



Barbara Dale

April 17, 1935 - January 28, 2025

Barbara Joan Dale, 89, Topeka, Kansas, passed away peacefully in her sleep at home on January 28, 2025.

Barbara was born on April 17, 1935, in the family farmhouse near Martinsville, Dallas Township, Harrison County, Missouri. She was welcomed by her parents, Ralph and Amy Burns Poteet, sister, Doris, and brother, John.

Barbara spent about the first six years on the family farm, where she learned to ride Old Dolly the horse and help with the chores at an early age. She was never afraid of hard work and was usually working outside. Hired hands were always around to keep Barbara safe; some of these hired hands were Paul Zerbe, Cecil Phillips, and J.V. Faden. The farmhouse was a small, square one-story home with two bedrooms, kitchen and front room. The farm also had an outhouse and a huge maple tree on the southwest side of the yard.

Barbara attended first grade at Martinsville School, a big two-story brick building with first through high school in the same building. Her close friends were Phyllis Smith, Clara Belle Beeks and Patsy Fouts. Clara Belle lived in town where her father had a service station. Phyllis and Patsy were within walking distance by ground through the field. Barbara lived on a dirt road and many times the school bus had a hard time making the rounds. The kids would start out walking to school and sometimes were lucky enough to catch

a ride and would get to school before the school bus.

One of her memories was when Barbara asked her mom if she could stay all night with Clara Belle. Her mom said no, but when she got to school, Clara Belle said she had asked Barbara's dad, and he said it was alright. So, she stayed all night and as it turned out, it was a Friday, so she stayed all weekend. When Barbara did not come home from school on Friday, her mom started looking for her. Clara Belle had not actually asked Barbara's dad, but wanted Barbara to stay, so Clara Belle lied, and Barbara believed her. When her dad found out, he just laughed and let her stay.

The family moved to the home place of grandparents Charlie and Mary Poteet located just north of Washington Center. This was a big two-story house with a basement and wrap around front porch. The smokehouse and cave were just outside the back door and there was a well east of the house.

After moving, Barbara attended the second through eighth grade at Washington Center Grade School, which was a one-room schoolhouse. There was a big heating stove in one corner and a big slate blackboard on the east wall. There were two outhouses – one for boys and one for girls uphill from the school building. Water was in a well outside on the west side of the building. The entrance was on the south side with an entry room to hang coats, a place for lunch pails and a lawyer type bookcase. Two of the teachers were her relatives, Nina Goodwin and Rosalie Schell.

When Barbara's mother cooked three meals a day on a large scale, she didn't have time to measure things. She just knew from experience. This caused Barbara much stress as she didn't think she would ever learn to cook or bake by just watching her mother but there was a passion for learning. Barbara's homemade cinnamon rolls, sticky rolls, dinner rolls, noodles, and pies are just a few things her family remembers. She enjoyed collecting cookbooks through the years and acquired quite a large collection that she enjoyed reading for

pleasure.

Barbara also had a collection of toothpick holders that belong to grandmothers and great-grandmothers and other family members and friends.

On April 12, 1958, Barbara and Larry Dale were united in marriage in Bethany, Missouri at the home of Rev. O.D. Hedges. They celebrated 53 years together before Larry's death on December 24, 2011.

Barbara graduated from Martinsville High School and attended Platt Business College in St. Joseph, Missouri. After moving to Topeka, she had a long career at Southwestern Bell Telephone, retiring after 30 years of service. Following retirement, she became a travel agent for a few years. Barbara's next adventure was volunteering at the VA Hospital in Topeka; a "job" she did for several years. She became known as the Pie Lady because she stopped by Perkins to pick up day-old pies and deliver them to the VA. In recognition of her dutiful service to the veterans, Barbara was chosen as the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) national winner of Outstanding Volunteers.

In addition to holding several positions in the local DAR Chapter, she was also a member of the Active Prime Timers, Post Office Letter Carriers Auxiliary, Missouri State, Northwest Missouri and Harrison County Genealogical Societies.

Barbara had many interests including gardening, travelling, cooking, feeding the birds, going on dinner theater bus trips with the Active Prime Timers but her passion was genealogy. She also loved the KU Jayhawks. Rock Chalk!

Barbara is survived by her daughters, Kimberly Pfeiffer, Topeka, and Pamela Schneider (Gerry) Roeland Park, Kansas; grandchildren, Ryan Pfeiffer (Lisa

Cloar-Pfeiffer), Lawrence, Kansas, Kristin Pfeiffer Topeka, Nick Schneider and Mariah Schneider (Ben Brown), Kansas City; proud GG to great-granddaughters, Theia and Ophelia Cloar-Pfeiffer and Evelyn and Emerson Brown; sister, Doris Jones, Hatfield, Missouri; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Larry, brother, John, and son-in-law, Bruce Pfeiffer.

Visitation will be 10 a.m. Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at First Christian Church, 1880 SW Gage Blvd, Topeka, KS 66604, where funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Private burial will be in Mission Center Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project or Salvation Army and sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home.

Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Christian Church
1880 SW Gage Blvd
Topeka, KS 66604

Funeral Service

FEB 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Christian Church
1880 SW Gage Blvd
Topeka, KS 66604

Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Barbara Dale



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - February 03, 2025 at 11:26 AM

JF

“ I had tried to call Aunt Punky during the Christmas holiday to check on her. Never could get through! Hate that I don't have anyone's phone number. Mine is 8502849293. Shouldn't post but I don't want to lose contact with Kim and Pam. My heart goes out to you for your loss - seems weird when ya can't just pick up the phone and call and talk to a parent. Thinking about y'all and love ya! Hope to talk to you soon! - Janie

Janie Frazier - February 05, 2025 at 07:59 PM

BB

“ We were saddened to hear of Barbara's passing. We want to express our sincere condolences to her family. She was a regular at our Branch 10 retirees' lunches every month and we always enjoyed our visits with her. She was a special lady and will be missed by all of the retirees who attend the lunches.
Bill & Mary Lou Burke

Bill & Mary Lou Burke - February 05, 2025 at 06:47 PM

PP

“ To Kim & Pam and families-deepest condolences to Barb's passing. Had Barb as a supervisor for a short time at Southwestern Bell when ATT and Bell divested in 1984-traveling the great state of Kansas (fun times!)
Patrick Pfeiffer

Patrick Pfeiffer - February 03, 2025 at 10:26 AM

JS

“ Barbara was a wonderful lady with a great sense of humor. She was a customer of mine for many years and I just loved visiting with her. She once signed a check "Old Lady Dale" and told my employee to make sure I saw it.

JERRY LEE SCHNEE - February 02, 2025 at 07:51 AM

DB

“ There is no one in this world like having a special mother. Your Mother will forever remain in your heart and memories. Just wanted to let you know to take time and know that you have a lot of support. Love you and God bless.

Donna Beaver - February 01, 2025 at 04:36 PM

CE

“ Kim and family - I am sorry to hear of Barbara's passing and know she is being held in the arms of our Lord and is happy. I loved working with Barbara at Southwestern Bell and I know she will be missed. I am sorry too, that you have to endure yet another loss, Kim - you will be in my prayers.

Connie S Everett - February 01, 2025 at 01:36 PM

DS

“ I liked Barbara so much. She was always so upbeat, friendly, and encouraging. She somehow always made me laugh. The world will be less joyful without her. Steve and I send our deepest sympathy.

Deb Southerland

Deborah Southerland - February 01, 2025 at 09:49 AM

JB

“ I knew Barbara during my time working at Bell in Topeka. Also knew her daughter Kim. She was quite a lady. I loved her humor. My condolences to her family and friends. Jess Barnett.

Jess Barnett - February 01, 2025 at 06:38 AM

JW

“ Dear family sending heart felt sympathy for your loss. I was so thrilled this last year when your Mom and I had a great telephone conversation this past year after some years since we had talked. We reminisced about being neighbors clear back on Humboldt Street when you girls and my Jeff were kids. The years we shared working together at The Telephone company but best time were years we traveled together doing genealogy at the Indepence Mo library. We both loving the research. In 2020 , Jeff and I moved near Phoenix Arizona where we dearly love the warmer climate.

I wish I could be there as you celebrate her life. My love to all.

Judy Whisler



Judy Whisler - February 01, 2025 at 05:56 AM

CH

“ I enjoyed visiting with Barbara at the Post Office Retiree Lunches. She was a sweet lady. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Cheryl Herman - January 31, 2025 at 08:37 PM

RP

“ Ron and Janie Poteet-Frazier planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Dale.

Ron and Janie Poteet-Frazier - January 31, 2025 at 04:30 PM

RP

“ Ron and Janie Poteet-Frazier purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Barbara Dale.



Ron and Janie Poteet-Frazier - January 31, 2025 at 04:30 PM

MC

“ To Kim, Pam and families...Sending our deepest sympathy, love and hugs to all of you for the loss of your mother and grandmother. We always enjoyed visiting with Barbara and know she will be missed greatly by all of you. Rex and Marilyn Crawford



Marilyn Crawford - January 31, 2025 at 02:33 PM

KP

Thanks so much! After hearing about all of our adventures, she was so glad when she got to meet you, She loved you guys!

Kim Pfeiffer - February 22, 2025 at 11:10 AM