddie robertson** - October 11, 2019 at 04:26 PM



“ *My first memory of Ruth was 2007. I worked with her at Walmart. I was on maternity leave and I had just had my first child. I went shopping and when I went to check out at a self checkout Austin woke up and fussed. I was by myself and Ruth asked me if she could hold him for me. I took her up on her offer and loved her ever since! She will be missed.*

**Michelle Baley** - October 11, 2019 at 12:54 PM

RB

*Thank you for sharing this memory of my mom 💕💕*

**Rhonda Butcher** - October 12, 2019 at 09:00 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Eckinger.*



October 09, 2019 at 12:10 PM

JY

“ *Dear Greg, Rhonda and Duane*

*My deepest sympathies. I have known Ruth for so long and she was always the sweetest most kind person. I have a lot of wonderful memories with her. She put up such a valiant fight with her cancer for so many years. I'm glad we were all able to get out to Bolivar and see her in September. I will forever miss her. Everyone stay strong and know that she was loved by so many.*

**Julie Young** - October 09, 2019 at 11:15 AM

JY

“ *Julie Young lit a candle in memory of Ruth Eckinger*



**Julie Young** - October 09, 2019 at 11:09 AM

DC

“ *Ruth was a special lady .Always friendly and thoughtful .She will be missed .*

Don and Pat Cunningham - October 09, 2019 at 11:07 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth Eckinger.*



October 09, 2019 at 10:04 AM

ES

“ *Ruth was a great lady. Friend and neighbor . Praying for comfort and strength for family and friends as they go through the coming days.*

Estal & Bonnie Stewart - October 08, 2019 at 10:15 PM

JP

“ *Janice and Robert Baltzell (Grade school Pal) purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Ruth Eckinger.*



Janice and Robert Baltzell (Grade school Pal) - October 08, 2019 at 09:41 PM

EJ

“ Monday Evening, Oct. 8th, 2019

*Dear Duane, and Family,*

*Our hearts have felt so heavy since hearing that Ruth passed away after such a long and courageous battle with cancer. We have never known anyone who remained as strong as she did! We are very thankful that God allowed us to become well acquainted with both you and Ruth at Parkview in Bolivar. We really appreciated the love and care you so generously shared with my Dad, Leonard J. Paxton, during his four years as a Parkview resident. I thought yesterday of how surprised my Dad would have been when Ruth entered heaven, and met him! She appeared so healthy and well before he went to heaven early in Dec. 2017. I'm sure he gave her a wonderful hug! My Dad loved Mondays at Parkview when you came to visit the residents, and led them in singing the old fashioned hymns. What special memories! We will continue to keep you, Duane, and all of your family in our prayers this week, and in the days ahead. "God Bless You All." Proverbs 3:5 & 6 is one of our favorite Scriptures. We believe it is true.:)*

*Most Sincerely,*

*T.W. & Evie Jones Colorado Springs, CO.*

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**Evie Jones** - October 08, 2019 at 09:13 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth Eckinger.



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October 08, 2019 at 08:49 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Eckinger.*



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October 08, 2019 at 08:34 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Ruth Eckinger.*



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October 08, 2019 at 06:09 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Ruth Eckinger.*



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October 08, 2019 at 05:50 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Rhonda** - October 08, 2019 at 05:45 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Eckinger.* ”



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October 08, 2019 at 05:02 PM