



Alice M Hayes

January 18, 1928 - March 24, 2022

Alice M. Hayes, age 94, died on Thursday, March 24, 2022, at Heritage Health, Normal, IL. Alice Marie Cutler was born January 18, 1928 in Decatur, IL to Charles F. Cutler, a rough-edged WWI veteran and Dorothy A. (Buskirk), daughter of a rural Baptist minister. Her early years were spent in a modest home her dad built on East Mueller Avenue. What she lacked in wealth, she gained in spirit. Her fondest childhood memory was holding her Grandpa Buskirk's hand as he told her about the love of Christ while they picked violets at Tower Hill, IL.

As a teen, Alice and sister Opal, began a singing trio with friend Shirley Short at the 3rd UB Church. Alice loved to sing. Alice met a female missionary and planned to become one herself in China. China's borders were closed with WWII, and her course changed. Alice spent one year at Greenville College before returning home. She met war divorcee/navy veteran, Harold Hayes, Jr., and married him on September 19, 1947. The couple had six children. Her life was not easy, but she loved to do many things including portraiture, painting, crocheting and quilting. Alice was an accomplished artist, good at creating things and sharing her love of Christ with a kind heart. She remained strong, never gave up, and no woman could best her as a mother. She will be forever loved, remembered, and missed by her children, family and friends who knew her until they are united again.

Alice was predeceased by her husband, parents, son Melvin Charles Hayes, sisters Lorraine (Don) Goveia, Opal Phee, brother Frank Cutler, sisters-in-law Rebecca Cutler, Catherine Lacey, one niece and one nephew. Surviving are her brother, Charles Cutler, Wilder, ID; children, Harold (Betty) Hayes, III, Columbus, OH, Jacqueline Phillips, Knoxville, TN, Alice (Tyler) Ely, Amarillo, TX, Larry (Sandy) Hayes, Sebring, FL, and Susan (Ryan) High, Normal, IL; nine grandchildren, fifteen great grandchildren, two great-great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Tuesday March 29, 2022, at Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Chapel, Decatur, IL. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday

March 29, 2022 at Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home. A link will be provided for those unable to travel or attend. Alice will be laid to rest at Macon County Memorial Park beside her husband and infant son.

You may view the service by clicking the following link <http://webcast.funeralrecording.com/events/viewer/71578/hash:D9898457DC2490C7>.

Memorials may be made in Alice's honor to SmileTrain.org, the ALS Association, or Christian missions in China.

Condolences may be left to the family at www.gracelandfairlawn.com

Events

MAR **Visitation** 09:00AM - 11:00AM

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Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home

2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur, IL, US, 62526

MAR **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

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Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home

2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur, IL, US, 62526

MAR **Burial**

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Macon County Memorial Park

5700 W. Main, Decatur, IL, US, 62522

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Graceland Fairlawn - March 28 at 09:59 AM



“ Your BCPA Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Alice M Hayes.



Your BCPA Family - March 29 at 04:06 PM



“ Our Deepest Sympathy !! Although Ken and I left Moundford some time ago, I have tried to “keep in touch” with the precious seniors we knew there and loved. Alice was one of those Special People — Gentle and Kind in her spirit and Always Willing to Help !!!!

I will miss being able to send her a card letting her know She Was in My Thoughts often; especially when a holiday was on the way.

Sincerely,

Cheryl (Ken) Woodworth

cheryl woodworth - March 29 at 01:08 PM



“ Alice was a kind and talented lady who sewed with me in the costume shop at Millikin University for several years. Her upbeat attitude and easy smile kept me going more than once. And she was always helping the students with their stitching as well as listening to anything they wanted to discuss. She was a treasure I will never forget.
Mary Spencer

mary spencer - March 29 at 08:51 AM



“ I have such fond memories of my Aunt Alice. She was the aunt that I most related to because of her crafts and gentle spirit. I wish we would have had more time together, but we didn't seem to be in Casner at the same time often enough. Heaven is blessed to have her. She will be missed here. My prayers go to her family. Sadness is sadness no matter how many years you had together. Love you Aunt Alice!

Toni Kelley - March 28 at 07:05 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alice M Hayes.



March 28 at 02:22 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Alice M Hayes.



March 27 at 08:18 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Alice M Hayes.



March 27 at 07:59 PM



“ Such a wonderful lady! I am saddened to read of her passing. Her family was a blessing to me during my years as Minister of Music and Organist at Grace United Methodist Church in Decatur. She was such a devoted member of the church and she and Harold helped me in so many ways. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Blessings

Duane Werner - March 26 at 02:10 PM