



## Sammye Starkey

March 13, 1948 - June 16, 2020

Sammye Jean Starkey, 72, Topeka, Kansas, passed away at her home Tuesday, June 16, 2020.

Sammye was born March 13, 1948, in Topeka, Kansas, the daughter of Orville “Smokey” and Louise “Cham” Wamego Rice. Sammye graduated from Topeka High School and Stewart’s Beauty Academy. On January 10, 1976, Sammye and Tom Starkey were united in marriage. He survives. Sammye and Tom had their first child, Emmylou Starkey, on February 28, 1979. Emmylou preceded her in death.

Sammye was a member of Mater Dei Assumption Church and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. She worked in several Topeka beauty shops over the years. She enjoyed many road trips with Tom before settling down to start their family. They loved to go out dancing on the weekends with friends and family. She loved to laugh and listen to music. Sammye adored her dogs and granddogs. She was a strong woman who overcame many health obstacles over the years. One of her favorite pastimes was talking on the phone. Sammye dedicated her life to her husband, kids, and family. She was an aunt to several beloved nieces and nephews. Sammye was a special lady who will be missed tremendously.

Also grateful to have shared Sammye’s life are her son, Charley Starkey of

Topeka; her daughter, Gloria Honn and her husband, Adam of Topeka; her sister, Elizabeth Bartlett of Topeka; her brother, Raymond Rice and his wife, Jeanie of Topeka; her half-brother, Orville Rice Jr. of Mayetta; and was dearly loved by her nieces and nephews.

Sammye was also preceded in death by her parents and siblings, Lavina Olson, Jeffery Rice, and Sylvia K. Rice.

Sammye's family will greet friends from 2-4 Sunday at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka, Kansas 66614. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Monday at Mater Dei Holy Name Church. Burial will follow in Shipshee Cemetery, Mayetta, Kansas.

Due to COVID-19, social distancing is absolutely required at the funeral home, the Church and the cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

## **Shipshee Cemetery**

Mayetta, KS

# Previous Events

## **Visitation**

JUN **21**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

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

## **Mass of Christian Burial**

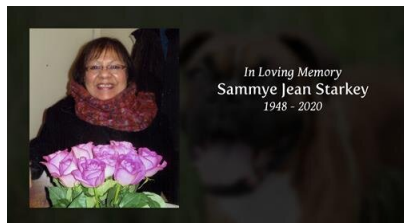
JUN **22**. 10:00 AM (CT)

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 Sammye Starkey*



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**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - June 19, 2020 at 07:18 PM



“ *Sammie Starkey*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Sammie was indeed a special lady. Was so very sorry to read of her passing. We have many fond memories of her. Our deepest sympathy goes out to all of you.*  
*John and Sandy Kendall*

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**Sandy Kenda;;** - June 29, 2020 at 05:50 PM



“ *Tom, Gloria and Charley, I am shocked and saddened by your loss. Sammie was a friend since childhood. I always enjoyed talking to her and visiting with her at your house. We enjoyed going out for a bite and to the library to research her family genealogy. My deepest sympathy to each of you.* *Julia Marsh*

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**Julia Tucker Marsh** - June 20, 2020 at 03:02 PM

JM

“ *Jan Merz, Alvin and Beth Merz, and Travis Merz purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Sammye Starkey.*



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**Jan Merz, Alvin and Beth Merz, and Travis Merz** - June 20, 2020 at 01:11 PM

BS

“ *Love and prayers ~ Rest In Peace Sammye.  
Bob and Inez Sellers*

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**Bob and Inez Sellers** - June 20, 2020 at 10:38 AM

RK

“ *I have known Sammy since I was 7 yrs old she was a very loving person always enjoyed being around her and her family*

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**Robert Kalcik** - June 19, 2020 at 07:14 PM

WW

“ *Whitney & Jevon Wold purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Sammye Starkey.*



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**Whitney & Jevon Wold** - June 19, 2020 at 04:12 PM

MB

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with your.*

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**Michelle C Brokaw** - June 18, 2020 at 10:47 PM

TL

“ Tommy we are so sorry to hear about Sammye are thoughts and prayers go out to you and the family. God Bless Ted & Veronica Lewis.

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**Ted & Veronica Lewis** - June 18, 2020 at 07:06 PM

BO

“ In loving memory of our Sweet Aunt Sammye from Cindy, Dawn & Beth plus Dad and all the animals.



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**beth olson** - June 18, 2020 at 02:59 PM

NW

“ Gloria so sorry to hear of moms passing. Your family are in our hearts and prayers.

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**nancy white** - June 18, 2020 at 11:05 AM

SB

“ Our hearts and prayers go out to you all now and always. Sammye was an amazing person and will definitely be greatly missed. Love to you all!

*Jerrie Bracken  
Stephanie (Bracken) Bookman  
Samantha Bracken*

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**Stephanie Bookman** - June 18, 2020 at 08:23 AM

GC

“ My condolences to the family. Sammye was a great long time friend of my family. She will be dearly missed. Sending love and prayers.

*- Greg Coulter*

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**Greg Coulter** - June 18, 2020 at 07:37 AM