



Claire M. Strawson

March 5, 1924 - July 22, 2016

Claire M. Strawson passed away on Friday, July 22, 2016. She died peacefully surrounded by family and friends.

Born in Manteno, IL on March 5, 1924, the daughter of Omar & Elizabeth Audette, she was a life-long resident of Wesley Township. She married Arthur G. Strawson on September 3, 1943. He preceded her in death November 27, 1992.

In addition to farming with her husband, she loved her flowers, gardening, exercise classes, raising livestock and being part of the rural community. Above all, she enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Because of her diverse and active lifestyle, she had many friends of all ages that brought much joy and fulfillment to her life. She was a member of the CCW affiliated with St. Rose Catholic Church in Wilmington, IL and volunteered at Kuzma Cottage. She was also a member of the Will County Farm Bureau and the American Angus Association.

She is survived by two sons, Ron (Eileen) Strawson, William (Ann) Strawson and one daughter, Dianne Burns; seven grandchildren, Scott(Kristin) Strawson, Amy (Dustin) Kolwelter, Brent(Nicole) Strawson, Todd and Brian

Burns, Kyle and Justin Strawson; four great-grandchildren Jenna, Evan, Nora and Guy Strawson. She is also survived by one sister-in-law, Christine Audette of Romeoville, IL.

She was preceded in death by three brothers and two sisters-in-law, Paul & Ruth Audette, Ray & Lucille Audette, and Gene Audette.

The family would like to thank all of her friends and neighbors for their friendship and acts of kindness and a special thank you to those that took wonderful care of her and showed such compassion, thoughtfulness, and companionship throughout her illness.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno or Hospice of Kankakee Valley.

Visitation will be held from 4:00-8:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 24, 2016 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. Visitation will also be held from 10:00 a.m. Monday, July 25, 2016 until the 11:00 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Rose Catholic Church in Wilmington. Rosary service will begin on Monday at 10:40 a.m.

Following the funeral Mass, Claire's body will be donated to the Anatomical Gift Association, as per her request.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 24. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Visitation

JUL 25. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Rose Catholic Church in Wilmington
603 S. Main St.
Wilmington, IL

Rosary Service

JUL 25. 10:40 AM (CT)

St. Rose Catholic Church in Wilmington
603 S. Main St.
Wilmington, IL

Funeral Mass

JUL 25. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Rose Catholic Church in Wilmington
603 S. Main St.
Wilmington, IL

Tribute Wall

LS

“ Your mom always had a smile on her face. She had a gift to make all around her feel loved. Hugs to everyone in this wonderful family!

Lana Schultz - July 26, 2016 at 05:26 PM

SB

“ Claire was one of the most thoughtful people I know. She was caring to me and my mother during a time when no one else seemed to care about what we were going thru. I will always keep her in my prayers. Our deepest condolences Suzanne Brown and Ingeborg Hatstedt.



Suzanne Brown - July 25, 2016 at 02:34 PM

KF

“ I was very sad to learn that Claire has passed away. I was her exercise teacher at St. Mary's, and I enjoyed having Claire in my class. She was always so energetic and full of life. She worked hard at doing all the exercises. After class, I would ask her what she would be doing the rest of the day, and she would reply that she had yard work to do. Where did she get all that energy from? My heart felt sympathy to all of her family.
Kay Faford

Kay J Faford - July 25, 2016 at 11:06 AM

RW

“ With our deepest sympathy to the family. We have fond memories of our times together at the Moose.

Rita and Jerry Williams

Rita Williams - July 25, 2016 at 09:10 AM

KF

“ I remember Claire and Art. They where best friends and they would do anything for family and friends. I've known them my entire life, and they have made such an impact on anyone they knew. Billy, Ronnie, and Scott made such an impact on my life, you guys will never know. You were all so kind to my to grandparents and I will never forget. I remember Claire taking care of everyone after a hard day in the field. She was the best.

Kevin Flynn - July 24, 2016 at 09:17 PM

SE

“ My loving sympathy to all the Strawsons. What a lovely lady! I am so glad I had a chance to say goodbye last Tuesday.

Be assured of my prayers for your Mom and for all of you.

Sister Ann Ellen

SisterAnn Ellen - July 24, 2016 at 05:24 PM



“ It was our pleasure , here at Helping Hands. To be able to take care of Mrs. Strawson. Stephanie, Becky, Joyce, Sandra all fell in love with her. She was. Wonderful lady.

*Cindy Curwick Mitchell
Helping Hands.*

Cindy Curwick-Mitchell - July 24, 2016 at 01:17 PM



Also we send our deepest condolences to the family

Cindy Curwick-Mitchell - July 24, 2016 at 01:19 PM

LO

“ My deepest condolences to Ann and Bill and all of her loved ones. I'm glad I was able to meet and care for Claire, she was a sweet little lady. And I'll never forget to "add a lil water" Miss Claire ;)

Lindsay O'Connor - July 24, 2016 at 12:24 AM

MC

“ Claire was an amazing lady. I meet her at the St.Mary's exercise class. She was an inspiration to me and so much fun. I especially enjoyed hearing her talk about her active lifestyle. My deepest sympathy to her family. I am so sorry for your loss. Mary Carroll

Mary Carroll - July 23, 2016 at 12:52 PM

AS

“ Don't know where to start. This woman meant so much to me. She was always there when we needed something. Made sure there was always something to eat when the boys stopped in. Said it was perfectly ok to teach the boys to drive the pick up long before they were old enough. She would always defend me when Bill had to call someone else to drive the tractor cause I had no idea what I was doing. She taught me "dressing up" meant nylons and earrings, a clean house wasn't necessary for family and friends, food was food and if you didn't like it, fix it yourself. I was fortunate to be able to spend time with her recently, and have many memories to hang on to. I will miss her.

ann strawson - July 23, 2016 at 12:41 PM

VG

“ Sorry to hear of your loss Anne and families although I did not know her she sounded like a wonderful person God's Blessings as you go through these difficult days. Vicki Goldenstein.

Vicki Goldenstein - July 23, 2016 at 09:39 AM



“ *I only knew Mrs Claire Strawson through her son Ron, over the years I enjoyed many stories of her still mowing, gardening, her homemade cinnamon rolls, and I especially enjoyed the cows.*

*My deepest sympathies for your loss. Many heartfelt hugs to you all.
Debbie Spence Joynt
Chatterbox Cafe*

Debbie Joynt - July 23, 2016 at 08:08 AM

BS

“ *Claire taught me to sew in 4-H (& made me rip out more seams than I can count!), served us beef tongue for dinner that she tried to pass off as "roast beef", picked lot's of blueberries with us & taught me so much about living life well. Her smile lit up a room & her laugh was quick & abundant. She was probably the most positive person I've ever known. She always told me the truth & never gave false praise, but always encouraged me to be the best that I could be & never accepted excuses for doing otherwise. She was a wonderful neighbor, a faithful friend & a loving second mom & I will miss her terribly. :(Please know that I'm praying for you all during this difficult time of grief. Love to you all.*

Barb Stellwagen - July 22, 2016 at 11:52 PM

SC

“ Ron and Bill, our thoughts and prayers are with you and the entire Strawson family.

Your mom was a wonderful strong woman who kept you boys steppin' and fetchin' all the time. My favorite memory is when Ron bought Claire a sun screen roof for her lawnmower only to find it hung up in the clothesline the next afternoon.

Our neighborhood won't be the same without her, but her and your dad are once again together for eternity. God bless you all.

Steve and Polly Courville

Steve Courville - July 22, 2016 at 10:05 PM

JG

“ Joyce Goodwin lit a candle in memory of Claire M. Strawson



Joyce Goodwin - July 22, 2016 at 09:48 PM

JG

“ Ron and Bill - Your mom was a super lady. I always enjoyed our talks. She would always help me see a brighter side. I wondered why I was not seeing her at Exercise. I asked another person and they told me Claire was ill.

May your many favorite memories comfort you during this time. Our prayers and thoughts are with you.

Joyce and Terry Goodwin

Joyce Goodwin - July 22, 2016 at 09:47 PM