



Ruth Bortz

August 17, 1947 - November 21, 2017

Ruth Bortz, 91, of Grand Island passed away on November 21, 2017, at CHI Health-St. Francis Hospital in Grand Island, Nebraska, after a short illness. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 16th, at the First Christian Church in Grand Island, Nebraska. Burial of ashes will be at a later date in Great Bend, Kansas.

All Faiths Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Ruth was born on Oct 18, 1926, in Galatia, Kansas, to Solomon and Wilhelmina (Minnie) Dietz.

She married Richard (Dick) Bortz on Aug.17, 1947, in Great Bend.

Survivors of the immediate family include one son and daughter-in-law Robert "Bob" and Karen Bortz, one daughter and son-in-law, Kathryn "Kat" Bortz and Earl Haworth, all of Grand Island, Nebraska.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, two brothers, Martin and Robert Dietz, and one sister, Dorothy (Dietz) Johnson.

Ruth grew up in a farming area near Galatia, north of Great Bend, Kan. and graduated from Hoisington High School in 1944. After graduation, she worked at the REA in Great Bend, Kansas for three years.

Following their marriage, Ruth and Richard lived in Manhattan, Kan., Garden City, Kan., Pratt, Kan., Las Cruces, N.M., and Wichita, Kan. They moved to Grand Island, Nebraska, in 2007, to be close to their family.

Besides being a wonderful mother and wife, Ruth also worked in various jobs including: secretary, retail sales, bank teller and realtor. Ruth and Richard

managed the La Quinta Inn (East) in Wichita, Kan., until retiring in 1993. Ruth attended United Methodist Church in Garden City; Manhattan, Pratt and Wichita, all in Kansas, and Las Cruces, N.M. and was a member of the First Christian Church in Grand Island when she passed away. She enjoyed ceramics, painting, attending activities at Regency Retirement Residence, senior chair yoga at the YMCA, decorating her house for every season and holiday and, most of all, spending time and laughing with her family and extended family.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation or First Christian Church in Grand Island, NE.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth Bortz*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *Bob & Kat, this is Jeff Newell, now north of Manhattan but when your Dad was Sales Manager of the Southwest District for Farm Bureau, I was one of his agents. In fact he hired me in 1979. I was green as could be! Truly enjoyed your parents! I do have one particular remembrance of your Dad telling that your mom usually was asleep before she got laid down in bed! He used to show us how she would do that! They were truly fun for our sales district. It is always hard to lose parents, no matter the situation. I lost mine a few years ago, and miss telling them about grandchildren.*

Corona Hoch of Medicine Lodge, also an agent for your Dad, sent me a picture of the obituary. I and another past FB gentleman have group Farm Bureau Friends e-mail list. Have forwarded.

My sincere sympathies, they were both great people!

Jeff Newell

Jeff Newell - May 21, 2018 at 11:40 AM

Linnie
Dietz

“ Kat and Bob,

Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you guys on the loss of your mom--I can't think of a more bubbly, positive, endearing personality than your mom and know she'll be missed by all who knew her. God Bless,

Dennis & Linnie Dietz

Linnie Dietz - December 16, 2017 at 09:57 AM



“ 82 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



All Faiths Funeral Home - December 15, 2017 at 10:26 AM

LW

“ Kat and Bob, so sorry to hear of Ruth's passing. I know things have been rough the last couple years but I am sure her and your dad are having fun again and keeping a watchful eye on you both. She was such a cutie.

Much love

Lisa Whelan from the bank :)

Lisa Whelan - December 13, 2017 at 06:46 PM

SR

“ Bob,

Sorry to hear of your Mother's passing. I hope her memory is a blessing.

*Steve and Cindy Rooney
Montclair, NJ*

Steve Rooney - December 13, 2017 at 03:45 PM

VW

“ Kat, Sorry to hear about your mother. Sorry I haven't kept in touch.
My condolences to you and the family. Love ya Vivian Wehkamp

Vivian (Lightner) Wehkamp - December 13, 2017 at 12:21 PM

PT

“ Bob and Kat.....my thoughts have been with you since receiving the email. You kids should feel content that you have shared the life of both your parents from the get-go to then end. You have seen to their care as they aged and needed you. What great people they were. When I married in 1958, Dick and Ruth were about the first "Koch people" I met. I was once introduced to their home one Christmas where decorations were absolutely everywhere. Ruth's Hummel collection was bigger than any I had seen. Then there was the chocolate ice box pie. I loved it so much that I asked your mom for the recipe and it still remains in my recipe box. Cheerful -- happy --...fun.....those are the words that described your folks. Your dad was instrumental in getting Jim the job that he worked 40-some years. Their friendship endured all that time.

You will be lonely and sad.....but really need to rejoice in thoughts of your wonderful, joyous times.

*God bless,
Phyllis Drussel Koch Tillman
Shell Knob, MO*

Phyllis Tillman - December 13, 2017 at 10:35 AM

KR

“ Bob,
*I was so sorry to hear death of your mom. She was a sweet lady who always has a smile and a kind word for everyone. She will be missed.
Praying for you, Karen and, your family,*

*Kieran Bailey-Rich
Irmo, SC*

Kieran Rich - December 13, 2017 at 10:16 AM

AL

“*Kat and Bob, I was so sorry to hear about your mom. I have such wonderful memories of both her and your dad when I worked with them at La Quinta. Both of your parents had an incredible sense of humor, a delightful smile, and a wonderful laugh. (Just like the pair of you!) They were like my second set of parents, and I am thankful to have known them. What I remember most about them is their love for each other and their family ("Pride and Joy"), their unwavering faith and positive attitude even in the difficult times. I see a lot of those same beautiful traits in the both of you, and you are a testament to their great love and devotion they had for spreading kindness to others. I pray that they are united in heaven with God and that you may be comforted knowing that they are in a better place. May God bless you and your family!*

Annette Lounds

Annette Lounds - December 11, 2017 at 05:25 PM