



## Vera Lackey

January 11, 1943 - June 8, 2024

Vera Jane Lackey, 81, passed away peacefully on June 8, 2024, in Topeka, Kansas, after a courageous battle with cancer. She was born on January 11, 1943, to Trinidad Avila Duarte and Ruth Vargas Duarte.

She grew up in Hutchinson, Kansas and graduated from Hutchinson High School in 1961. She met the love of her life, Mike Lackey, and later they got married on May 18, 1963. Together, they had three wonderful daughters.

Vera's lifelong career was running an in-home daycare for 36 years which also provided a preschool program for many years. She touched many young lives in these 36 years running this daycare. She brought much comfort to parents by providing a safe place for their children to stay. Her business was very successful not only due to her entrepreneurial spirit, but because she was compassionate. She cared for the children as if they were her own. Between being a mother, grandmother, and daycare provider, Vera felt her calling to the world and was very successful at shaping young minds. Vera was a member of Epsilon Sigma Alpha Sorority, Every Women's Resource Center, member of State and National Day Care Provider organizations, which she helped and led seminars on daycare locally and nationally, she also helped passionately with the funeral luncheons at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

She is survived by husband, Mike; daughters, Raelynn Bervert of Topeka KS,

Kelli Hoffman (Jason) of Topeka KS, Tricia Reimer (Kirk) of Hopewell Junction NY; grandchildren, Christopher Bervert (Lexie) of Topeka KS, Travis Bervert of Topeka KS, Aidan Reimer of Hopewell Junction NY, Avery Reimer of Hopewell Junction NY, five great-grandchildren, Cashton Bervert, Lily DeShazer, Camile Bervert, Adrienne Bervert and Tatum Bervert; siblings, Mary Lingerfelt, Robert Duarte, Eleanor Lawson, Andres Duarte, Billy Duarte, Peter Duarte, Geralyn Espinoza and Gina Glenn; and many nieces and nephews.

Vera is preceded in death by her parents; siblings, David Duarte, Trinidad Duarte Jr., Patrick Duarte, Stevie Duarte, Trinidad (Junie) Duarte, and Kirene McJunkin.

Visitation and Rosary will be Thursday, June 20, 2024, beginning at 9 am, followed by a Rosary at 10 am and Mass at 10:30 am, all at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church 3601 SW 17th St. Topeka KS 66603. She will be laid to rest at Fairlawn Burial Park, 2401 Carey Blvd in Hutchinson KS, on June 21, 2024 with committal service at 10:30 am.

Memorial contributions may be made to Midland Care Hospice, Every Women's Resource Center and Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 20. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church  
3601 SW 17th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

## Rosary

JUN 20. 10:00 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church  
3601 SW 17th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

## Mass of Christian Burial

JUN 20. 10:30 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church  
3601 SW 17th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

## Committal Service

JUN 21. 10:30 AM (CT)

Fairlawn Burial Parks  
2401 Carey Blvd.  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Vera Lackey*



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**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - June 13, 2024 at 03:33 PM

SR

*Was the family friend growing up on Sherman loved them all very sweet and caring family so sorry So there loss*

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**Sandra Reed** - June 17, 2024 at 10:57 PM

CD

*May God comfort the entire family. I respected, admired, and loved Vera. She and Mike were my daughter, Sarah's baptismal godparents. Hugs and love to you all from Houston. She will be missed forever.*

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**Concha Duarte** - June 19, 2024 at 09:16 PM

AH

“ *Amy H. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vera Lackey.*

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**Amy H.** - June 20, 2024 at 11:04 AM

CA

“ Mike, so sorry to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are of you and your family at this time.

*Clay and Patti Adams.*

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**Clay Adams** - June 20, 2024 at 08:53 AM

MN

“ Meet Vera and Mike over 20 years ago. Vera was so much fun we had many good times. She was the sweetest kind full of love and it showed. She will be missed.our condolences to Mike and family. In our thoughts and prayers 🙏❤️ love Mary Anne and Gerald (Newf)

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**Mary Anne and Gerald Noftall** - June 18, 2024 at 05:18 PM

RG

“ Romina, Luke,Michael and Grace purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Vera Lackey.



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**Romina, Luke,Michael and Grace** - June 18, 2024 at 05:05 PM

GR

“ Greg and Amanda Ross purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Vera Lackey.



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**Greg and Amanda Ross** - June 18, 2024 at 03:22 PM

RZ

“ Wonderful times with both Vera and Mike....  
Hugs from your Canadian friends 🤗



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Rose Zoccoli - June 18, 2024 at 02:30 PM



“ About 24 years ago, we met Mike and Vera quite by chance, and by Gods’s grace, I believe, at a HOG Rally in Ontario, Canada. And every summer until 2014, we would meet up and go for a multi state ride that Mike would plan out for all of us. I can’t even begin to recount those times. What does remain, and always will, is Vera’s love of life and laughter. She was the kindest most loving woman we have ever had the good fortune to know. She and Mike became more than friends. We talked about family, and life in general, over many a cold beverage, bikes parked for the night and all of us gathered in motel parking lots outside our rooms.

On one of those trips, Mike and Vera rode up to meet us to tour the HD factory in York, PA. When we arrived at the designated motel where we were to meet up with them, Vera had made and hung a huge banner across their room window welcoming Niagara HOG! What a blast! I still can remember her running out of their room when she heard the bikes, and rushing to kiss and hug all of us, Mike trailing behind, yelling at her to “be careful, Vera!”. So many good times.

It hurts the heart to think we won’t be hanging out with her anymore. But we will meet again, Vera. Until then, you are always riding with us. Our Angel to keep us safe.

Mike, we’re here for you. Just reach out.



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**Theresa Tisdelle** - June 18, 2024 at 12:00 PM

LC

“ Love, The Colasuonno purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Vera Lackey.



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**Love, The Colasuonno** - June 18, 2024 at 11:53 AM

LC

“ Love, The Colasuonno planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vera Lackey.

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**Love, The Colasuonno** - June 18, 2024 at 11:53 AM

YF

“ Your Avondale Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vera Lackey.

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**Your Avondale Family** - June 18, 2024 at 06:15 AM

YF

“ Your Avondale Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Vera Lackey.



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**Your Avondale Family** - June 18, 2024 at 06:15 AM



“ *Sandra Reed lit a candle in memory of Vera Lackey*



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**Sandra Reed** - June 17, 2024 at 10:54 PM



“ Susan and I started riding motorcycles with Mike and Vera in the late 90’s. We rode together until Mike’s eyesight would no longer allow it. There was no one we enjoyed riding with more than Mike and Vera. We were constant companions on road trips. We crossed about 25 state borders together and clocked thousands of miles. Riding days always started with Vera’s infectious smile. If she couldn’t make you smile and laugh no one could. We enjoyed many meals together on the road; none of which equaled the homemade dishes she shared with us. At the end of a long day on the road Vera and I would often enjoy a good Scotch and water after the bikes were parked for the day and she had talked with her girls so they knew she was safe. Vera was as caring with her friends and family as she was with the children she homeschooled. I am sure Susan would never had enjoyed riding as she did without her buddy Vera.

*Roger & Susan Byler*



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**Roger Byler** - June 17, 2024 at 06:30 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Vera Lackey.



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June 17, 2024 at 03:24 PM



“ Vera was one of the most selfless, caring people I have ever known. She took care of my daughter Hannah for several years while I was working for her husband Mike at KDOT. She was the salt of the earth and touched countless lives during her daycare business years. Family was everything to Vera and my thoughts are with Mike, the girls and all of her family and friends. Special memories of her will stay with us all.

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**Peggy S Hansen-Nagy** - June 17, 2024 at 12:36 PM



Vera was our day care provider for all 3 of our children! She was simply the best. I was a nurse and my husband attended college and then worked. Our son Brian was only 6 months when she began caring for him. Brian had a brain tumor at age 3 and had surgery and Vera helped us soo much to get him through his radiation and to allow me to keep working! Brian is 51 now and non verbal and intellectually and physically disabled but I believe if it were not for Vera 's love and caring we could not have gotten through all that. Vera lived her family and all the children she cared for. That smile and her faith made her strong, faithfilled and loved. She was our angel for a very long time and we will be forever grateful for her loving care she gave our children and us! She made a REAL difference in this world and we loved her and her family! May God comfort each of you knowing she served God in all ways and others and now she is at peace.

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**Marcia, Mike, and Brian Robinson** - June 18, 2024 at 07:46 AM

LV

“ Love your X-ray department at Vassar purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Vera Lackey.



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**Love your X-ray department at Vassar** - June 17, 2024 at 10:44 AM

BS

“ Blessings, Bob & Taina Shields planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vera Lackey.

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**Blessings, Bob & Taina Shields** - June 16, 2024 at 08:01 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Vera Lackey.



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June 16, 2024 at 08:01 PM

DM

“ David M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vera Lackey.

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**David M.** - June 16, 2024 at 01:17 PM

DA

“ Dear Mrs. Hoffman and Family:

*On behalf of Topeka Public Schools, our sincere condolences are extended on the passing of your beloved mother, Mrs. Vera Lackey whose grace, kindness and love impacted countless lives. I can recall meeting her at French and her calming presence, her grace, and bright smile just showed pure joy in seeing students and witnessing her daughter in action at French. Mrs. Lackey's peaceful spirit filled the space she was in and even in the first meeting, it was clear she loved children! In reading about her life and learning of her public service to countless early childhood children for decades, it's clear her legacy continues through the many lives she has impacted that demonstrate her loving, kind spirit in every interaction. In Topeka, we see that through Mrs. Hoffman daily. What an incredible woman, mother and friend to many!*

*During her battle with cancer, I gave Mrs. Lackey a devotional called Jesus calling that my family uses with her name on it and on the day she transitioned I read the June 8th passage and the last sentence in that passage stated, "Come into My Presence with thanksgiving, desiring to be transformed." It is my personal prayer that as Mrs. Lackey enters her new peaceful everlasting life of rest, you are comforted by the many precious positive memories with her. May God's grace comfort and strengthen you and your family.*

*Dr. Tiffany Anderson  
Superintendent of Schools  
Unified School District 501*

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**Dr. Tiffany Anderson** - June 14, 2024 at 02:34 PM

AE

“ Kelli, I am sending condolences for the loss of your mother. Your mom had to be a special person to raise a strong, kind and smart person like you. Again, sending my deepest condolences to you and your family. Ana Escobar

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Ana Escobar - June 14, 2024 at 02:09 PM

KD

“ Mike, I am so sorry. Vera was a beautiful woman, inside and out. You will be in my thoughts and prayers. Kathy DuBois

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Kathy DuBois - June 14, 2024 at 11:49 AM

DK

“ Mike, my thoughts and prayers are of you and your family with your loss.  
Dee Kimbell

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Dee Kimbell - June 14, 2024 at 10:49 AM

AG

“ Raelynn and family,  
  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time difficult time.  
May all your memories bring you all comfort.

Deepest Sympathy,

Angie and Rosemary Gutierrez.

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Angela Gutierrez - June 14, 2024 at 09:54 AM

EM

“ Mike, my sincere condolences to you and your family.

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Eddie Michael - June 14, 2024 at 09:32 AM

TF

“ *The Cazzorla Family purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Vera Lackey.*



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**The Cazzorla Family** - June 13, 2024 at 05:42 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Vera Lackey.*



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June 13, 2024 at 04:36 PM

ML

“ *My dear Sister Vera was such a loving caring woman. We have a sweet bond because Vera was my matron of honor and Mike was Larry's best man. We also had fun double-dating. We enjoyed phone calls after we moved to California. We especially loved our Alaskan cruise with Mike and Vera.. Will miss her beautiful face. Love you Mike. Mary and Larry*

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**Mary & Larry Lingerfelt** - June 13, 2024 at 04:03 PM

RM

“ *Ron, Joely, Madison and Morgan. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vera Lackey.*

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**Ron, Joely, Madison and Morgan.** - June 13, 2024 at 03:20 PM

RM

“ *Ron, Joely, Madison and Morgan. purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Vera Lackey.*



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**Ron, Joely, Madison and Morgan.** - June 13, 2024 at 03:20 PM