



Mathilda Esser

September 13, 1926 - July 7, 2019

Mathilda "Tillie" Esser, Topeka, Kansas, died Sunday, July 7, 2019.

Born in Topeka September 13, 1926, to Jacob and Barbara (Stadler) Desch, she graduated from Capital Catholic High School (Hayden) 1944, Washburn University 1969, taught elementary and special education. She belonged to Christ the King Church and the Third Order of St. Francis.

Tillie married Leonard G. Esser on June 2, 1948. They had six children: Annetta (Dennis) Vahsholtz, Herington KS, Barbara (Greg) Reser, Topeka, Mary (Richard) Demars, North Richland Hills TX, Jane (Nelson) Jordan, Leawood KS, Jacob (Lisa) Esser, Olathe KS and Leann (Jay) Muschenheim, The Woodlands TX; raised niece Dorothy Desch (Mike) Klatt, Kimberling City MO, and nephew Jim (Carol) Desch, Shell Knob MO; 20 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She had 5 siblings, Sylvester, Lawrence, Vincent, Sister Mary Barbara OLVN, and Joseph Desch. Joe survives. Preceding her in death was husband, Leonard (2003) and grandson, Grant Reser (2004).

Tillie and Leonard were special people loved and entertained many family and friends. They are greatly missed.

Services are Friday, July 12 at Christ the King. Visitation at 4:30pm, Rosary at 6, Mass of Resurrection at 6:30, followed by more visitation. Per Tillie's

wishes, her body has been bequeathed to the KU School of Medicine.
Inurnment at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to donor's choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 12. 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Christ the King Catholic Church
5973 SW 25th Street
Topeka, KS 66614

Rosary

JUL 12. 6:00 PM (CT)

Christ the King Catholic Church
5973 SW 25th Street
Topeka, KS 66614

Mass of Resurrection

JUL 12. 6:30 PM (CT)

Christ the King Catholic Church
5973 SW 25th Street
Topeka, KS 66614

Tribute Wall



“ *Mathilda Esser*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *I've never met anyone nearly as hospitable as Tillie. She always made you feel welcome & made sure you had plenty to eat and drink! Her decision to donate her body to KU Medical Center strikes me as another selfless act of kindness and concern for others. For those of us who have benefitted from the services provided at the Med Center, it's an act of more personal significance. Thanks to Tillie and to the family for making sure her final wishes came true!*

Dave Kendall - July 13, 2019 at 11:12 AM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mathilda Esser.*



July 12, 2019 at 11:47 AM



“ *What wonderful childhood memories I have of your Mom, kindness and love shined from her. She and Mom were truly sisters in Christ, and are now having a wonderful reunion as they celebrate their new life with Jesus!!! I will keep all of you in my prayers, asking God to bless you with HIS Peace and Comfort. His Love lasts forever. Tina Craney Neff*

Tina Craney Neff - July 12, 2019 at 10:36 AM

EN

“ *Enerfab purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mathilda Esser.*



Enerfab - July 12, 2019 at 09:39 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mathilda Esser.*



July 12, 2019 at 09:35 AM

SC

“ *I remember my aunt Tillie always had a smile on her face and had a great laugh she was a lot of fun to be around. I looked up to her with much respect and Uncle Leonard. She raised 6 wonderful kids come on proud to say are my first cousins. I will miss her very much.*



Sue Carney - July 12, 2019 at 01:01 AM

IA

“ Tille Desch Esser was one of a kind. She was a wonderful friend and school mate of mine. We spent four years in Capital Catholic High school together. We are both Rooshians and decendents of Germans from Russia. Her father Jacob was a good friend who worked with my father Jacob Appelhanz at the Santa Fe shops. That's how her dad became my sponser at my Confirmation. Two of Tille's best friends at CCHS were B.J. Deghand and Marge Besler. These three were always together in school. With them and other school friends we had many good times at Lake Linge and school events. I was sorry to hear of her passing. I will certainly miss her. May God bless her.

Isadore "Ike" Appelhanz

Isadore Appelhanz - July 11, 2019 at 08:40 PM

MM

“ I was blessed to have the Essers as my Godparents I remember your moms wonderful smile and laugh (your dads too) and the wonderful parties we would go to - when I was little we'd go to wedding parties at the Moose and I'd pretend to be asleep so mr esser would carry me in to our house - great lady - she will be so missed !

martha monaghan - July 11, 2019 at 08:17 PM

MK

“ Mr. and Mrs. Esser were one the very first friends my parents had when we moved to Topeka back in the 60s. My mother loved that couple and held them both in the highest regard. Tilley and Vera remained dear friends until she died in 2018. We were blessed to know the entire family. God Bless you all at this time of your loss.
Hugs, Mary Craney

Mary Craney Kraft - July 11, 2019 at 06:43 PM

ES

“ *Tillie - dog gone you! You beat me! I'm still awaiting to see Leonard and you, but will one of these days. Remember well all the great times we had in the "good old days" especially at Lake Linge and Meadow Acres with John and Berniece, you two and we two, or Ray and Julie Etzel.. Long gone now, but memories are so nice. We pray for you Tillie and your extended family in these sad days. God rest and peace to you and Leonard.*

Ed and Loretta Schwerdt

Ed SCHWERDT - July 11, 2019 at 03:31 PM

KB

“ *Tillie was a wonderful lady and a great friend!! She invited me to her home many times and we had good visits and lots of laughs!! I would have to laugh --- I would call out to just talk to her when she was still in her home and the first thing she would say when she heard my voice was "well, are you coming out?" so naturally I would go!! She was always fun to be with. You will be missed by many Tillie -- we know you are happy now, reconnected with Leonard. Loved her lots!! Thoughts and prayers to all the family in your time of loss!!*

Kathleen Browne - July 11, 2019 at 02:39 PM

AN

“ *Love and Thanks to all of you for your most kind and wonderful comments!!! Annetta and All.*

Annetta - July 11, 2019 at 09:36 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mathilda Esser.*



July 10, 2019 at 07:39 PM



“ *So sorry for the loss of your mom. I remember going to birthday party's there when I was a kid. We will keep her in our prayers. Barb Coon OConnor*

Barb OConnor - July 10, 2019 at 11:24 AM



“ *So sad to read in the paper this morning of Aunt Tillie's passing. She and Uncle Leonard was so dear to my heart. I have the fondest memories and Love of them both. To my dear cousins and families, may all your beautiful memories sustain you at this time. With Sincere Sympathy, Prayers and Love, Jack and Janet Shupe*

Janet L. Shupe - July 10, 2019 at 09:01 AM



“ *May Gods peace and comfort surround the Esser family. Tillie was such a wonderful woman, always welcoming us in her home. She will be sorely missed.*

Julie Jordan Packard - July 09, 2019 at 10:10 PM

RH

“ *Deepest sorrow to the Esser family.*

Rick Heere - July 09, 2019 at 07:39 PM

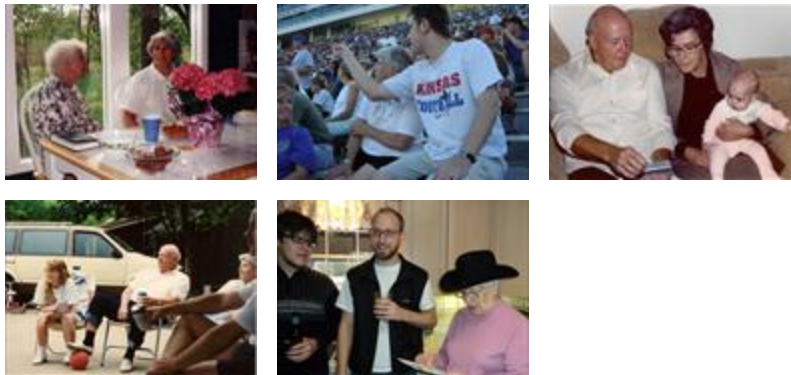
KJ

“ *My Aunt Tiile was an amazing person who I loved very much. When you talked with her you had her undivided attention and she made you feel that what you were telling her was important to her. I loved her laugh and sense of humor. At Tillie's house you had to have a drink in one hand and something to eat in the other. RIP my sweet Aunt and party hardy in Heaven with all those who have been waiting on you to join them. 🥰🥰*

Kathy Esser Jolly - July 09, 2019 at 07:26 PM



“ *53 files added to the album Tillie Esser's Life in Photos*



Evan Reser - July 09, 2019 at 03:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Island in the Sun*



Evan Reser - July 09, 2019 at 03:05 PM



“ *Pretty Please* was purchased for the family of *Mathilda Esser*.



July 09, 2019 at 11:20 AM



“ *Goodbye to a dear friend and a great lady. Her door was always open.*

Tim Rohr - July 08, 2019 at 09:17 PM