



Darlene Jeanette (Harklau) Roach

June 16, 1927 - June 3, 2014

Darlene Jeanette (Harklau) Roach, 86, of Judsonia, was born June 16, 1927 in Somers, IA, to Oliver and Lena (Orskog) Harklau, and went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, June 3, 2014.

Darlene was a member of the Highway Church of Christ. She was primarily a homemaker, but also worked as a nurse at the old Porter Rodgers Hospital for several years. Darlene devoted her life to raising four rowdy boys and helping her husband with the farm. She could be seen every day out in the pasture counting Ervin's cows. She was well-known for her famous cinnamon rolls and homemade yeast rolls. She spent numerous hours sewing and mending for her family. She loved to draw and was an excellent letter writer. In her later years she spent her time listening to gospel songs and reading the Bible.

Darlene was a vivacious woman who loved her family.

Darlene is survived by her sons, Bob Roach (Vera), Robyn Roach (Mary), Rickie Roach (Brenda) and Randy Roach all of Judsonia, Arkansas; grandchildren, Shannon Roach (Shannon Michelle), Stacy Ridings (Jim), Reggie Roach (Beth), Eric Roach (Michelle), Robbie Ann Rivera (Eric), Brent Roach (Julie), Craig Roach (Suzanne), Amy Findley (Matt), Dustin Roach and Kimberly Roach and 18 great-grandchildren; brothers, Roland Harklau (Carol) of Sac City, IA, Ellis Harklau (Mary) of Gowrie, IA, Roger Harklau (Marilyn) of Marcos Island, FL, Darrel Harklau (Gloria) of Benton, AR; sisters, Beverly Busse (Louis) of Manson, IA, and a sister-in-law, Judy Harklau of Humboldt, IA.

In addition to her parents, Darlene is preceded in death by her husband, Robert Ervin Roach, Sr.; brothers, Marion Harklau and Dean Harklau.

In lieu of flowers, her family requests donations be made to Searcy Children's Home, Paragould Children's, home or a charity of your choice.

Visitation will be from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Friday, June 6, 2014, at Powell Funeral Home in Bald Knob. Services will be conducted Saturday, 2:00 p.m., at the Highway Church of Christ in Judsonia. Interment will follow in Evergreen Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to Powell Funeral Home Bald Knob-Judsonia. www.powellfuneralhome.net

Tribute Wall

“ I was in the 7th grade when my family sent me to Judsonia, from Detroit, to live with my grandparents, Jim and Hazel Kinney, and attend junior high school in Judsonia. Among the first families I met was the Roach family including Mr. Ervin, Ms. Darlene and the Roach kids: Robert, Robyn, Rickey and Randy. I remember playing softball, Little League baseball, basketball and running track with Robyn (Robert was older than me, as I remember from 1960 or so). I remember sleeping over at the Roach's home on a Friday night, crawling through culverts (with terror the first time and an acute sense adventure thereafter) with the boys, rising early (for a 7th or 8th grade kid) on Saturday to tag along with the kids as those old enough did their chores. I remember greeting Ms. Darlene with a sleepy hell-o as she uncovered a tray of her wonderful cinnamon rolls at what seemed to be 4:00 or 5:00 am of course, I'm sure it was much later in the morning (but maybe not). Jim Kinney, owner of the Kinney Funeral Home in Judsonia and my step-grandfather, was a friend of Mr. Ervin Roach and his daddy, a wonderful grey-headed older man I fondly called Mr. Roach, and I have many wonderful memories of extended Roach family events: learning to hunt rabbits, shucking and de-kernaling dried corn cobs, handling cows, riding on tractors driven by boys (Robyn) my age and other things a city-boy had never done or thought of doing. Yet, while reading Ms. Darlene's obituary and viewing the CD-retrospective of her life on the Powell Funeral Home website, I became aware of something more powerful in me than the vivid memories, moments in time-events that flooded my mind as I recalled those early innocent days of being in the presence of Ms. Darlene, Mr. Ervin and the Roach Family. I became aware of the power of family, of boundaries that a family can, but not always, bring to the lives of children and how I was drawn to the Roach family by the family essence that was created, largely, by Mr. Ervin and Ms. Darlene and is evidenced in the lives of their sons. How I missed that essence of family that Mr. Ervin and Ms. Darlene created in their home, and how fragrant and irresistible (and some would say is demanded by children) the Roach family essence was to a 13 year old, living far from his family and in what seemed to be a foreign environment. So, from afar I

express my condolences to Robert (Rob), Robyn, Rickey and Randy and your families at the loss of your Mom. To the God of all creation I say Thank you Lord for putting me in the path of Ms. Darlene, Mr. Ervin and the Roach Family all those years ago. And to Ms. Darlene: Thank you for taking an interest in that Yankee Kid from Detroit. Now unto him who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen Jude 1:24-25.

Mike Drake - May 04, 2016 at 04:34 PM

LY

“*Darlene will be missed so much but knowing she is in heaven with our Lord & Savior, reunited with her beloved husband Ervin & is waiting on each of us to join them makes her absence less painful. She always had a kind word and never failed to ask how Nikki & Aaron were doing each time we visited Arkansas. The portrait memorial you put together truly reflected her sincere love for all of her family in Arkansas & Iowa.*

Linda York - May 04, 2016 at 04:34 PM

DH

“*My sincere condolences to the Roach and Harklau families. Wishing you Strength.*

Denis Hagen - February 10, 2016 at 02:33 PM

AT

“*My thoughts and prayers are with all of you as you mourn the loss of your mom. Watching the film was comforting, and it shows that her whole life she was surrounded by love. And she still is~*

Ann Harklau Thye - February 10, 2016 at 02:33 PM

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to be a "foreign" environment.

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" Now unto him who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen" Jude 1:24-25.

Mike Drake - February 10, 2016 at 02:33 PM

RH

“ *What we have once enjoyed, we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes part of us." Helen Keller
Please accept our sympathy for your loss.
Richard and Angie*

Richar and Angie Haley - February 10, 2016 at 02:33 PM

LY

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The portrait memorial you put together truly reflected her sincere love for all of her family in Arkansas & Iowa.

Linda York - February 10, 2016 at 02:33 PM

EL

“ To all of you boys & your families: Your mother was a very dear friend of mine. I knew your parents for a very long time & worked with your mother at Rodgers Hospital when I was expecting Liz. I was so sick with that pregnancy & your mother tried to carry my load of patients when she was working on my floor. But that was just the way she was, always taking care of someone. I know that she will be missed very much but like my mother they are finally with the love of their life, safe in the arms of Jesus. My thoughts & prayers are with all of you at this time.
In love & prayers, Trudy Langley

Ellatruie Langley - February 10, 2016 at 02:33 PM

BA

“ My thoughts are with the family on the passing of your mother, grandmother.

Betty (Miller) Albright - February 10, 2016 at 02:33 PM

PP

“ I am deeply sorry about Darlene's passing away. I have memories when she worked at Oakdale of her showing me all the things a nurse has to do. I remember her as kind.

Paulette Poe - March 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM