



## Clara Riedel

June 25, 1918 - September 17, 2012

Clara Barbara Streckfus Riedel, 94, Topeka, died on September 13, 2012 at Midland Hospice House. She was born on June 25, 1918 in Salina, Kansas, the daughter of Edward Joseph Streckfus and Mary Eleanor O'Shea. She graduated in 1935 from Sacred Heart High School in Salina, and attended Marymount College, also in Salina. She married Joseph A. Riedel on June 1, 1943. Clara enjoyed a life-long interest in business, and was a vocal advocate for women in business and women entrepreneurs. She owned and operated Clara's Clothes Closet for 30 years, from 1958-1988. It was Clara's personal privilege to assist ladies from Topeka and surrounding communities when they shopped in her store for those special occasions that called for just the right dress. She also enjoyed working in recent years at Glass Expressions, a business owned by her daughter Margaret Weidenbaker. The Topeka Mid-Day Chapter of the American Business Women's Association honored Clara with their Woman of the Year award in 1979, 1981, and 1983 - 84. Clara served on the Marymount College Board of Directors from 1980-1986 in several positions including Chairwoman. She also served on the Finance Committee for six years, including Chairwoman, for two years. Clara loved to garden, quilt and spend time with her family. Clara's niece-in-law, Nancy Scanlan, described Clara's energy and zest for life fittingly, saying "I spent the summer with Clara and Joe in 1972, and she amazed me daily. Clara would get up early and make pickles, bake homemade cookies for Joe's snack, do laundry, wash dishes and more, all before she went off to work." She was preceded in

death by her husband, Joseph A. Riedel, her daughter, Mary Katherine “Mary Kay” Riedel Bachmann Dowd, and her sister, Mary Katherine Streckfus Scanlan. She is survived by daughters, Margie Weidenbaker, Topeka; Patt Papenfuhs, Kansas City, MO; Barbara Riedel-O’Leary, Overland Park; son, Joseph Andrew Riedel, Jr., Atlanta; 12 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren; and her brother Edward Joseph Streckfus, Jr., Lakin, KS. Visitation will be from 5-7 pm on Mon., at Christ the King Church, 5973 SW 25th St, Topeka, KS. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at the Church on Tuesday, at 10 a.m., followed by burial at Mt. Calvary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made in Clara’s name to the Clara B Riedel Scholarship Fund at Washburn University, or the Father Peter O’Sullivan Scholarship Fund for Hayden High School, sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd, Topeka KS 66614.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Clara Riedel*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Maggie and Riedel Family,*

*Maggie, I'm sorrow to read the passing of your Mother. She was a lady of Great Presents. I remember getting my Hayden Pep Club uniform from Clara's Clothes Closet. I shopped there alot because I lived down the street from 21st Steet and Seabrook. Just remember no one can take away your memories they are with you for your life time. Your in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Class of 67 Hayden*

Marge(Walters)Cooper - September 19, 2012 at 12:42 PM



“ *Pat, my condolences for the passing of your mother. Your friend of old from Hayden.*

Greg Van Sickel - September 18, 2012 at 12:19 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy to all of you and remember that all of you are in our thoughts and prayers. I'll never forget how she always made me feel so welcomed when I would come and visit. She was such a caring and sweet Aunt. Know that she is always with you. Love to all of you.*

Cindy Riedel Renz - September 17, 2012 at 09:42 PM

## “What Hope for Dead Loved Ones?

*“If a man die, shall he live again?” asked the man Job long ago. (Job 14:14, King James Version) Perhaps you, too, have wondered about this. How would you feel if you knew that a reunion with your loved ones was possible right here on earth under the best of conditions?*

*Well, the Bible makes the promise: “Your dead ones will live. . . . They will rise up.” And the Bible also says: “The righteous themselves will possess the earth, and they will reside forever upon it.”—Isaiah 26:19; Psalm 37:29.*

*To have real confidence in such promises, we need to answer some basic questions: Why do people die? Where are the dead? And how can we be sure they can live again?*

### *Death, and What Happens When We Die*

*The Bible makes it clear that God did not originally intend for humans to die. He created the first human pair Adam and Eve, placed them in an earthly paradise called Eden, and instructed them to have children and extend their Paradise home earth wide. They would die only if they disobeyed his instructions.—Genesis 1:28; 2:15-17.*

*Lacking appreciation for God’s kindness, Adam and Eve did disobey and were made to pay the prescribed penalty. “You [will] return to the ground,” God told Adam, “for out of it you were taken. For dust you are and to dust you will return.” (Genesis 3:19) Before his creation Adam did not exist; he was dust. And for his disobedience, or sin, Adam was sentenced to return to dust, to a state of nonexistence.*

*Death is thus an absence of life. The Bible draws the contrast: “The wages sin pays is death, but the gift God gives is everlasting life.” (Romans 6:23) Showing that death is a state of total unconsciousness, the Bible says: “For the living are conscious that they will die; but as for the dead, they are conscious of nothing at all.” (Ecclesiastes 9:5) When a person dies, the Bible explains: “His spirit goes out, he goes back to his ground; in that day his thoughts do perish.”—Psalm 146:3, 4.*

*However, since only Adam and Eve disobeyed that command in*

*Eden, why do we all die? It is because all of us were born after Adam's disobedience, and so we all inherited sin and death from him. As the Bible explains: "Through one man [Adam] sin entered into the world and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men."—Romans 5:12; Job 14:4.*

*Yet someone may ask: 'Don't humans have an immortal soul that survives death?' Many have taught this, even saying that death is a doorway to another life. But that idea does not come from the Bible. Rather, God's Word teaches that you are a soul, that your soul is really you, with all your physical and mental qualities. (Genesis 2:7; Jeremiah 2:34; Proverbs 2:10) Also, the Bible says: "The soul that is sinning—it itself will die." (Ezekiel 18:4) Nowhere does the Bible teach that man has an immortal soul that survives the death of the body.*

#### *How Humans Can Live Again*

*After sin and death entered the world, God revealed that it was his purpose that the dead be restored to life by means of a resurrection. Thus the Bible explains: "Abraham . . . reckoned that God was able to raise [his son Isaac] up even from the dead." (Hebrews 11:17-19) Abraham's confidence was not misplaced, for the Bible says of the Almighty: "He is a God, not of the dead, but of the living, for they are all living to him."—Luke 20:37, 38.*

*Yes, Almighty God has not only the power but also the desire to resurrect persons whom he chooses. Jesus Christ himself said: "Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out."—John 5:28, 29; Acts 24:15.*

*Not long after saying this, Jesus met a funeral procession coming out of the Israelite city of Nain. The dead young man was the only child of a widow. On seeing her extreme grief, Jesus was moved with pity. So, addressing the corpse, he commanded: "Young man, I say to you, Get up!" And the man sat up, and Jesus gave him to his mother.—Luke 7:11-17.*

*As in the case of that widow, there was also great ecstasy when Jesus visited the home of Jairus, a presiding offic*

CC

“ Dear Patt: I'm sorry to hear about the passing of your mom. What a rich and wonderful life she had! I remember her with great fondness from our high school days. My sympathy to you and your family.

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**Cindy Caywood** - September 17, 2012 at 09:46 AM

ML

“ I will forever cherish the lovely glass blue bird she gave me for Christmas one year when she was my "Secret Sister" at Country Quilters. I had missed her at meetings recently and I'm sorry to hear of her passing.

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**Mary Lundin** - September 15, 2012 at 09:55 PM

NB

“ Clara was my friend and fellow quilter. We both were members of Country Quilters. She always had a smile and was a sweet lady. She loved quilts and was a joy to be around. She will be missed. Your family has my sympathy.

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**Naomi J. Brooks** - September 15, 2012 at 08:36 PM

JH

“ I worked for Clara in 1981 her at Fairlawn store and her Wanamaker location. I admired her high standards and dedication for business and customer service. Clara always ate fruit for lunch. I remember watching her peel oranges in her office. Very fond memories of an amazing woman.

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**Janice Hudson** - September 15, 2012 at 11:13 AM

CM

“ Dear Family of Clara,

*What a sweet, sweet, lady Clara was. So lively and loved life. I knew her through Country Quilters. She was always a lot of fun to be around too, and how she loved quilts and just beamed when she was at our meetings! She looked so much younger than her actual years. Clara is and will truly be missed by me, and countless others. She was a wonderful example of a true lady. Please accept my sincere sympathy on her passing.*

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**Christie McCartney** - September 15, 2012 at 10:26 AM