



Vada Mae Kenney

July 2, 1934 - November 17, 2021

Vada Mae Jones Kenney, Charlotte, Michigan, entered the arms of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at the age of 87. She was born July 2, 1934 in Lansing, MI. to Otto Orval Jones and Noveda Mae (Wood) Jones. True strength doesn't draw attention to itself and Vada was the epitome of quiet strength. She was an overcomer from day one and throughout her entire life, overcoming challenges that would stymie the average person. She and husband Merl raised 7 children together and celebrated 61 anniversaries. They both survived a horrible car accident in 1969 by the grace of God. She was unwavering in her faith in her Lord and inspired others with her gentle ways of expressing God's love to others. Vada was a member of South Cochran Church of God in Charlotte starting in 1955. She volunteered for many positions, taught Sunday School and served on the Board and received the Woman Of the Year in 2002. She began working in 1977 for Ingham County MSU Extension Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program as a supervisory aide. After retiring in 1996, she worked for McDonalds in Charlotte for over 7 years. Hobbies included reading, fabric painting, crossword puzzles and baking; going out to breakfast on Thursday mornings with her friends, always having a joke ready to share. She was a Boy Scout Leader, sold Artex paints, Avon products, worked at the youth center and volunteered at the Senior Center in Lansing. She loved to watch Spartan football, the Green Bay Packers, and March Madness when the Spartans were playing. She loved to watch Perry Mason, skating on TV and

watching the animals in the woods out her window. She was always noticing an "animal" or some formation in the clouds. She was a collector of giraffes, butterflies and salt and pepper shakers.

Vada was pre-deceased by her parents, Otto Orval Jones (1988) and Noveda Mae Wood Jones (2007); husband, Merl G. Kenney (2013); sons, Orval L. Kenney (2017) and Charles F. Kenney (2020); daughter-in-law, Antonia (Van Belois) Kenney (2019); sister, Ilene Jones (1952); brother, Erwin Otto Jones (2021), granddaughter, Tara Hope (2014), and still-born great grandson, Steven Parmelee (1998).

Surviving are her children, Marilyn (Phil) Parmelee of Charlotte, Virginia (Jesse) Kenney-Sweet of Mason, Merl "George" (Sherry) Kenney of Charlotte, (Tammi) Kenney of Lake Odessa, Paul Kenney of Victoria, Tx, and Noveda (David) Nighbert of Charlotte, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren, who will greatly miss her.

The Celebration of Life will be Sunday, December 5, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. with visitation from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the South Cochran Church of God, 2470 South Cochran Rd., Charlotte, MI. There will be a meal following the service. Friend and family are encouraged to share memories of Vada on her Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com Arrangements made by Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, MI.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 5. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

South Cochran Church of God
2470 S. Cochran Rd
Charlotte, MI 48813

Memorial Service

DEC 5. 4:00 PM (ET)

South Cochran Church of God
2470 S. Cochran Rd
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Vada Mae Kenney*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - December 03, 2021 at 02:01 PM



“ *75 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - December 03, 2021 at 01:57 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Vada Mae Kenney.*



December 02, 2021 at 02:42 PM

JD

“ My Parents Moved our Family from the Rural area of Mason Michigan to this Community of Eaton township in 1963. Many of The Local Farmers Milked Dairy Cows, My Parents Bought a Dairy Farm Less than a Mile from the Otto Jones farm. My Grandfather was Great Friends of the Wood Family near Eaton Rapids, Grandpa & Grandma were friends with Noveda Wood, Before Noveda Married Otto Jones, When My Family Started Milking Cow's the Night They Moved to The Dairy Farm, that Spring Evening, Otto & Noveda Jones were at our Dairy Farm to Help with the House Keeping Chores, I will Never forget the Respect & Love that I witnessed as 7-year-old Boy from the Hard-working Jones Family, "Helping the New Family into the Neighborhood", I got to Know Vada Mae over the Years as Vada Became the Owner of the Jones Farm, The Same Farm She Grew up on, I Enjoyed Hearing her Own Stories of working with their own Dairy Cows & other Farm Animals, Working with Her Parents and Learning Valuable Life Skill's. that would Last her a "Life Time" I Have Worked the "Jones Farm" for Over 25 Years, Vada Enjoyed the Aroma of Fresh cut Alfalfa, in a Field next to her house, Although Different times of the Year I Would stop by her House and Talk about what crops I would Plant in what Field, she didn't Have an opinion of what would Produce the Best Crop, she Enjoyed the idea that the soil in the fields that she had walked bare foot in when she was a young Girl on the Farm, is the same soil still producing a Crop, like Her Father had done Many years ago, I Loved Watching Vada's Infectious Smile when she Shared Valuable Family Childhood Stories. Vada Loved to Share of Her "Joy" of Life. What a Blessing to have Lived a "Life with Christ", Every Conversation with Vada was Directed to Her Walk in Faith, Sometimes Her story Didn't Get to her "Faith Walk" Directly, but she always made sure you should Know what "Your Walk with Christ" should consist of Everyday of Your Life.

Thank you, Neighbors, For Letting Me Share a small portion of "My"

Lifetime of Memories of my Friend Vada Kenney., I will Miss Her.

Jim Droscha

James R Droscha - November 29, 2021 at 05:48 PM

SC

“ *As a child I spent a week or two of my summers with uncle Merl and aunt Vada and all my cousins. Although they many mouths to feed and many children to care for I never felt like I was a burden or a pain. I KNOW I was a burden and could be a pain, yet Vada never complained or made me feel unwanted, I remember one summer I stayed so long my Dad came to get me because he couldn't remember what I looked like. I was one of Aunt Vada's nutritionist clients. She would bring me tips on smart food shopping and recipes that I still have.*

I will always remember her as a kind, generous, and faithful woman. One I will truly miss.

*Love to the family with my sincere sympathy,
Sandy*

sandra Campbell - November 29, 2021 at 11:31 AM

GI

“ *I remember Veda was the first person to ever take me to church which was just down the street. Thankful for that! She made birthday cakes for us to share our birthday's with Paul and my sister and I. What a peaceful wonderful God believing lady.*

Gina - November 28, 2021 at 07:51 PM