



## Ruth I Craft

September 24, 1926 - August 25, 2016

Ruth I. Craft of Salem, Missouri was born on September 24, 1926 to the late Warner and Bessie (Malone) Happel and entered into rest on August 25, 2016 at the age of 89 years.

On May 20, 1988, Ruth was united in marriage to Wendell Craft and to this union she instantly became a loving mother, grandma and later a great-grandma. Ruth often shared with many that Dennis, Linda and their children were the family she never had. Ruth loved spending time with her sister Rubie. Their shopping trips were her favorite, often purchasing the same things. Her nephew, Denny, always had a way of bringing many smiles and much joy to her life. Ruth enjoyed sewing, reading Christian novels and word search puzzles. She loved to travel and her late husband, Wendell, made sure he took her to many destinations across the United States. Ruth's greatest joy was her family. She loved the time spent with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Playing Skip-Bo, baking cinnamon roll ups, camping, float trips and Colorado adventures with her grandchildren at her side were some of her favorite times. Ruth was a woman of strong faith and she will be greatly missed by many.

Ruth is survived by her children, Dennis Craft and wife Linda of Branson West, Missouri, Lorna Jenkins and husband Ellis of Atlanta, Georgia; sister, Ruby Shelton and special friend Bill Cowan of Salem, Missouri; grandchildren,

Jamie Helfer and husband Matthew of Baltimore, Maryland, Jordan Craft and wife Katie of Clovis, New Mexico, Monica Swindle of Ballwin, Missouri; great-grandchildren, Adeline Helfer, Gabriela Helfer, Isabel Steinmetz, Sophia Steinmetz; special nephew, Dennie Shelton of Salem, Missouri; special niece and caregiver, Shirley Donovan and husband Dale of Salem, Missouri; nieces, nephews, family and friends. In addition to her parents, Warner and Bessie, Ruth was preceded in death by her husband Wendell Craft on May 8, 2010; step-son Rickie Craft; brothers, Ervin, Alva, Floyd and Herbert Happel.

Funeral services for Ruth Craft will be held 11:00AM Monday, August 29, 2016 at the Salem Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary with Reverend Gary Bartle officiating. Interment will be in the Cedar Grove Cemetery with Jordan Craft, Matthew Helfer, Donald Happel, Marvin Happel, Gary Happel, Marlin Happel serving as pallbearers, and Dennie Shelton serving as an honorary pallbearer. A visitation for family and friends will be held at the Chapel on Sunday, August 28, 2016 from 6-8PM. Memorials are suggested to Three Rivers Hospice, cards are available at all James & Gahr locations.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **28**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Service

AUG **29**. 11:00 AM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Salem  
103 West Center  
Salem, MO 65560  
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# Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth I Craft*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *Ruth I Craft*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *To each member of the family of Ruth Happel Craft, earth's loss is heaven's gain. Special thoughts to my dear friends Ruby and Denny Shelton. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of you in your great loss. "Another one from us is gone, a voice we love is still; a place is vacant in our midst that never can be filled." May God bless and comfort each of you.*

**Ken Fiebelman** - August 28, 2016 at 09:50 AM



“ *Sister Ruth was such a special Christian Sister..always have enjoyed her hugs and her thoughtful ways...she will be missed so much! Grandma Sherry!*

**Sherry Harweger** - August 26, 2016 at 11:11 AM