



## Maydean Swoboda

May 3, 1924 - March 23, 2022

Maydean Swoboda, 97, passed away on March 23, 2022, at Oakley Place of Rossville. Family and friends who have felt the love and compassion of this “simple Kansas girl” mourn her loss.

Maydean was born in Clifton, Kansas, to John and Margaret Knoettgen on May 3, 1924, the youngest of seven, born a “blue baby” 15 minutes after her twin brother, Joe. She was taught at a young age the value of hard work, tenacity (sometimes known among her German family as “stubbornness”) and a deeply rooted religious belief. Her farming family was deeply affected by the Dust Bowl and Great Depression - her father having to sell many acres of his land in order to pay his bills - but living on a farm, “we always had plenty to eat and clothes on our back.”

Maydean’s dad was a very loving father who would “keep records on everything,” which inspired Maydean in her future career in bookkeeping and accounting, as well as her meticulous record-keeping. Her mother was more stern but taught Maydean the power of “keeping up with the men” in the fields and in life.

In high school, Maydean’s nickname was “Bughouse - because I had lots of curly hair and it was always kind of ‘poufed up.” She was salutatorian of her Clifton High School graduating class in 1942.

Maydean met Roy Swoboda at the “Wednesday outdoor movies and dances” in Morganville, Kansas, and was literally swept off her feet by his jitterbug skills and sharp dressing. Wartime interrupted their courtship, but after his return from World War II, they wed on January 19, 1946, in San Diego, California. After a stint in Indianapolis, Indiana, where Roy attended and graduated from the Lincoln Chiropractic College, they returned to Kansas. Settling in Topeka, Roy began his chiropractic practice and there they raised their daughter and three sons.

Maydean’s chores and farm work from childhood transitioned into her paid work career starting at age 17, when she began work at the local Clifton telephone office as a switchboard operator (“Number, please...”) and movie theatre (“where I made the popcorn”) for “\$0.15 an hour.” During wartime, she did shift work (“one week the day shift, the next week the evening, and the third week the overnight shift”) at the Remington Arms Defense Plant in Salt Lake City, Utah. She began her federal service career in Topeka in January of 1944, first at the Air Force Supply Depot, followed by the East Port Orchard War Housing in Bremerton, Washington and the Fort Benjamin Harrison Army Finance Center in Indianapolis, Indiana. She returned to the Supply Depot in Topeka, then the Forbes Air Force Base, and finally the 190th Air National Guard Base, where she retired after a 36-year career.

Maydean’s dreams as a young girl on the farm were simple ones - “get married, have children, and have a happy life” - and these were ones she attained. Maydean will be remembered by many for her love of gardening and travel, her great cooking and baking, her organized and thrifty nature, her enjoyment of “something sweet” (before, during, after - or between meals), her ready smile and giggle, and her devotion to her family.

Not someone to tell a person what to do, but always there to give support and

listen lovingly when asked, the closest to her giving advice was to “tell people you love them; spend time with them; treat people fairly, like you’d want to be treated; and don’t put off ‘til tomorrow what you want to do — life is too short.” She set few boundaries for her children other than to follow their callings and interests in life. In tribute to her, the family hopes you will carry her wisdom and compassion with you.

Maydean was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Roy, and all her siblings. Thirteen years after Roy’s death, she began a friendship with fellow White Lakes walker Paul Moran, which developed over coffee into a “very great relationship.” He also preceded her in death. Maydean is survived by her children, Deidre Michael (Harold) of Silver Lake, Kansas, Tegan Swoboda (Cindy) of Topeka, Kansas, Seth Swoboda (Joe Anarella) of Albany, New York, and Shad Swoboda of Kansas City, Missouri, as well as grandchildren, Megan Hewitt (Rich), Shanna Martin (John), Sarah Barkemeyer (Scott), Michael Swoboda (Olivia), and great-grandchildren, Eleanor, Ryan, Jonah, Kate, Charlie, and Miles.

She was a member of the Church of The Assumption/Mater Dei Assumption Catholic Church in Topeka from 1954 to the present.

The family thanks the dedicated staff at Oakley Place of Rossville and the Midland Palliative and Hospice teams for their loving care and support in the past eleven months.

The rosary will be prayed at 5 p.m. Monday, March 28th, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614, with visitation to follow until 7 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 29th, at

Mater Dei Holy Name Catholic Church, 1114 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka KS 66604.

The service will be live streamed on the Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home Facebook page. The family invites you to join the service by going to the funeral home Facebook page and scrolling to Videos where the live video will be active prior to 10 a.m. [http://www.facebook.com/Kevin-Brennan-Funeral-Home-116876148342762](http://www.facebook.com/Kevin-Brennan-Family-Funeral-Home-116876148342762)

In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes memorial contributions to either Midland Hospice Palliative Care, 300 SW Frazier Circle, Topeka KS 66606 or Mater Dei Assumption Church (for the Bell Tower Project), 911 SW Clay, Topeka KS 66606.

Please take time to celebrate the life of Maydean Swoboda by viewing this video <https://youtu.be/iaxbEjbMv3c>

Condolences may be sent online to [www.kevinbrennanfamily.com](http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary Cemetery

801 SW Westchester Rd  
Topeka, KS 66606

# Previous Events

## Rosary

MAR 28. 5:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
[info@kevinbrennanfamily.com](mailto:info@kevinbrennanfamily.com)

## Visitation

MAR 28. 5:15 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
[info@kevinbrennanfamily.com](mailto:info@kevinbrennanfamily.com)

## Mass of Christian Burial

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MAR **29**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mater Dei Holy Name Church  
1114 SW 10th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

# Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Maydean Swoboda



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - March 25, 2022 at 05:56 PM

KH

*To the Swoboda family, my condolences and prayers. So sorry for your loss. Kevin Hodges and family.*

Kevin Hodges - March 26, 2022 at 07:00 AM

JM

*The video was amazing. So sorry for your loss. From my family to yours our thoughts and prayers are with you .*

Jeremy Mitchell - March 28, 2022 at 05:52 PM

DS

*So sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. My Mom passed at the age of 96. It is amazing to think of the long lives they have led, what they experienced. Hopefully, we are as blessed as they were.*

*With love & prayers,  
Diana (Smith) Sutphen*

Diana Sutphen - April 03, 2022 at 03:06 PM

MA

*This video really captured the spirit of such a beautiful woman. Although Lynn and I never met Maydean, I can see her spirit in our dear friend Seth. Thank you for sharing this. We now know where Seth got his dancing feet and sweet tooth.*

Mary - April 03, 2022 at 07:05 PM



“ *Maydean Swoboda*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *To the Swobada family,  
Your mom lived a long life with many adventures. Sorry for her  
passing knowing you will miss her. Prayers for your families and  
peace for your heart and soul. God bless! Barb (Tinsley) DeWalt*

**Barbara DeWalt** - March 30, 2022 at 02:19 PM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Maydean's death. I enjoyed having her as my  
neighbor for some years. I'll remember you, her family, in my  
prayers.*

**Pat Hrynewich** - March 29, 2022 at 04:21 PM



“ *What a lovely video; I can see such a resemblance to Megan; I  
know what a beloved grandmother she was. Sorry for the family's  
loss.*

*Susan Weiser*

**Susan Weiser** - March 29, 2022 at 11:25 AM



“ *My sincere condolences to a great family! May peace fill all your  
hearts during this time of loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with  
you.*

*Matt Campbell*

**matt Campbell** - March 28, 2022 at 07:22 PM

TW

“ *The video was so good! Well done!!! Condolences to her entire family. She lived a long and rich life! We have only fond memories of her. Tim and Dena Watson*

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**Tim & Dena Watson** - March 28, 2022 at 11:07 AM

CO

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Your mom leaves quite a legacy with her amazing children. You are in our thoughts and prayers. May God sustain you with wonderful memories in the days ahead. Connie and Gaylord Kelsey*



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**Connie** - March 28, 2022 at 10:33 AM

RC

“ *Tegan and Family, Sorry to read about the passing of your Mother. Your Families are in our thoughts and prayers in this difficult time in life. Tegan your Mother grew up in the same areas as my parents, Clifton, Clyde, Morganville, Clay Center Kansas.*



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**Rick Cyr** - March 27, 2022 at 11:25 AM

BG

“ *Tegan and family my thoughts and prayers are with all of you*

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**Bob Grace** - March 27, 2022 at 08:22 AM

HJ

“ Tegan, my heartfelt sympathy go to you and your family in the loss of your mother. May the good Lord comfort you during this very difficult time of grief. Thoughts and prayers for you in the many days to come. God bless.

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**Herman Jones** - March 26, 2022 at 10:58 PM

DW

“ Swoboda family, I am sorry for your loss. It looks like Maydean lived a wonderful vibrant life. My dad Audrey Wurtz was born in Clifton, KS 1-4-25 so it is possible she knew him or his siblings. It is such a small world. May God grant you peace during this time of grieving.

*Dean Wurtz*

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**Dean Wurtz** - March 26, 2022 at 07:09 PM

EM

“ Deidre, Tegan and family I want to send my deepest sympathy seeing of your mom's passing. I remember when your Mom, Doc and you were very little and moved in across the street from me on Highland Ave.

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**Eddie Michael** - March 26, 2022 at 04:48 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Maydean Swoboda.



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March 26, 2022 at 10:47 AM

DS

“ Tegan, I am so sorry to hear of your moms passing. My thoughts and prayers and with you and your family. My mom passed away Feb. 4 at the age of 97. I'm sure she and Maydean are having a great time and talking about the good old days.

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**Deb Salisbury** - March 26, 2022 at 09:19 AM

DW

“ Praying for peace and comfort to your family--Gary and Darlene Whitlock

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**Darlene Whitlock** - March 25, 2022 at 11:13 PM

BF

“ Tegan, Cindy, and all of the family, I'm so sorry for your loss. We are praying for you during this trying time.

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**Bobby Freeman** - March 25, 2022 at 10:17 PM

PP

“ Ethan, I did not know your mom but she must have been wonderful because she created you. Love and peace to you all. She is kissing the face of God. Patti Porubsky ☐

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**Patti Porubsky** - March 25, 2022 at 06:59 PM

GH

“ Seth and family,

*I am so sorry for the passing of your mom. It is so very hard to lose our parents but we know she is in a much better place. Our faith assures us of being reunited one day so until then please hold onto all your wonderful memories to help ease your pain. Please know your mom and your entire family is in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Gina (Leathers) Herman** - March 25, 2022 at 06:30 PM

MC

*Tegan and family.*

*You are in our thoughts and prayers. Losing a parent is so final.*

*Someday the Lord will let you all meet again.*

*God bless*

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**Mike custenborder** - March 25, 2022 at 06:58 PM

MC

*You have been in my thoughts and prayers. She was a wonderful person, full of life and fun to be around. I will remember the 'pie times', at Annie's restaurant. Love to all.*

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**Marilyn Campbell** - March 25, 2022 at 09:51 PM

MB

*Tegan, Cindy and family. So very sorry for the loss of your mom. I will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers. I know it's been awhile since we have all seen each other, but don't hesitate to ask if you need anything at all. God's blessings to you.....*

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**Marta Barnett** - March 25, 2022 at 10:19 PM

CN

*Tegan, Cindy and Family, My prayers are with you at this time. I did not know your mother. My grandson (Shane Gardner) went to school with Michael and I often saw you at school functions. Let the memories of your mom give you strength.*  
*Connie Gardner-Nordyke*

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**Connie Nordyke** - March 27, 2022 at 10:00 AM

*Tegan, Cindy and the entire family I am so sorry for your loss! You are all in my thoughts during this difficult time. Tegan my life long friend, I love you my Brotha!*

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**Patrick Mcinerney** - March 29, 2022 at 10:47 PM

DD

*Diedre and family so sorry to hear of the loss of your mom. A life well lived is one to remember and cherish. Our prayers are with you and your family. Denise & Tom Denton*

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**Denise Denton** - April 02, 2022 at 07:05 PM