



Roberta May Kern

SEP 25, 1932 - MAR 3, 2017



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Kern, Roberta May 84, of Dunedin, died peacefully at the home of her son and daughter-in-law on March 3, 2017. She faced her illness with grace, dignity, and sense of humor. The daughter of Ammon R. and Clara G. (Kisner) Hoff, Roberta was born September 25, 1932, at home in Montgomery, Pennsylvania.

In 8th grade Roberta moved with her family to the home her grandfather Kisner built in Goosetown (Watsontown). Pennsylvania. After graduating from Watsontown High School, she worked at the Watsontown Silk Mill. On Valentine's Day, 1953, she met John (Jack) B. Kern, who had just returned from serving in the Korean War. They married July 29th at Roberta's home and spent the next few years in Watsontown and Sunbury, Pennsylvania.

In 1959 Roberta and Jack moved to Marathon, New York with their two small children. Jack built a successful Charles Chip franchise while Roberta cared for her family and home. She ran a storefront for the chip business in Cortland and later worked for twenty years as a clerk for Kinney Drugs in Marathon and Cortland.

Roberta and Jack moved to Cortland in 1976, where she became an active member of the Homer United Methodist Church. She had a lovely voice and sang in the church choir and was a member of the United Methodist Women. In retirement, she and Jack traveled across the country and to Europe, enjoyed their grandchildren, and were devoted Syracuse football fans.

Several years after Jack's death in 2001 Roberta relocated to Dunedin, Florida. She enjoyed living near her son's family and making new friends at the Hale Center and United Methodist Church. Her sweet, helpful nature endeared her to many who loved her and will miss her dearly.

She was also predeceased by her brother, Fred Hoff.

Roberta is survived by her sister Shirley Hartranft; her son and daughter-in-law Jay Michael and Cathy Christian Kern; daughter and son-in-law Janette and Vern Barnes; grandsons Louis and



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Vincent Kern, Mike Christian, and Sean (Julia), Kevin (Sasha), and Patrick Barnes; great-grandsons Jackson and Connor Barnes; and her many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service to celebrate the life of Roberta will be held at the United Methodist Church in Dunedin on Thursday, March 9th at 1:30 pm. Burial will take place in Dryden, New York.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to Suncoast Hospice at <https://www.thehospice.org/Home>



Tribute Wall

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GM

Gloria Murray posted:

So sad to hear of Roberta's passing. Such a beautiful woman. She and my Mom (Wilma Puderbaugh) were good friends at Homer Avenue Methodist Church and enjoyed many activities there together. I have a picture of them together in Mom's room with other special memories. My thoughts are with Roberta's family. Gloria Murray

March 11 at 2:16 PM

DS

Donna Stoker posted:

My mother, Jean Lintern Stoker sends her condolences. Roberta was her dear friend and she is brokenhearted hearing the news of Roberta passing.

March 6 at 3:02 PM

RK

Ruth King posted:

As a member of Berta's church family in Cortland, I am saddened to hear of her passing. She was a truly delightful person with a warm smile, and kind words for everyone. Heaven has gained a wonderful angel. My condolences to all of you. May your wonderful memories help you get through these sad days. Ruth King

March 6 at 7:40 AM

CB

Connie Brady posted:

Our sincere condolences to the Kern Family; Roberta was such a sweet lady. I remember meeting her in Marathon NY, when my dad drove my 3 brothers and myself to their home in Marathon to make connections with her brother in law (and my brother in law) Lew Kern, to spend 2 weeks with Lew and my sister Donna in upstate NY. Can't imagine spending 2 weeks with someone with 8 small kids, but my sister and Lew did--it was good memories. Good memories visiting with Roberta and Jack in Marathon---it had such impact and influence on my life -- that was 1961; I was 14 -- 8 kids under 15!! Roberta was always so gracious; kind and treated us like family. RIP Roberta, till we see you again; you are home now with Jack and Lew, Donna, and our Lord Jesus.

March 5 at 12:35 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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