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5-14-2020

Catherine 'Jackie' Graham



Catherine (Jackie) Yvonne Edwards Graham was received in the arms of Jesus Monday, May 11, 2020. Jackie passed peacefully at home surrounded by family. She was born September 6, 1933, in Wellman, Iowa, to the parents of McKinley/Ray Edwards and Marie Swartzendruber Edwards. She attended grade school in the Kalona area, moved to Newton and completed 8th through 10th grades, and graduated from Newburg High School in 1951.

Jackie married George Graham on September 11, 1953, at Newburg United Church of Christ. They were married 66

years and together they raised three sons: Randall Earl, Thomas Jess, and John Edwards Graham.

Jackie held many secretarial and bookkeeping positions: Iowa Telephone and Telegraph, Maytag Payroll Dept., DeLongs-Manager of Gilman Division, Dr. Heddens and Dr. Brown of Grinnell, and Edan Corp (Bohstedt) of Grinnell. For many years Jackie was a Friendship Manor Resident Advocate. Above all Jackie was a loving and devoted wife, mother, sister, grandma and great grandma. Jackie was a long time active member of the Newburg Church and sang in the church choir for many years. She left a legacy of her faith to her family through her reflective journals of scripture with humility and humor.

Jackie never had idle hands. She enjoyed sewing, embroidering, cross-stitching, and with farm men in her life, lots of mending. She could often be found roaming the shelves of the local library or completing crossword puzzles or word finds. She was an excellent cook/baker and loved trying new recipes. Jackie had the gift of hospitality and blessed with a large kitchen where family, friends, and neighbors gathered for coffee, conversation, and homemade confectionery treats. Jackie treasured the special "girl's weekends" with her beloved sisters and nieces.

Those to cherish Jackie's memory are her husband, George; dear sister, Donna Farland of Waukee; sons, Randall, Thomas (Jeri), and John of Grinnell; grandchildren, Regan (Nancy) Graham, Mindy (Brock) Schulz, Christian Graham, and Catelyn Graham; great grands, Graci, Jaksyn, Averi, Kenli, Lawsyn Graham, Bauer and Wesley Schulz; dearest nieces and nephews; and step brothers Charles Carnahan, Paul Carnahan, and Dwight Carnahan.

Jackie was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Joseph Edwards; sister, Marlene Altemeier; brother-in-law, Clifford Farland and Duane Altemeier; stepfather, dear Jesse Carnahan; and stepbrothers and stepsisters, Boyd and Frank Carnahan, Doris Vanderwerff, and Nina Farland.

Being a simple woman of strong faith, Jackie requested no visitation or funeral service. A private family graveside service will be planned at a later date. Memorials in memorial of Jackie can be sent to Newburg-Chester Church.

Obituary notice for Catherine 'Jackie' Yvonne Edwards Graham, published in the Newburg-Chester News, May 14, 2020.