



Mary Jo Roberts

February 28, 1935 - October 18, 2022

Mary Jo Roberts of Salem, Missouri passed away Tuesday, October 18, 2022 peacefully at her home in Salem at the age of 87. Mary Jo was born in Salem, Missouri on February 28, 1935 to John and Lola (Diem) Major.

Mary Jo Major was a graduate of Salem High School class of 1953, shortly after graduating Miss Mary Jo Major married the love of her life, Mr. Wayne Roberts. This union was blessed with three children. Mary Jo and Wayne bought a small farm outside of Salem. She worked for Barads for several years and worked with Wayne at Roberts Sports Shop on the weekends. She was truly a people person; Mary Jo never met a stranger. After they sold the Sports Shop Mary Jo went to work for the Eagles Club for 30 years, while also working for the Walker Rooney Post #99 American Legion for 28 years. After she retired Mary Jo could be found around the house riding around in her golf cart feeding the fish, putting corn out for the turkeys, and deer, or in one of her many flower beds, and in the summer her beautiful vegetable gardens that she and Wayne tended to. She also enjoyed reading, word search puzzles, and watching the television. She was truly the matriarch of the family, a gentle caretaker who adored her family and friends, Mary Jo will be lovingly missed by all that knew and loved her.

Mary Jo Roberts is survived by her daughter Linda Freeman, of Salem, MO; daughter-in-law Heather Roberts, and her special friend Paul McGhee, of

Waynesville, MO; brother Jim Major and wife Jimmalee, of Pekin, IL; sisters-in-law Shirley Whitmire and Rose Major, of Salem, MO; grandchildren, Eddie Roberts, of Salem, MO, and Melissa Kessler, of Jenks, OK; great-grandchildren, Josh Boyce and Justin Kessler, of Jenks, OK; great-great-grandson, Aaden Martin, of Tulsa, OK; a host of extended family and friends. In addition to her parents John and Lola Major, Mary Jo was preceded in death by her husband Wayne Roberts; sons, Terry and Michael Roberts; brother, Jack Major; grandson, David Kessler; mother and father-in-law, Earl and Faye Roberts; stepfathers, John Babb, and Fred Diem.

Funeral services for Mary Jo Roberts will be held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, October 22, 2022 at the Salem Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary with Pastor Chuck Whitmire officiating. She will be laid to rest next to Wayne and her boys at the Cedar Grove Cemetery. Visitation for family and friends will be held at the Chapel prior to the service from 11:00 AM until service time. Memorials are suggested and greatly appreciated to the Mary Jo Roberts memorial Fund. Cards are available at all James & Gahr locations.

Cemetery Details

Cedar Grove Cemetery

Salem, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **22**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Salem
103 West Center
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-3117
jgsalemmo@hotmail.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Funeral Service

OCT **22**. 1:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Jo Roberts*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *Mary Jo Roberts*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *I remember aunt Jo living in the house by the bowling alley sitting at the kitchen table drinking coffee and smoking this was the 60s and 70s when we would come for our week to visit grandma Diem and Fred. We would have a short visit with our dad Jack but we stayed at Jo's house more and play with Linda and Micheal. Then came Eddie and he was the apple in her life. Then Wayne built that big house on the hill and had a lake built so he could go fishing. Jo and Wayne made a great family. We moved to Minnesota and the visits stopped. I will love aunt Jo forever. God bless her and my Salem family. Frances Major.*

Frances m major - October 22, 2022 at 08:21 AM



“ *I am Jo's niece. I remember going to Salem every summer to visit Grandma Diem and we looked so forward to going to jo and Wayne's house. Hanging with Michael and Linda. I have such fond memories I will always love you*

joanne major - October 22, 2022 at 01:44 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Jo Roberts.



October 21, 2022 at 12:48 PM



“ My sympathy in loss of your mother, Linda. I remember how kind she was to me as a child and later as adult. Doris Rostron Harris

Doris Rostron Harris - October 20, 2022 at 09:15 PM



“ Thoughts and prayers going to all the family. May God be with your all.



Dennis Inman - October 20, 2022 at 09:10 PM



“ I'm so sorry to read of the loss of Mary Jo. She was a great woman and will be missed. Kay

Kay McMurtrey - October 20, 2022 at 08:35 PM



“ I mowed the huge yard at her house. When was done we'd always sit and chat about everything. Sweet lady. Miss our talks. Prayers for rest of the family

randy Barton - October 20, 2022 at 02:57 PM