



## Emma Lee "Joyce" Cornelius

September 2, 1938 - June 17, 2016

Emma Lee "Joyce" Hilgers Cornelius formerly of Rolla, Missouri was born September 2, 1938 in St. James, Missouri to the late William Henry and Emma Lemora (Hudgens) Hilgers, and entered into rest June 17, 2016 at the age of 77.

Joyce was united in marriage to Jack Cornelius on August 20, 1960; this union was blessed with four children. They shared fifty-three years together before his death on July 29, 2013. They loved to travel to Southern Texas and spent a lot of time doing volunteer work for the United States Forest Service in Wyoming. They were also great square dancers. After Jack's death, Joyce moved to Webster Grove where she would spend her time crafting. She enjoyed crafting of all types; quilting, cross stitch and leather work were among her favorites.

Joyce is survived by her children, Bradley Cornelius of Texas, Cheryl Bates of Oklahoma, Karl (Lora) Cornelius of Tennessee and Karla (Robert) Benson of St. Louis, Missouri; brothers, Donald (Patricia) Hilgers and Charles (Linda) Hilgers of Rolla, Missouri; grandchildren, Anthony Cornelius, Christopher Herman, Jack Cornelius, Jessica Cornelius, Heather (Alex) Horn, James (Kim) Benson, Hannah (Josh) Gambrell, Hollyn (Doug) Porter, Hailey Benson and Hope Benson; great-grand daughter, Skarlett.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two

brothers, John Norman and William Hilgers.

Funeral service for Joyce Cornelius will be held at 10:30AM on Saturday, June 25, 2016 at the Rolla Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary, Rolla, Missouri.

Interment will be at the St. James City Cemetery, St. James, Missouri.

Visitation for family and friends will be held at the Rolla Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary from 10:00AM until service time at 10:30AM.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **25**. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

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

## Service

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# Tribute Wall



“ *Emma Lee "Joyce" Cornelius*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *Emma Lee "Joyce" Cornelius*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *Joyce and I enjoyed many lunches together when working for the U.S. Forest Service. She was a fun and sincere friend.*

**Dorothy Hardesty** - June 27, 2016 at 05:29 PM



“ *My heart hurts for all of you in the loss of your Mom. I pray that you feel the peace that only comes from God in this time of sorrow.*

*Bud and Susan Keilman*

**Susan Keilman** - June 27, 2016 at 05:46 AM



“ *Sally, Gary, Tony, Lauren, Sophie, Dan and Daivd purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Emma Lee "Joyce" Cornelius.*



**Sally, Gary, Tony, Lauren, Sophie, Dan and Daivd** - June 24, 2016 at 05:48 PM

LG

“ *Karla and Hannah, So glad we got a chance to meet your sweet mom and grandma. Take care and know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. With Love Lynn and Rick Gambrell*

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**Lynn Gambrell** - June 24, 2016 at 10:46 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Emma Lee "Joyce" Cornelius.*



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June 22, 2016 at 02:24 PM

SH

“ *I pray that in this time of loss you will feel God's healing love much more. Trust In Him.  
Thinking of you all in these difficult times.  
Sharon Cornelius Hedwall*

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**Sharon** - June 22, 2016 at 09:06 AM