



Leota Yvonne (Curry) Crain

July 5, 1937 - January 28, 2024

Leota Yvonne (Curry) Crain was born July 5, 1937, in Salem, Missouri, to Earnest and Wyota (Clark) Curry. Leota grew up in Salem and attended Salem High School. After high school, she started working at International Shoe Factory and worked there until they closed the doors. During her time there she was the union leader.

On June 29, 1962, she was united in marriage to the love of her life Craig R. Crain. They shared thirty-nine years of marriage and lasting memories together before his passing February 9, 2001. Leota and Craig were blessed with two sons: Kenneth and Keith.

Leota enjoyed sports and loved playing church league softball. She followed the St. Louis Cardinals Baseball team passionately and never missed a game. Her later years she was part of the garden club at Friendship Village. Leota loved her family and cherished making memories with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Leota was a lady of faith and baptized at a young age at New Home Baptist Church. She faithfully attended Liberty Baptist Church when her boys were younger. Leota and Craig were dedicated members of Oak Grove Baptist Church where she was head of the kitchen committee and worked as the custodian.

Leota entered into eternal rest January 28, 2024, in Chesterfield, Missouri, at the age of eighty-six years. She leaves behind to treasure her memory two sons: Kenneth Crain and partner Justin Robertson and Keith Crain and partner Dana Stacy; sister: Oleta Donner; brother: James Curry; sister-in-law: Mary Happel; grandchildren: Andrew Crain and partner Stephanie Riddle, Adam Crain, Nicole Crain, Chelsie McDerman and husband Matt, Brittney Altmann and husband Andrew, and Holland Crain; great-grandchildren: Layla, Matthew, Audrey, Leonidas, Nolan, Nash, Annabella, Gracie, and Bane; extended family: Carol and Larry Gibbs, Eric, Jennifer, and Cannon Gibbs, and John Gibbs; as well as many dear friends.

Preceding her in death, her husband: Craig Crain; parents: Earnest and Wyota Curry; sister: Earnestine Wells; and her brother: Marshal Curry.

Leota was one of a kind. She was beautiful inside and out. She had a huge heart full of love. Leota will be forever missed by those who loved her most.

Funeral Services for Leota Yvonne (Curry) Crain were held Friday, February 16, 2024, in the Wilson Mortuary Salem Chapel with Pastor Ken Martin officiating. Special Music was provided by pianist Sara Pines and soloist Lisa Wulff. Serving as Pallbearers were Andy Crain, Adam Crain, Dale Wells, Michael Cooper, Eric Gibbs, and John Gibbs. Honorary Pallbearers were Matt McDerman and Andrew Altmann. Burial was in the Stone Hill Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Wilson Mortuary of Salem, Missouri.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial Contributions may be made in memory of Leota Crain to the LovePack BackPack Program or the Alzheimer's Association.

Condolences may be left online at www.wilsonmortuary.com

Cemetery Details

Stone Hill Cemetery

Salem, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **16**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Mortuary - Salem
1000 West Scenic Rivers Blvd.
Post Office Box 45
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-5555
<https://www.wilsonmortuary.com/>

Funeral Service

FEB **16**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Mortuary - Salem
1000 West Scenic Rivers Blvd.
Post Office Box 45
Salem, MO 65560
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Tribute Wall



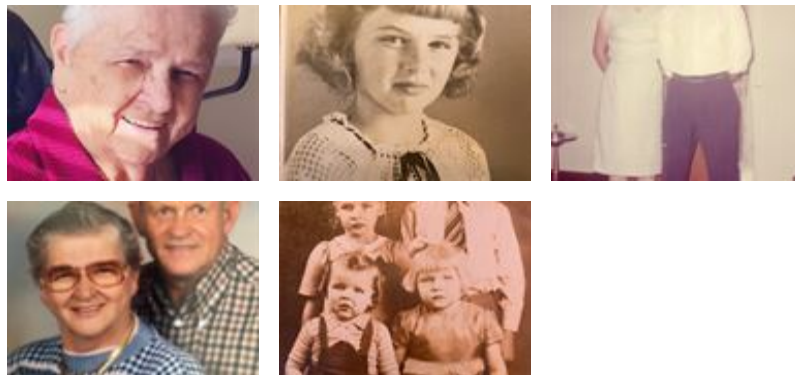
“ 1 file added to the album Videos Album



Wilson Mortuary - February 19, 2024 at 09:31 AM



“ 191 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wilson Mortuary - February 16, 2024 at 09:27 AM



“ Love, the SQUAD purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Leota Yvonne (Curry) Crain.



Love, the SQUAD - February 15, 2024 at 03:22 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Leota Yvonne (Curry) Crain.



February 15, 2024 at 11:12 AM



“ Bill Byrd and Mark Adams planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leota Yvonne (Curry) Crain.

Bill Byrd and Mark Adams - February 15, 2024 at 11:12 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Leota Yvonne (Curry) Crain.



February 13, 2024 at 11:09 AM

WI

“ You were a dear friend, Leota, and fun to be around. Especially realized this when working together at the church. Remember the time had to use the Heimlich maneuver during lunch when you were choking so badly on a piece of chicken. Then I told the guys there, "Was calling for you and you didn't answer so I had to do the Hemlock maneuver on Leota" so it all ended with a good laugh for all.

Had a lot of good talks and laughs and learned a lot from you.

You were such a hard, dedicated and faithful worker, and you'll be remembered fondly by many of Oakgrove and beyond.

Oh, how glorious it is for you now singing, I Stand Amazed in the Presence, How marvelous, how wonderful and my song shall ever be, How marvelous, how wonderful is my Saviours love for me!!!

Winnie - February 08, 2024 at 09:01 PM

KC

Thank you for your kindness. She had many fond memories of your friendship and the time at Oak Grove

Ken Crain - February 09, 2024 at 02:34 PM

CS

*I share with Winnie's story.
Leotta was strong and determined. I believe she knew God was who she wanted to impress...I loved her personality, no nosense.*

Cheryl Shelton - February 12, 2024 at 12:28 PM

CS

I count her as my sister in Christ🙏

Cheryl Shelton - February 12, 2024 at 12:29 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Leota Yvonne (Curry) Crain.*



February 08, 2024 at 10:36 AM



“ *My Aunt Leota was warm, generous, and a very kind person. When I was young I lived for a period of time in Salem, and Aunt Leota and Uncle Craig were there for me at a very difficult time in my life. They were wonderful and I will always hold them in great esteem for the comfort they gave me when I needed it most. With Love and Gratitude, Stan & Monica Crain*

Stan Crain - February 07, 2024 at 05:55 PM



“ *Leota was one in a million! So many fond memories of “Sarge” at Oak Grove! She was so special to so many of us! Sympathy and Prayers to her boys and family and special friends the Gibbs family !*

Larry - Brenda Wofford - February 05, 2024 at 10:51 PM



“ *Many wonderful memories at Oak Grove Baptist Church with Leota (Sarge), she was a very special lady.*

Kathy Thompson - February 04, 2024 at 09:12 PM

MS

I have wonderful memories of Leota, especially over the years when her sister, Ernie, and I used to go to Salem to visit her family there. Leota was a very kind person, a wonderful cook and always made you feel comfortable. (Ray met her later in life). Sympathy and prayers go out to Kenneth, Keith, Oleta and James and their families. May God bless you all and keep you in His care. Margie and Ray Sommer

Margie Sommer - February 15, 2024 at 06:07 PM

CG

“ *My dearest friend, just like a second Mom.
I will truly miss her. Lots of memories and help from her with raising our kids, helping with my Mom,
And just being a part of our family. Tears still
Flowing. ❤️*

Carol Gibbs - January 30, 2024 at 11:49 AM