



Martha Irene Stewart

March 3, 1929 - September 26, 2017

Dateline: Alton

Martha Irene Stewart, 88, died Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at Eunice Smith Nursing Home in Alton. Born March 3, 1929 in Mattoon, IL, she was the daughter of Truman and Margaret (Champion) May. After growing up in Edwardsville and earning a degree in education from Washington University in St. Louis, she married Gerald J. Stewart in Edwardsville. He preceded her in death in 2002 after 51 years of marriage. In addition to her parents, preceding her in death was her sister, Carol Bonham. She is survived by a daughter, Barbara Severson of Prague, Czech Republic; two sons, David Stewart of Boulder, CO, and James Stewart and his wife, Angela, of Albuquerque, NM; six grandchildren: Sean and Andrea Prada of Minneapolis, MN, Stephanie (Steve) Barnes of University Place, WA, Jacob Severson of Fargo, ND, Jason Stewart of Austin, TX, and Adam Stewart of Albuquerque, NM; as well as four great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Martha served as school teacher in the Alton School District for 32 years. For most of those years she taught third or fourth grade at McKinley-Delmar, Lewis & Clark, and Eunice Smith elementary schools. She was a member of Godfrey First United Methodist Church; prior to that she was a long-time member of Alton First United Methodist Church (formerly Metropolitan United Methodist) and was part of the Alton church's integration with Godfrey First.

She was very active in the church throughout her life, singing in the choir, participating in and hosting many church circle meetings, serving in the United Methodist Women faith organization, leading Bible studies as well as the book club, and helping out in many other ways including the annual church rummage sales. In addition to these activities, she enjoyed singing with the Joy Singers, and she loved reading books, cross-stitching, traveling, and spending time with her family and friends.

Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until noon Saturday, October 7, 2017 at Godfrey First United Methodist Church. A funeral service will follow at noon with Pastor Steven Friese officiating. Burial will be at Valhalla Memorial Park in Godfrey. Memorials may be made to the Crisis Food Center (<http://www.crisisfoodcenter.org>) or Senior Services Plus (<http://www.seniorservicesplus.org>). Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangements. An online guestbook and more information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Valhalla Memorial Park

2308 W. Delmar Ave.
Godfrey, IL 62035

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 7. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Godfrey First United Methodist Church
Airport Road
Godfrey, IL 62035

Funeral

OCT 7. 12:00 PM (CT)

Godfrey First United Methodist Church
Airport Road
Godfrey, IL 62035

Tribute Wall



“ *Martha Irene Stewart*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Martha Irene Stewart*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Barb, David and Jim,
I'm so sorry to hear about your Mom's death. We had a lot of good times at your house when we were young and your Mom was always so welcoming.
My sincere condolences, Janice (Hartmann) Martin*

Janice Martin - October 03, 2017 at 12:43 PM



Hi Jan and thank you so much for your nice comment. It is much appreciated. Barb

Barbara Severson - October 04, 2017 at 12:45 PM



Martha was a mentor when I first started teaching and a great friend throughout throughout my teaching career. Her ability as a teacher was unsurpassed. Students throughout the years who were in her classroom were very fortunate indeed. I can still recall bringing our classes together on the second floor of the old Delmar School and watching astronaut Allen Sheppard hit a golf ball on the moon. She was extremely interested in the early days of our space program. This was only one of her many interests. I will truly miss her. Lee Jones

Leroy Jones - October 04, 2017 at 01:56 PM