



Bernice Kohl

October 21, 1927 - December 29, 2023

To join the livestream broadcast of Bernice Kohl's funeral service, please select the link below. The broadcast will begin at 12:55 P.M. Tuesday afternoon, January 2, 2024, and will be archived for 90 days for later viewing.
<https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTcwMzk4MDk1MzI4ODUwMyZvbmVyb29tLWFkbWluJmNvcHlfbGluaw==>

Bernice Kohl, age 96 years and a resident of rural Vienna, passed away Friday, December 29, 2023 at 8:40 PM at her residence.

Bernice was born to Lester L. Austin and Tressie Jane (Harris) Austin on October 21, 1927.

Survivors include: children - Howard Wayne (Peggy) Bessette of Florida, William "Bill" Eugene Bessette of Kankakee, Illinois, James Edward (Lula) Bessette of Vienna, Illinois and John Edmund (Dorothy Jones) Bessette of Kankakee; 18 grandchildren; 43 great grandchildren and several great-great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, Bernice was preceded in death by a daughter - Jane Marie Garcia, a step son, Michael Kohl and three brothers - Lester Austin, Jr, Norman Austin and Ellis Austin.

Bernice was a 1945 graduate of Kankakee High School.

She was employed by McDonalds as a manager in Kankakee, Illinois for over thirty years.

In her spare time, she enjoyed reading and crossword puzzles.

Bernice was of the Christian Faith.

A service honoring the life of Bernice Kohl will be conducted Tuesday afternoon, January 2, 2024 at 1 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna. Brother Scott Harris will officiate. Interment will be at a later date in Mt. Sterling Cemetery at Unionville. Visitation will be held from 12 Noon to 1 PM Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at Bailey Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN, 38105-1905.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home
705 North First Street
PO Box 695
Vienna, IL 62995
(618) 658-2311
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com
<https://baileyfh.com>

Service

JAN 2. 1:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home
705 North First Street
PO Box 695
Vienna, IL 62995
(618) 658-2311
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Tribute Wall



“ *Bailey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Bernice Kohl*



Bailey Funeral Home - January 04, 2024 at 02:29 PM



“ *Just heard of her passing. I am so sorry for your loss.*

Victoria LeBeau(Hedger) - January 15, 2024 at 01:50 PM



“ *I just found out! My deepest sympathy to her wonderful family!! We lived next door to her for 2 years and I worked at McDonalds with her for 4 years. She was a wonderful person and liked to laugh a lot!! She will be greatly missed!!*

Leslie S Hedger - January 15, 2024 at 01:14 PM



“ *I have fond memories spending many a summer day at Kathy Austin's home in Bradley, Illinois. Meeting Bernice is one of those memories. Sorry for your loss. Luv, hugs, and tears Linda Zullo Bohlmann*

Linda Bohlmann - January 13, 2024 at 05:57 PM

VB

“ Vickie Burlison-Francisco lit a candle in memory of Bernice Kohl



Vickie Burlison-Francisco - January 03, 2024 at 02:00 AM

VB

Dear Sonny, Billy, Jimmy and Johnny, I just learned this evening of Aunt Bernice's passing. She was very special and was always so kind to me. I have many wonderful memories of your mother. My prayers for your families at this time of deep loss.

Vickie Burlison-Francisco - January 03, 2024 at 02:06 AM

TM

“ Tom Mallaney lit a candle in memory of Bernice Kohl



Tom Mallaney - January 02, 2024 at 05:36 AM

BS

I hope the love of family and friends will bring you comfort through such tough times. Bernice was a very special lady. So sorry to hear of her passing.

Brenda Stillwell - January 02, 2024 at 12:10 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bernice Kohl.*



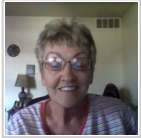
January 01, 2024 at 12:10 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bernice Kohl.*



December 31, 2023 at 11:37 PM



“ *Victoria Smith lit a candle in memory of Bernice Kohl*



Victoria Smith - December 31, 2023 at 11:37 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Bernice Kohl.*



December 31, 2023 at 09:41 AM

MS

“ Marc & Nichole Smyth planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernice Kohl.

Marc & Nichole Smyth - December 31, 2023 at 09:41 AM

DS

“ Our deepest sympathy to our brother Howard and sister Peggy and to you all. May God and your precious memories be your comfort.

Doug & Bev-(Peggy's sister.) - December 31, 2023 at 08:36 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bernice Kohl.



December 30, 2023 at 10:56 PM

PR

“ Presiyan and Amber Radev planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernice Kohl.

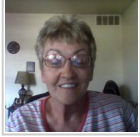
Presiyan and Amber Radev - December 30, 2023 at 10:56 PM



“ Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bernice Kohl.



December 30, 2023 at 05:02 PM



“ *Such a wonderful friend she was! I always felt like i was part of the family and she will be sadly missed! We loved sitting on her porch having coffee and talking and also loved going to garage sales when i would go visit her when she was able! RIP Bernice Love always , Vicki*

Victoria Smith - December 30, 2023 at 04:05 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bernice Kohl.*



December 30, 2023 at 02:23 PM



“ *Sharon Werner and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernice Kohl.*

Sharon Werner and Family - December 30, 2023 at 02:23 PM

HB

“ Mom was a great mother and wonderful person. Her life was not always easy but her big heart always prevailed. Her home was always open to family. I have many treasured memories of sharing morning coffee while catching up on life. And who can forget mom’s specialties, zucchini bread, homemade ground beef sausage, or her delicious Chinese Pie. At one time, years ago, mom had a vegetable garden. One of my favorite Christmas gifts ever was a box of canned vegetables from her garden. There was love in those jars. Mom will be missed by many, but there are fond memories to look back on to ease the pain. God speed mom, we will see you again one day.

Howard “Sonny” Bessette - December 30, 2023 at 02:16 PM