



Thelma "Tess" Evon Kurtz

July 23, 1930 - December 21, 2024

Thelma Evon Kurtz, 94, known to her many family and friends as "Tess", soared to her new paradise in Heaven on Saturday afternoon, December 21, 2024. She is now in the arms of her Savior and reunited with her loving husband, Jim Kurtz, and all her relatives waiting there for her.

She was born on Wednesday, July 23, 1930, in Springfield, Missouri to Grover and Ida (Hembree) Allman. She moved to Dallas County as a young girl to live at her beloved homestead, "Rocky Acres." She was baptized in Greasy Creek at the age of eleven and began her life of loving her Lord. She attended Free Will Baptist Church.

Her life on the homestead was filled with the difficulties but also the love of farm life. She spoke often of the fun times with her parents and siblings, Glenn, and Elsie. She loved Buffalo and made lifelong friends there. Some of her closest friends decided to quit school after the eighth grade and she was leaning in that direction as well. Her dad heard about this and shared with her that he and her mother hoped that she would be their one child to finish high school. She looked up to her dad as her hero and she did graduate from Buffalo High School in 1948.

Her life has always been centered around her love for the Lord, her love of her children and family, her blessing of her 15-acre paradise, "Tall Timber", and

the many animals that sought refuge on her doorstep, particularly her turtles. She and her husband, Jim, raised six happy, healthy children, Glen, Ed, Mike, Jay, Ida, and Jennifer. She is blessed with 17 grandkids, 19 (almost 20) great grandkids, and 3 great, great grandkids. Now, that is family history!

She was involved in everything! Teaching her children to love life and work hard, school activities, Scouting, family and community history, gardening, and reading every issue of the local newspaper to glean any tidbits of history to be recorded.

She is the last of her generation in this family, preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her siblings, her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, three grandkids, and one great grandkid. She is survived by all six of her children, 14 grandkids, 18 (almost 19) great grandkids, and 3 great great grandkids.

Tess will be missed by many. Know that she is happy and healthy in her new permanent paradise in Heaven. She has found her new and amazing wildflower garden, no weeding required. Toodle-eee-ooo Momma. We love you!

Services are scheduled for 2:30 pm on Saturday, December 28, 2024, at Cantlon-Otterness & Viets Funeral Home with visitation prior, from 1:30 pm until service time. Thelma will be laid to rest at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery near Elkland, Missouri.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Cantlon-Otterness & Viets Funeral Home, Buffalo, Missouri.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery

16 Shalom Trail
Elkland, MO 65644

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 28. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Cantlon-Otterness & Viets Funeral Home - Buffalo
931 W. Main St.
P.O. Box 993
Buffalo, MO 65622
(417) 345-2211
info@cantlonotterness.com
<https://www.cantlonotterness.com>

Service

DEC 28. 2:30 PM (CT)

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Interment

DEC **28** (CT)

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery
16 Shalom Trail
Elkland, MO 65644

Tribute Wall

CM

“ *Thelma and I was a member of the Garden Club she knew so much about gardening and willing to share with everyone. I loved visiting at her house for meetings. She kept in contact with FB and Christmas cards. Always reminded me I was in her prayers. She loved hearing about my adventures of traveling and our old vehicles. She is missed by me and will be remembered. Thank you Thelma for being you!*

Celia Marks - December 27, 2024 at 07:05 PM

JH

“ *When I think of Aunt Tess I see someone who had a life well lived and followed her passions. From researching family history, to horticulture and even writing a book. She was the glue that held the Kurtz family and our reunions together. What an amazing woman! She was a beautiful soul who will be greatly missed. Our prayers go out to those who loved her and will miss her faith and kindness. Jan & Jerry Hansen*

Jan Hansen - December 26, 2024 at 06:26 PM

LG

“ *Love, Marcia, Alex, Amber and the girls purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Thelma "Tess" Evon Kurtz.*



Love, Marcia, Alex, Amber and the girls - December 26, 2024 at 04:18 PM

JT

“ Judy, Tracy and Tammy purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Thelma "Tess" Evon Kurtz.



Judy, Tracy and Tammy - December 26, 2024 at 02:50 PM

JT

“ Judy, Tracy and Tammy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thelma "Tess" Evon Kurtz.

Judy, Tracy and Tammy - December 26, 2024 at 02:50 PM

LM

“ Love Gary and Marilyn Moschowsky purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Thelma "Tess" Evon Kurtz.



Love Gary and Marilyn Moschowsky - December 26, 2024 at 09:47 AM

RF

“ Robin Bishop and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Thelma "Tess" Evon Kurtz.



Robin Bishop and family - December 23, 2024 at 08:50 PM

RF

“ Robin Bishop and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Thelma Evon Kurtz.

Robin Bishop and family - December 23, 2024 at 08:50 PM

JC

“ Thelma was very devoted to local history. She was a long time member of the Dallas County Historical Society and served as president for several years and was on the board of directors. She will be missed.
Our deepest condolences to the family.

Jack/Linda Crawford - December 23, 2024 at 02:33 PM