



Frances Leonard

November 22, 1925 - January 20, 2014

Frances Leonard, 88, of Lenexa, Kansas (formerly of Topeka) died Monday, January 20, 2014, at Sunrise of Lenexa. She was born in Wamego, Kansas, November 22, 1925, to Ethel Machin Pixley and Frank Pixley. Frances graduated from Wamego High in 1943 and from Christ Hospital School of Nursing in Topeka in 1946. Frances married John Leonard, her high school sweetheart, in 1945. They lived together until his death in 2000. She was also preceded in death by her only brother, Jack Pixley. Frances will be remembered for the high energy which she focused on her family. She worked hard with John to provide her children with love and opportunities in life. She is survived by her five children: Tom Leonard (and Sara) of Topeka, Kathy Leonard (and Ralph Lamping) of Fayetteville AR, Ann Woods (and Jeff) of Lenexa, Mike Leonard (and Lynn) of Shawnee, and Carol Fischer (and Bill) of Overland Park. She is proud of her nine grandchildren, Ian, Ryan and Leah Woods, Patrik and Michael Leonard, Kali and Merik Lamping, and John and David Leonard. Four great-grandchildren include Ella and Lucas Woods, and Owen and Lily Leonard. Frances worked in public health for many years in Kansas and Nebraska. She was an early proponent of women's reproductive health. When she and John moved to Kansas City, Frances achieved her Advanced Practice Nurse license and became manager of the women's health and STD program in Johnson County, Kansas City from 1978-1991. This work and her clients were dear to her heart. Frances was raised Methodist and loved the hymns and celebrations of her youth. Before marrying Dad, she

converted to Catholicism. In her middle years they joined a Marriage Encounter group at Holy Trinity Church. They shared many years and events with these beloved friends. Frances died with complications of vascular dementia. Family and friends saw her memory gradually slip away. We miss the conversations of old. We do value the good times we have shared. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Mater Dei Holy Name Church in Topeka at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23rd. Burial will follow at Wamego City Cemetery. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association, 3625 SW 29th Street, Topeka KS 66614.

Tribute Wall



“ *Frances Leonard*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Sorry for your loss. You truly had a most precious mother. What memories of your mom and family I have. Your mom was always on the go and people were her life. Your mom invested herself in her family, friends, nursing, and life as a whole. The world was made much better because of your mom. Her family is her legacy, and what a rich legacy she left. I hold you all in my thoughts as she held you in her heart! May God's peace cover you in the warmth of His love.*

Gerye Caleb - February 05, 2014 at 06:22 PM



“ *So sorry for the loss of your wonderful mother. She & I worked together at the county health dept for many years. In fact, at that time, Frances persisted until I was able to get my heart condition diagnosed correctly. I often think of her. Loved that woman! She was such a lovely person in appearance & spirit. She was always very thoughtful & gracious. It was easy to see the wheels turning as she sought to find solutions to tough questions. Thoughts & prayers.*

Roxie Lyle - January 23, 2014 at 06:17 PM



“ *Tom, we are sorry for the loss of your mother. Just know that she looking upon you from heaven above remembering every moment of her life with you and your family.*

Susie & Mike Thompson - January 23, 2014 at 11:09 AM

JR

“ Just wanted you all to know we are thinking about you at this sad time. Your mom was such a great person and we all thought the world of her. She was also a great friend and neighbor to our mom. She was a wonderful nurse and a very positive influence on me as I began my nursing career. Few nurses have accomplished as much as she did. What a great lady. She will be missed.

Jeanne Calvin Roth - January 23, 2014 at 08:28 AM

MB

“ Sorry for the loss of your mother. You were all good Buchanan neighbors.

Mike Branaman - January 22, 2014 at 07:18 PM

KM

“ We are so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. We so enjoyed she and your father through Marriage Encounter. Both were grand people and more than once we commented about how everyone should have neighbors like your parents -- very loving and concerned about others. Know that you all and they are in our thoughts and prayers. Glad to have she and Jack back together once again.

Kevin and Karen Mead - January 22, 2014 at 01:06 PM

TF

“ Sorry to hear of the loss of your mother. You all was good neighbors on Buchanan. I remember many good times at your house. May the Lord be with you all at this time of sorrow.

Tom & Cheryl Frederick - January 22, 2014 at 12:32 PM

PR

“ I am greatly saddened to learn of the loss of my friend, Francis Leonard. I first meet Francis when she was sitting, with Jack, on the front porch of the family home on Buchanan, in Topeka, in late 1968. It has been my privilege to have called her my friend for over forty five years. That first meeting is my most vivid, and favorite, memory of both Francis and Jack. The world is lessened by her loss and I will miss my friend.

My deepest condolences go to all the members of her family.

Phil Rude - January 22, 2014 at 10:03 AM

PG

“ I am so sorry you all lost your Mom, but you know she is better now and with your Dad. May you always remember the good times with her. She was one hell of a lady. She will be missed greatly

Peggy Gastmann - January 22, 2014 at 09:01 AM