



Velma Fitzgerald

November 9, 1919 - October 8, 2020

Velma Fitzgerald of St. Charles, Missouri, formerly of Salem Missouri passed away Thursday, October 8, 2020 at the St. Peter's Manor Care Center in St. Peters, Missouri at the age of 100 years and 11 months.

Velma was born in Gladden, Missouri on November 9, 1919 to the late Cleveland and Dollie (Sullivan) Lewis.

Miss Velma Lewis married the love of her life Mr. Leslie "Pete" Fitzgerald on October 18, 1941. This union was blessed with three boys. After living in St. Louis for 27 years they moved to Lesterville in 1968, than finally made Salem their home in 1983. They settled in quite nicely in Salem, joining the Oak Grove Baptist Church, where Velma was quite active until her health no longer permitted. Sadly Pete passed away in 1987. Velma stayed very active throughout her life. She was an avid quilter, and belonged to several quilt clubs along the way, getting together for quilting bees with friends and neighbors to help each other hand quilt whomever need a quilt finished. She was an excellent cook and baker, anyone that come to visit, Velma always wanted to cook for them, her expression of love was to fry some chicken, make fresh biscuits, or whip up a pie or cake, she was always ready to feed you.

In the spring she put out a garden that she had carefully planned, making sure that she could fit everything she wanted to grow into the space she had. When it was time she couldn't wait to share the bounty of her labor with family and friends, and can what she could so that her family had what they needed to

get through the winters. Betty Gibson was her cousin, and also her dear friend, she and Velma spent many days working on beautiful Gibson baskets together. During the time her children were growing up, Pete and Velma would spend the entire month of August on the Black River in Lesterville camping out at the river in tents, with Velma still cooking all the food they needed. They finally got a camper after many years, and still enjoyed the river trips. she had a great sense of humor and was very funny, most of all she was a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and friend, and will be lovingly miss by all that knew and loved her.

Velma is survived by her sons, Robert Fitzgerald and wife Bettyejane, of Sycamore Hills, MO, and Gary Fitzgerald and wife Carla, of St. Charles, MO; grandchildren, Bobbii Ann Beem (Grant), Kelly Fitzgerald, Gary Fitzgerald JR (Cheri), and Anne Jones (Brian) ; great-grandchildren, Christie Beem, Aiden and Avery Fitzgerald, Kylie Maloney, and Greyson Jones; sister Opal Jacobs, of Fenton, MO; a host of extended family and friends. In addition to her parents Cleveland and Dollie Lewis, Velma was preceded in death by her husband Leslie "Pete" Fitzgerald; son Larry "Bass" Fitzgerald; siblings, Denver, Delma, Granville, Hansel, Cleo, Vernon, Grady, and Paul.

Funeral services for Velma Fitzgerald will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2020 at the Salem Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary at 1:00 PM with Pastor Rocky Lindley officiating. Interment will be at the Empire Cemetery in Gladden, Missouri where she will be laid to rest beside her beloved husband Leslie "Pete" Fitzgerald. A visitation for family and friends will be held at the Chapel prior to the service on Sunday, from 11 AM until service time.

Previous Events

Service

OCT 11. 1:00 AM (CT)

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

Visitation

OCT 11. 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/>

Interment

OCT 11 (CT)

Empire Cemetery
Gladden, MO

Tribute Wall



“ *Velma Fitzgerald*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *Velma Fitzgerald*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *Velma was a wonderful person & will be greatly missed.*



Vickie Pohlmann - October 10, 2020 at 05:53 PM



“ *I came to visit my mother, Juanita Hall (Redwine) in Salem several years ago. My Mom lived in California for many years; and she wanted to come back to Salem, her home. She also wanted to be near her favorite aunt Velma, who helped raise her and her brother Jimmy, when they were young. While in Salem, Velma was the perfect hostess to me. She had me over for dinner one night and made her delicious cornbread. One day we drove out to Betty Gibson's (house), her cousin, to see how the famous Curry-Gibson baskets were made. Then we went for ice cream. We had a lot of good laughs. What a beautiful memory, I will always have in my heart with my Great Aunt. May peace and love abide within her family. Jackie Hymel (Hall)*

Jacklyn Hymel (Hall) - October 10, 2020 at 03:06 PM