



Mary Jean Becker

AUG 31, 1938 - JAN 5, 2016



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Mary Jean Hickman Becker, age 77, of Clearwater, FL, passed away in her home on Tuesday, January 5, 2016.

She was born in Brooksville, FL, on August 31, 1938, to Marcus and Oneta Hickman. Her Uncle Marvin nicknamed her "Cooter" because as a baby she stuck her head out of the basket like a turtle. In 1941, her family moved to Dunedin, FL, and then moved again to the northern edge of Clearwater in 1958. It was then that she met the man next door, Rudolph Becker, whom she married on May 22, 1960. Their first daughter, Mary Lou, was born in 1961, followed by their other daughter, Susan, in 1964. During her high school years, Mary Jean played trombone in the Clearwater High School band, danced on point in ballet, was a member of the Rainbow Girls, was a delegate to the National 4H Congress in Chicago in 1956, was a very popular babysitter, and worked at the Blue Birds Drugstore in Dunedin. As an adult, she volunteered at church, taught children's Sunday school at Curlew United Methodist Church, was a Girl Scout leader, and worked as a housekeeper and caretaker at Top of the World in Clearwater. In the 1970's, she and Rudy opened their home to two sisters, Dorothy and Shannon Ryan, and became their legal guardians. Mary Jean loved mowing grass, painting with Artex paints, reading a wide range of books, searching on the web, and doing word search puzzles. She was known far and wide as being generous, never complaining, encouraging others, and being the family "go-to" contact person - always keeping everyone connected. She is survived by her children, Mary Lou Tillman (married to Andy) and Susan Watson (married to Tom); her grandchildren Jessica and Travis Tillman and Olivia and Elias Watson; and her sisters Marlene Smith and Carol Varn. She was preceded in death by her husband, Rudolph Becker, in 1991.

A visitation will be held from 12 pm to 1:30 pm on Sunday, January 10th at Moss Feaster Funeral Home in Dunedin. Funeral services will begin at 1:30 at the funeral home.

Interment will be held at Curlew Pioneer Cemetery



Events

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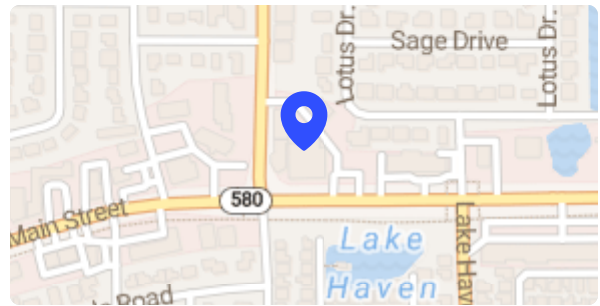
Visitation

Sunday, January 10, 2016

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM ET

Moss Feaster Funeral Home and Cremation Services - Dunedin

1320 Main Street, Dunedin FL 34698



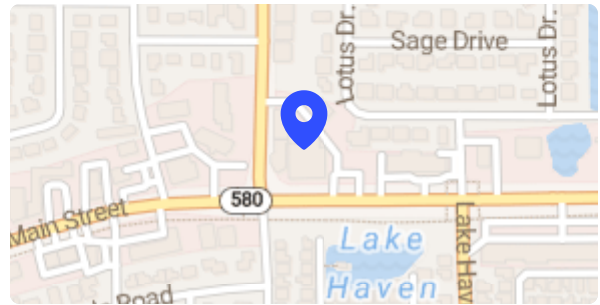
Funeral Service

Sunday, January 10, 2016

1:30 PM ET

Moss Feaster Funeral Home and Cremation Services - Dunedin

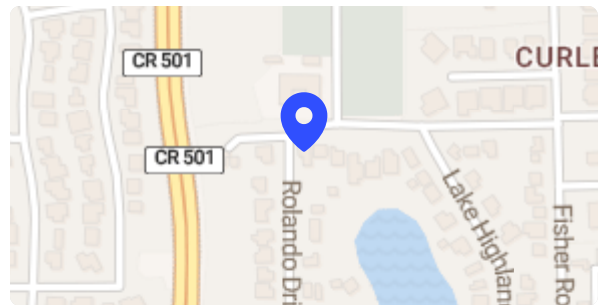
1320 Main Street, Dunedin FL 34698



Cemetery Details

Curlew Pioneer Cemetery

2213 Cathedral Drive, Palm Harbor FL





Tribute Wall

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Laura Yeager Brown posted:

Mary Jean, Rudy, and the girls will always hold a special place in my heart. She was a beautiful lady who alway made me feel welcome. I have many warm and happy memories of spending time with her. I remember doing lots of Arts and Crafts with Mary Lou under her watchful eye. My prayers are with you all.

January 11 at 3:15 PM



Nancy Boettcher posted:

We were so sad to hear of Mary Jean's passing. She was the wife of my husband's brother. They were a wonderful couple and very much in love. She kept us informed on what was going on in Florida so we didn't feel so far away. We will miss her so very much. Rest in peace Mary Jean.

January 11 at 10:34 AM



Alex posted:

Mrs. Becker was always a very nice and straight talking woman who I had a lot of respect for. I liked her very much, and I am saddened by her passing. I am happy I got to know and meet her.

January 10 at 6:45 AM



Love Don & Susan Woodman And Staff At The Animal Hospital sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Becker family.



January 9 at 6:35 AM



Love, Joan Watson sent a Pink Potpourri Bouquet to the Becker family.



January 8 at 2:44 PM



Rosina M. Dennis sent a Dearest One Casket Insert to the Becker family.



January 8 at 11:26 AM



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Rosina Dennis posted:

I have known Mary Jean and the Becker family since I was 12 years old. Susie is my longest and dearest friend and we remain close. Mary Jean never had a bad word to say about anyone and she and Rudy always tried to help people in need. Mary Jean was a dear, kind person who appreciated education, was an avid reader and a life long learner. She always saw the best in a person and was eager to forgive their short comings while encouraging them to be the best they could become. She loved animals and didn't like to see them mistreated. Mary Jean will be greatly missed by myself and many others. May she Rest in Peace, she dances with Rudy and the angels now. "I'm Free" Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free. I'm following the path God laid for me I took his hand when I heard him call turned my back and left it all. I could not stay another day, to laugh, to love, to work or play. Tasks undone must stay that way. I found that peace at close of day. If my parting has left a void then fill it with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kissah yes, these things I too will miss. be not burdened with times of sorrow, I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow. My life's been full, I've savored much good friends, good times, a loved one's touch. Perhaps my time seemed all too brief, don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your hearts and share with me, God wanted me now, he set me free. Author Unknown In loving memory, Love Rosina and Jason Dennis

January 7 at 4:07 PM



The Boettcher Family sent a Pink Tribute Spray to the Becker family.



January 7 at 12:42 PM



Dixie Sutton Ducker posted:

Mary Jean was very active in 4H during the years I was in 4H, she was such a worker, and was so likeable. She will be missed, it was a terrible shock to learn of her death. Sympathies to the sisters I know: Carol and Marlene, and to the children I don't know. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord is what the Bible says.

January 7 at 12:40 PM



Anonymous sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Becker family.



January 7 at 11:08 AM



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Joanne Hill lit a candle in honor of Mary Jean.

What a shock to hear since I just saw her last week and Mom (Lettie) was saddened and shocked to hear the news. Rest In Peace.

January 7 at 8:18 AM



Anonymous sent an Ocean Breeze Spray to the Becker family.

January 7 at 7:58 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary Jean by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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