

Obituaries

RUBY BECKER

Ruby J. Becker, 85, formerly of Galva and McPherson, KS, peacefully passed away on May 22, 2025, with family by her side at Pine Village, Moundridge. Arrangements are with Stockham Family Funeral Home, McPherson.

SHARON JOHNSON

Sharon K. Johnson, 72, of McPherson, KS, passed away May 20, 2025. Arrangements are with Stockham Family Funeral Home, McPherson.

MAXINE GIBBONS

Maxine E. Gibbons, 93, of McPherson, KS, and formerly of Denver, CO, passed away May 15, 2025, at The Cedars, McPherson. Arrangements are with Stockham Family Funeral Home, McPherson.

ROBERT SIFRIT

01/19/1931 - 05/21/2025

Robert L. Sifrit, age 94, of Sandstone Heights Nursing Home in Little River, Kansas, died on May 21, 2025. He was preceded in death by his wife of 71 years, Mina Mae (Davis) Sifrit. Bob is survived by son Robin (Kathy), son Lynn (Kathy), several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, as well as nieces and nephews. Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Robert L Sifrit and Erma Bush Sifrit, sisters Waunita (Floyd) Stebbeds and Jerry (Leland) Burkett; brother-in-law, Vinton Davis (Orpha) and sister-in-law, Lorraine (John) Davis.

Bob, whose birth name was Everett Lloyd Krispin, was born on January 19, 1931, to Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Krispin. Robert Laverne Sifrit and Erma (Bush) Sifrit took Bob into their home as a foster child and adopted Bob when he was twelve, as was Bob's wish. Bob grew up near Beaver, Iowa. Bob and Mina were married on July 4th. Early in their marriage, Bob ran a gas station and then a taxi service. He attended Elsworth (IA) Junior College and graduated from McPherson College (KS) and from Bethany Theological Seminary (IL). Bob was ordained in the Church of the Brethren, pastoring churches in Missouri, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Iowa, and Illinois. He was recognized for 60 years in ministry. Bob enjoyed fishing, hunting Native American artifacts, and making jewelry.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 11:00 AM at the Little River (KS) Congregational Church, officiated by Ted Weiss.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites you to give a memorial gift to Sandstone Heights Nursing Home or The Little River Congregational Church, both of Little River, Kansas in care of Stockham Family Funeral Home, 205 North Chestnut, McPherson, KS 67460.

Personal condolences may be sent to the family at www.stockhamfamily.com.



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DARRYL UNRUH

12/12/1942 - 05/25/2025

Darryl G. Unruh, 82, of Galva, Kansas, passed away Sunday, May 25, 2025 at the Moundridge Manor. He was born on December 12, 1942 in McPherson, Kansas, to Alfred and Myrtle (Becker) Unruh.

He was a lifelong Galva resident and graduated from Galva High School.

Darryl was a member of the United Center Church of God in Christ, Mennonite, in rural Galva.

He was a farmer and a Pioneer Seed dealer. Darryl was a former owner of Iron Horse Seed and Iron Horse Bar-B-Que sauce.

Darryl was united in marriage to Karen Becker on February 7, 1964. She survives of the home after 61 years of marriage.

Other survivors include his sons, Dayl (Connie) Unruh of Canton, and Shelby (Raelene) Unruh of Galva; daughters, Meri Kay (Darrin) Rhodes of Tampa, and Gina (Sheldon) Koehn of Goshen, IN; 14 grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; brother, Marlin (Rosa) Unruh of Galva; and sisters, Janet (Jerry) Doane of Galva, and Dorita (Norman) Koehn of Macon, MS.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Lavern Unruh.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, May 29, 2025 at the United Center Mennonite Church, rural Galva. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. Friends may call from 3 to 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 28, at the Moundridge Funeral Home, with family greeting friends from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., at the church. Memorial contributions may be made to Moundridge Manor, in care of Moundridge Funeral Home, PO Box 410, Moundridge, KS 67107.

BRENDA HAMPTON

01/13/1966 - 04/24/2025

Brenda Rae Hampton, 59, of Little River, Kansas, passed away April 24, 2025, at Hutchinson Regional Medical Center, Hutchinson, Kansas. She was born January 13, 1966, in McPherson, Kansas, the daughter of Stuart and Sharon (Peterson) Frazier. Brenda has resided in Little River since 1999, formerly of Ulysses, Kansas. She graduated from Ulysses High School, Ulysses, Kansas, with the class of 1984. Brenda pursued a degree in education at Seward County Community College, Hutchinson Community College, and the University of Kansas. She worked for the Grant County Recreation Commission as director for five years; was the aquatics director and swim coach at the Hutchinson YMCA for fifteen years; worked at McPherson Aquapups; and was a home-maker. Brenda was a member of PEO Chapter C in Lyons. She enjoyed crafts, gardening, mowing, and most of all spending time in the pool and sunshine. On August 31, 1997, Brenda was united in marriage with Thomas "Tom" Hampton, in Little River, Kansas. She is survived by her husband, Tom Hampton of Little River, KS; four children, Audra Shelton and husband Zachary of Kingman, KS, Justus Hampton and significant other Leeya Vandruff of McPherson, KS, Ashton Hampton of Little River, KS, and Liberty Hampton of Little River, KS; brother, Phillip Frazier and wife Shannon of Frisco, TX; two sisters, Rhonda Anderson of Hutchinson, KS, Carla Schull and husband Brian of Collinsville, TX; and four grandchildren, Khyler, Elora, Elijah and Arlo Shelton. Brenda is preceded in death by her parents. Funeral services will be held at 1:30 P.M., Saturday, May 31, 2025, at Trinity Lutheran Church, McPherson. Memorials may be made out to Tom Hampton in care of Birzer Funeral Home, Lyons.



RUTH HILL

Ruth Janette Hill, 94, of McPherson, KS, peacefully passed away on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, surrounded by family at her home in rural McPherson.

She was born on March 31, 1931, in McPherson, KS, the daughter of J. Melvin and Frances J. (McClain) Moors. Ruth grew up in a rural family where education was a high priority. Her parents instilled the idea in their children that a teacher was an authority, who was admired and valued in the community. As long as Ruth could remember, she always wanted to be a teacher.

Ruth's first eight years were spent walking to and from a one-room schoolhouse. She enjoyed and excelled in mathematics. Her father was good at math and encouraged her. He was a man who did a lot of mental math, and that interested Ruth greatly. She loved her dad and knew he loved her too.

Ruth graduated from McPherson High School in 1949. She attended her freshman and sophomore years of college at McPherson College and transferred to Kansas State University to graduate in 1953 with a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Mathematics.

On August 24, 1952, Ruth was united in marriage to Dwight Willard Hill in McPherson, KS. This union was blessed with three children, Charlotte, Dallas, and Kris.

For 28 years, Ruth taught math to middle school/junior high students. She taught with a deep appreciation for mathematics. It was important to her to see students accept responsibility for their own learning and be self-disciplined enough to carry through with the required task. She enjoyed seeing former students grow and develop. Ruth took a personal interest in learning about their personal lives, knowing where they live, their families, hobbies and careers. She took many students to math contests across the state. They always made her proud and provided her many fond memories.

Ruth led Camp Fire Girls as a leader or officer for 20 years. She worked with girls of all ages. She took several groups camping in Rocky Mountain National Park. She mentored a young lady to achieve the highest honor of a Wohelo Award as well as earning herself the highest form of recognition and recognizes special people with the Luther Halsey Gulick award. Ruth enjoyed investing in their young lives.

Ruth was a member of Chapter EU of PEO since 1963. She was president three different times and held several additional positions in the chapter. Ruth was an advocate of women in education.

Ruth had several hobbies. She enjoyed: taking, printing, and developing photographs; jeeping and camping with the family and flying. In 1975, she earned her private pilot's license. She always wanted to fly, and she enjoyed the many friends made through flying activities. Ruth enjoyed playing bridge "to keep her mind active". Ruth and her granddaughter, Hannah, played SUDOKU. They enjoyed putting puzzles together. According to Hannah, puzzles had to be completed in a day or they were judged "just too hard."

Ruth retired from teaching in 1992. She then joined the Kansas 99's. This is a national organization for lady pilots. She always enjoyed their flying activities and served as president in 2003-2005. Their special interest was to help women to become pilots. Ruth was a proud member of the United Flying Octogenarians (UFO). Pilots, after their 80th birthday may join, and she flew herself until 89 years of age.

In 1992, she joined the McPherson Area Retired School Personnel. These former teachers shared much in common. She became treasurer of MARSP in 1999 and continued until they dissolved. She loved people. Ruth was always ready for coffee or volunteer at the American Red Cross. Both provided helpful conversation and service.

Ruth is survived by her loving husband of 72 years, Dwight; three children, Charlotte Keith (Charles Robertson) of Blue Springs, MO, Dallas Hill (Karen) of Los Alamos, NM, and Kris Reeve (Albert) of Salina, KS; a brother, Russell Moors of Manhattan, KS; two grandchildren, Hannah Gift (Michael) of St. Louis, MO and Brett Hill (Katherine) of San Diego, CA; a great-grandson, Michael J. Hill; and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, & great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, J. Melvin and Frances Moors and a brother, George Moors.

The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM, Thursday, May 29, 2025, at Stockham Family Funeral Home. The graveside service will be held at 10:30 AM, Friday, May 30, at the McPherson Cemetery with Rev. Dr. Charles Robertson officiating.

Memorial donations are suggested to McPherson County Community Foundation (for the Education Foundation) or McPherson College Auto Restoration Program in care of Stockham Family Funeral Home, 205 North Chestnut, McPherson, KS 67460.

Personal condolences may be sent to the family at www.stockhamfamily.com.



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