



Opal Fern Ayers

March 21, 1922 - January 8, 2019

Opal Fern Ayers, age 96, died Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at the Neodesha Care and Rehab Center. Opal was born on March 21, 1922 in Liberty, KS the daughter of Edwin and Mary Eugenia (Hurd) O'Brien.

Opal was a graduate of Independence High School and Independence Jr. College. She began teaching in the Liberty areas one-room school houses. During the war, Opal moved to the Kansas City area and worked in the war effort. On November 24, 1945, Opal married Arthur Mack Ayers in Independence, KS. Opal and Mack were married for 63 years until his death on January 11, 2009.

They moved to the High Prairie area around 1950 where she began teaching in the local small schools in Wilson County and Fredonia until 1969. During that time she received a BS in Education through Pittsburg State University. They then moved to the Wichita area where she taught at the Goddard schools for an additional 20 years. After retirement, they returned to Fredonia in the mid 1990's.

Opal is survived by:

5 sons:

Thomas Ayers, and wife Alana, of Altoona, KS

Steve Ayers of Topeka, KS

Michael Ayers and wife Joyce of Altoona, KS

Greg Ayers and wife Susan of Garden City, KS

Dave Ayers and wife Jeannie of Des Moines, IA

10 Grand Children and 1 step grandson

14 Great Grandchildren and 4 step Great Grandchildren

3 Great-Great Grandchildren and 1 Step Great-Great Grandson

Opal was preceded in death by her parents, husband Mack, 2 sisters: Ruby Morton and Ruth Veith, 2 brothers: Paul O'Brien and Dale O'Brien and daughter-in-law, Patsy Ayers.

Cremation has been requested, a memorial service will be held on Monday, January 21, 2019 at 11:00 AM at the High Prairie United Methodist Church near Altoona. Online condolences may be left at: www.countrysidefh.com Memorials have been suggested to the Fredonia Public Library and may be left with or mailed to the funeral home. Services entrusted to: Countryside Funeral Home 420 S. 20th St., P.O. Box 247, Fredonia, KS 66736

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN **21**. 11:00 AM (CT)

High Prairie United Methodist Church
Hwy 75 & 1800 Rd
Altoona, KS

Tribute Wall

LR

“ Mike, Joyce, and families. We will be thinking about you in this sad and difficult time. You are in our prayers.

Louise Remy - January 20, 2019 at 08:15 PM

TW

“ I remember caring for her in her home and at the Nursing home. She always had a smile and asked about her grandkids..a very sweet lady.

Theresa Walker - January 20, 2019 at 11:38 AM

HE

“ My thoughts and prayers to the family of such a wonderful lady! I am blessed to have cared for her at one time, she always had a smile and was such a sweet person.

Heather - January 15, 2019 at 01:41 AM

DJ

“ When thinking about Opal, a smile comes to our faces. We knew her for a short time, but we came to know her as a woman with a great deal of patience. She seemed to deal with adversity and a variety of changes with a smile on her face and sincere words of wisdom.

Denice Jones - January 13, 2019 at 09:05 PM

LO

“ I always remember Mrs Ayers with a smile on her face. A real sweet lady. Thinking of the family at this sad time.

Loretta Odell - January 10, 2019 at 09:24 AM

BD

“ We were blessed to have Mrs. Ayres as a teacher for grades 4 through 6 at the rural two room Maple Grove Elementary School as well as Thom teaching at Fredonia High School. You are all in our prayers.

Bds - January 09, 2019 at 08:43 PM