



Gladys Mae Birks

April 21, 1931 - May 17, 2020

Gladys Mae Birks, 89, of Decatur, passed away Sunday, May 17, 2020, at Cedar Hurst Memory Care Center in Greenville, IL.

Gladys was born April 21, 1931, in Decatur, IL, to Irvin and Hazel (Miller) Christison. She married the love of her life, Roy Dale Birks on December 30, 1980 in Decatur, IL. They were married for 31 beautiful years before he passed away on April 2, 2011. Gladys worked at Roberta's Beauty Shop, Citizens Barber Shop and Rofflers Barber Shop. She loved to bowl, camp, fish, and her flowers, along with enjoying time with her family and friends. She also was the biggest Chicago Cubs fan around.

She is survived by her children, Deborah (John) Causey, James (Cheryl) Gregory, Brian (Debbie) Birks and Devon (Linda) Birks; grandchildren, Jeffery (Kristen) Helm, Chad (Sue) Helm, Keri (Scott) Taylor, Dallas (Shanna) Gregory, Houston (Deanne) Gregory, Jessica Birks, Jennifer (Steven) Brinkman, Maggie Birks and Matthew (Jackie) Birks; 15 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Lloyd and Russell Christison.

Funeral services to celebrate the life of Gladys Birks will be private. Burial will be in Graceland Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

The family of Gladys Birks is being served by Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave. Decatur, IL. Please view the online obituary, send condolences, and share memories at <http://www.gracelandfairlawn.com>.

<http://webcast.funeralvue.com/events/login/event#29729>

Cemetery

Graceland Cemetery

2091 N. Oakland Avenue

Decatur, IL, 62526

Comments



“ I loved to visit my Great Grandma when she lived in Dalton City. She would have toys for me to play with and i really liked playing with the dirt bike toy. I miss her a lot. I love you great grandma....Colton



CATHY DAUGHERTY - May 21, 2020 at 02:35 PM



“ I loved this lil lady the very first day we introduced ourselves to each other when she joined The Cedarhurst family. Having some of the same "characteristics", I think of her quite frequently. Although I hadn't seen her since March, the recent pictures were typical Gladys! God Bless you for visits and the love shown her. So sorry, but "Oh the Precious Memories". Bernice Lurkins

Bernice M Lurkins - May 20, 2020 at 01:29 PM



“ Thank you Bernice Mom always seemed to enjoy herself and her friends at Cedarhurst. Thank you for loving her.

Deb - May 20, 2020 at 06:55 PM



“ Met Roy and Gladys in 1988 was talking to Roy after we moved in next door he was from Decatur us from Pana was instant bond. We ate at each others houses , fished, camped and shared recipes she was a great cook. They were like second parents to us loved both dearly. After Roy died we kept in contact with Gladys even sneaked in and visited her and Deb 3 years ago kept in contact with her to the end, She was a great lady loved her and always be forever in our hearts.

John Carnahan - May 20, 2020 at 12:38 PM



“ Mom and Roy loved the two of you so much. Cindy and John you were their Extra Kids. Everyone loved Buckwheat.

Deb - May 20, 2020 at 07:00 PM



“ Grandma,

I really don't know where to begin. Here we go. The last nine years We have enjoyed a wonderful adventure Together. We have gone from the Cardinals and cubs playing each other “ if the Cubs won I would always get a one ring prank phone call from you to let me know the Cubs won”. I am so going to miss that even know I wish I was the one doing all the calling because “the Cardinals won”.

Sue and I went to taking you and Mr Buddy Love “Grandmas precious little dog”, in to our home, and you had to go away from eating your daily meals to eating all our cooking. You never hesitated to crinkle up that nose if you didn't like what we were having that night, but you usually ate every bite.

Then after moving you to Greenville “Cedarhurst “, you didn't having a problem letting us know how unhappy you were the first few days there. After being there for a couple weeks, you fell in love with your new home. They were such great people and a very nice facility. We would ask if you got some new friends and you would say “Oh yea me and her right over there go way back”, LOL but yet we didn't know her name. You latched on to a few of the staff members and they always put a smile on your face.

Sue and I would bring Buddy Love up there to see you and it always lit up your smile, no matter what kind of day you were having that day. Sometimes we would drop him off and we would go grab us something to eat. When we came back to get him you would most likely be a sleep with him lying next to you or he would be hiding under the bed. Buddy Love enjoyed going out to the dining area to visit your friends. He loved cleaning up the scraps.

Not long after you moved into there you had a fall and broke your wrist. You were a trooper walking around with that cast that weighed more than you did, LOL. Member sitting in the hospital with you and we cried together because you were hurting so bad, then when someone came in to examine you and they walked out you would flip them the bird. Turned cries into laughs. No matter what the situation was we had so much fun together.

Grandma you have taught me so much in my life, respect, responsibility, “how to squat in a cornfield fishing in kinkaid as little kids” sorry had to throw that in there, LOL, to just being you.

The last nine years were some of the best years of my life spending them with you. I wouldn't have had it any other way. We helped each other through good times and a few bad times but always came out of it with a smile and a I love you! Sue and I are going to miss you so much, but knowing we have another guardian looking down on us and going to help guide us through the rest of our days brings a huge comfort and smile to our faces.

I want to say I have the best Grandma a young man could have had, I also want to say I have the best Wife a man could ever have. With out my wife I could have never made it through this journey. My wife did so much with helping out with grandma, to

making sure she had her medications to physically picking her up and putting her in the tub to give her a bath. Honey just want you to know Thank You and I love you very much. We make one hell of a team together.

Ok grandma I am going to end with this “Do You Think It’s Going To Work?” Grandma would always ask us this. You would always have to say “what grandma”. She would then say “a windshield wiper on a goats ass”. LOL I love you grandma and you are going to be deeply missed.



Chad Helm - May 20, 2020 at 12:25 PM



“ Excellent choice of pictures; three people I was happy to be introduced to....and a perfect tribute, Chad :)

Bernice M Lurkins - May 20, 2020 at 02:02 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gladys Mae Birks.



May 20, 2020 at 11:57 AM



“ Grami you always were a funny one.. I have laughed so much every time I've been with you.. I know that I will see you in Heaven and that until then you will be deeply missed! Love u more than words can Express.



Chad Helm - May 20, 2020 at 08:40 AM



“ YES, Chad....love this, Bernice

Bernice M Lurkins - May 20, 2020 at 01:31 PM



“ I miss her feistiness when I visit mom at Cedarhurst. I was happy to call her a friend

Kathleen Reed - September 07, 2020 at 01:16 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Gladys Mae Birks.



May 19, 2020 at 10:34 PM



“ GRANDMA, She loved every chirping on a fence, every family of geese she took care of, every humming bird feeder she filled, every squirrel she got mad at! From teaching me:

"I like pickles, I like pies.
I like little boys just my size!"

I'm going to hold on to all these little memories....and miss you til the day I die!

I love you so much and knowing you're now at peace and with whom you really wanted to be with makes it a little more bearable! I will miss you so much...all the cooking you did, all the tacos that made you have a runny nose...I will miss it all....I could go on and on.

But for now my sweet, angelic Grandma....Rest in Heaven & Fly that "Happy Bottom" as high as you possibly can!

Love,
You're one and only....Keri Lynn



Keri Taylor - May 19, 2020 at 08:52 PM



“ Gladys so much to say about you. you brought so much joy n our lives wish we will never forget. we all have so many memories of her n Roy. yea she could cook she made me some homemade chicken noodle soup when I was sick. we had a lot of meals with them. still miss them. we will miss you but you are with Roy now. Love you Gladys's.

cindy carnahan - May 20, 2020 at 12:26 PM



“ Don & I always loved talking to Gladys at Cedarhurst. She always brought a smile & laughter to the place. Don & I will miss her deeply! Deepest Sympathy to her family & friends.



Kathleen & Donald Reed - May 19, 2020 at 11:44 AM



“ I'll always Love you grandma!! So glad you got to see the cubbies win a world series! Go Cubs go im only saying that because of you hahaha I'll always remember the the trips to Branson as a kid going fishing with you and Grandpa on the boat. I love you so much say hi to Grandpa for me!

Houston Gregory - May 18, 2020 at 08:46 PM



“ GLADYS WAS THE MOST LOVING AND SWEET LADY...I LOVED HER DEARLY. SHE WILL BE MISSED. REST IN PEACE GLADYS..I WILL ALWAYS THINK OF YOU AND LOVE YOU FOREVER



CATHY DAUGHERTY - May 18, 2020 at 03:34 PM