



## Joyce Ellen Coats

February 13, 1936 - July 4, 2017

Joyce Ellen Coats, of Springport, died at the family farm on Tuesday, July 4, 2017. She was born on February 13, 1936 to John "Jack" and Phyllis (Wood) Richardson in Charlotte. Joyce graduated from Olivet High School in 1954 and married Charles Kenneth Coats on May 12, 1956. She took pride in being a homemaker and in raising her family. Joyce received tremendous joy from spending time with her family up north canoeing and hunting and on the pontoon boat on Narrow Lake. Holidays and Sunday dinners with her family were always an important part of her life and a treasured family tradition. Joyce and her husband spent their winters in Palmetto, FL and treasured time with family there too. Whether it was gardening, canning, or baking cookies, Joyce was always an active person. Joyce worked for 17 years as a postal worker in Eaton Rapids, as a teller for Eaton Federal Savings and Loan, and also as a Watkins Dealer. She was a member of the Eastern Star and a member of the Brookfield Eaton United Methodist Church.

Joyce leaves behind her beloved family including her husband of 61 years, Charles Kenneth Coats; her four children, Kendra (Elmer) Heisler, Valerie Coats, Tina (Doran) Hisler, and Kenny (Laura) Coats; her grandkids who were her pride and joy, Jason (Alison) Schultz, Ashley Schultz, Nikki (Jason) Heathcock, Michael (Amelia) Knickerbocker, DJ (Christine) Hisler, Garrett Hisler, and Cole Coats; her eight great-grandchildren; her brothers, Victor (Joan) Richardson, Jack (Cathy) Richardson; her sister-in-law, Terry

Richardson; and her aunt, her uncles, and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and by her brother, Carroll "Shine" Richardson.

A memorial service will be held Friday, August 18, 2017, 3:00 p.m. at Pray Funeral Home with Pastor Irene Vitoz officiating. Visitation is prior to the service on Friday, August 18 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to Brookfield Eaton United Methodist Church or to the Eastern Star Education Fund. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Joyce on her Tribute Page at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com). The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Joyce Ellen Coats*



---

**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - August 09, 2017 at 06:24 PM

BH

*What a beautiful sweet lady. What a beautiful sweet family ❤️*

---

**Becky Hoag** - August 12, 2017 at 08:08 AM

DS

*Beautiful!!!*

---

**Dawn Sherman** - August 15, 2017 at 01:40 PM

DC

“ *So sorry for to hear about your loss. We were out of the state at the time. God Bless her. Our love and Prayers go out to all the famiiy.*

---

**David and Reva Coats** - August 11, 2017 at 06:56 PM



“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Nichole Heathcock - August 10, 2017 at 07:10 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Joyce Ellen Coats.



August 10, 2017 at 04:46 PM



“ 39 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - August 09, 2017 at 06:20 PM

TC

“ I can't remember a time when Joyce didn't have a smile on her face. I always felt welcomed in her home. I miss all the Coat family. I Pray the Lord will help you through these times.

- Tim Caudill

---

**Tim Caudill** - July 18, 2017 at 11:13 AM

CH

“ My thoughts and prayers to the whole Coats/Hisler family! Our thoughts and prayers are with you always.

Chris and Michelle Ward and extended family.

---

**Chris** - July 13, 2017 at 11:09 PM

DH

“ Joyce was my regular I was hired to sub for at the Eaton Rapids post office in November 1987. She was such a warm and wonderful lady. Very sorry for the loss of your loved family member. Darlene Dahlem Hendrickson

---

**Darlene Dahlem Hendrickson** - July 11, 2017 at 06:31 PM

CM

“ I was so sorry to hear about Joyce's passing. She was such a wonderful person and great friend to my Mother and she blessed so many lives with her kindness. My deepest sympathy to all she leaves behind. She will be greatly missed.

---

**Carolyn McNamara** - July 11, 2017 at 10:18 AM

LG

“ When I was younger I saw the Coats family more often and I always will remember how kind Joyce was to my family (Humphrey). Even though I haven't seen her much over the years her kind heart in the world will be missed. My sincere condolences to the family.

Lorinda Gidner - July 09, 2017 at 03:43 PM

Jeanine  
Eno

“ I am so saddened about Joyce's passing. I want to let the family know how much she always meant to The Eno family. My mom (Aunt Jenny) loved Joyce so much n always had such nice loving things to say about her and all of your family. I am sorry this has happened and want you all to know we are thinking of each of you. I will keep you all in my prayers n will see you all at the service you have to pay my respects. We love you all n my brother David wanted you to know how saddened he was when I called n told him of this awful loss.  
Love and Support from The Eno family.

Jeanine Eno - July 09, 2017 at 02:48 PM

TE

“ We were so sad to hear about Joyce's passing. I met Joyce thru her daughter Tina when I started working with Tina at ERMC 14 years ago. Eventually Tina and I went on to coach our children in soccer and became good friends. Where I got see Joyce even more. Joyce always had the most beautiful smile on her face and was always a bright ray of sunshine. Our prayers go out to her entire family.

Rob & Teresa Lyon ❤️ ❤️ ❤️

Teresa - July 09, 2017 at 01:14 PM

LJ

“Ma” Coats was like my 2nd mother, she made me work my fanny off just like anyone of her own kids. She was a wonderful cook, and I was always made to feel welcome at the Sunday dinners. She was loved by so many people, especially her kids and grandkids. My thoughts and prayers continue to be with the family. Love and hugs, Rich and Linda Johnson, Sarah and Katie Caldwell.



---

**Linda Johnson** - July 09, 2017 at 11:44 AM

DA

“ So many amazing memories with Joyce and the whole family. You have always been part of our lives and for that I thank God every day. May you all find peace and know you are so loved by many. Dawn Sherman & family.

---

**Dawn** - July 09, 2017 at 09:19 AM

PM

Our thoughts and prayers to your family. Such sad news. Joyce was always a smiling face whether at church functions or the post office. Prayers. Sincerely Jerry and Peggy McManus

---

**peggy mcmanus** - July 09, 2017 at 10:20 AM

PT

So very for the loss of Joyce, she always made you feel like she was thrilled to see you. God's blessing for all of you.

---

**Patty Tarpley** - July 09, 2017 at 02:25 PM

DL

*Our sincere sympathy to the Coats family on the passing of Joyce. We have been neighbors for nearly 42 years and enjoyed visiting Kenny and Joyce over the years. Joyce was our Watkins dealer too. We have fond memories of Joyce and loved her smile and kind heart. May the Coats family find peace in the days and months ahead.*

*David and Helene Larson*

---

**David and Helene Larson** - July 10, 2017 at 08:44 AM



“ *may you find peace at this time. knew her children as well. grew up at narrow lake.*

*cheryl thomas dahl*

---

**Cheryl Dahl** - July 09, 2017 at 09:02 AM



PamelaGr  
Yerxa-  
Morrow

“ *I send the Coats Family my deepest sympathies and my prayers. Love to you all. PAM Yerxa - Morrow*

---

**PamelaGrace Yerxa-Morrow** - July 09, 2017 at 08:40 AM

LC

“ *Prayers go out to the Coats family at this time. Joyce was a wonderful person, neighbor and friend. I have known Joyce and the Coats family for 63 years.*

---

**Linda Cook** - July 09, 2017 at 08:30 AM

VW

“ May she RIP. She will be greatly missed by her family and loved ones but know that She is in a better place with our heavenly father watching out for everyone of her loved ones. She may not be here in body but She will always be here in your hearts, mind and spirit. Remember all the Good times you had and will never forget. That is what she would want from all if you. Our heart felt condolences to all if you. You are in our prayers and thoughts

Virginia and Robert Whipp - July 09, 2017 at 08:04 AM

CD

“ I am so sorry to hear of Joyce's passing...she was a beautiful soul and such a delight to talk to...i remember when my mom Leah Blatt started selling Watkins under Joyce...am sending prayers to the family...God Bless you Joyce...fly high among the angels...💜❤️💜

Cindy Davis - July 08, 2017 at 02:33 PM

EW

“ she was a wonderful person she always had a smaliy on her face and she always brought melvin a christmas basket ever year and she always talk to you

ermie j walling - July 08, 2017 at 08:40 AM

LF

“ I have known Joyce for over 30 years through her selling of Watkins products. She came to our house and watched our children grow up. She was such a nice person. Have missed her visits the last few years and her friendship. Prayers to all her family .  
Linda and dick best family.

linda & dick best family - July 08, 2017 at 08:40 AM

SW

“ *Kenny & family,*

*I was saddened to hear of Joyce's accident & passing. Please accept my condolences. I graduated with Joyce and remember the good times we had while in school and enjoyed seeing her at our class reunions. Although Joyce will be sadly missed by family and those who knew the special person she was, we have our memories that will stay with us forever. May God bless and guide you through this difficult time.*

*With love & friendship, Shirley (Stansbury, Link) Weers*

---

**Shirley Weers** - July 08, 2017 at 01:59 AM