



Dorothy Ann King Harris Bray

September 26, 1926 - January 24, 2024

Dorothy Ann King Harris Bray passed away on January 24, 2024 peacefully at her home surround by her family at the age of 97. Dorothy was born in Yancy Mills, Missouri on September 25, 1926 to the late George and Cora Mae (Black) King. The youngest of five children, her root went very deep into the hills around Yancy Mills where she spent all her childhood and early youth.

Dorothy attended Yancy Mills Elementary School from grades 1-8 in a little one room school building that housed all 8 grades, and had only one teacher. She then attended Rolla High School graduating in 1945. In the four years that Dorothy attended, she would walk a mile each way everyday to catch the bus. Her first teaching position was at Rhea Elementary School when she was 18. Having no mode of transportation, it was necessary for her to find a family to live with Monday-Friday. Her father would pick her up on Fridays at the close of school and take her home for the weekend.

The Superintendent at the school gave a “heads-up”, that Missouri would soon require a college degree to teach, so Dorothy attended college in the summers while she wasn’t teaching, finally obtaining he Bachelor’s, Master’s and Specialist Degrees. She was the first female elementary school principal in Rolla. She held position of principal at Benton, Pershing, and Truman schools for 13 years until her retirement.

Dorothy married Lester Harris in 1947, this union was blessed with two sons, Dennis and Roger Harris. Lester passed away in 1972. Dorothy remained a

widow for the next 20 years. She raised her boys with the “can-do” attitude. There was nothing that she couldn’t do, if something around the house or barn needed fixing, she fixed it, she was the first one out in the middle of winter to take care of the horses, cows, goats and chickens, that she raised, not to mention the many stray animals that she would bring in.

In 1992 Dorothy married Alan Bray, who passed away in 2006. Dorothy always had so much going on her life, she enjoyed quilting, cooking, and canning. Each summer she would plant a big garden and would graciously share the bounty of her labor with friends, and neighbors. Dorothy was a Member of the First Baptist Church in Rolla, Missouri, where she taught Sunday School for many years. She was also a member of the Eastern Star, and the White Shrine. She was a loving mother, grandmother, special aunt, and a friend to many. To say that she will be missed is an understatement, she will always be remembered for her selfless acts of kindness and love she showed to everyone that was lucky enough to have known her.

Dorothy Ann King Bray is survived by her sons, Dennis Harris and wife Pat, of Rolla, MO, and Roger Harris, of Rolla, MO; grandchildren, Hollie Harris Caupp-Maxfield (Daniel), and Taylor Harris (Shana); great-grandchildren, Braeden and Greyson Caupp; a host of nieces, nephews, extended family and friends; In addition to her parents, George and Cora King, and husbands, Lester Harris, and Alan Bray, she was preceded in death by her brothers, Oscar, Alva, and Cecil King; sister, Ethel Tucker.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, January 29, 2024 at 1:00PM at the Rolla Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary with Pastor Steve Betts officiating. Interment will be at the Pilot Knob Cemetery, in Vida, MO. A visitation for family and friends will be held at the Chapel on Monday prior to the service from 11AM until service time. A Eastern Star service will be held prior to the service.

Cemetery Details

Pilot Knob Cemetery

Rolla, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 29. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Rolla
1651 E. Hwy 72
Rolla, MO 65401
(573) 458-2262
jgrolla@hotmail.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Service

JAN 29. 1:00 PM (CT)

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