



Mercedes J. Michels

December 12, 1928 - August 13, 2020

Mercedes Jean Michels, age 91, of Kearney, passed away Thursday, August 13, 2020 at her home. Family graveside services will be 10:00 a.m., Saturday, August 15, 2020 at the Curtis Cemetery in Curtis, Nebraska. There will be no visitation. Memorials are suggested to the Kearney Homeless Shelter or the Salvation Army. Please visit www.hlmkfuneral.com to leave a tribute or condolence. Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney is in charge of arrangements.

Mercedes was born December 12, 1928 in Curtis, to Oscar and Lela Westfall. She excelled in music, playing the French Horn in high school band, and the drums in the military band. She quickly became band captain, which gave her the joy of conducting on occasion. Merce was thrilled to be part of the National Honor Band.

On August 15, 1953, she married Thomas Michels in Curtis. They lived in Lincoln for a few years, where she worked as a secretary and played horn in the Lincoln Symphony before moving to Kearney where she played in the City Band.

Merce, a proud American, enjoyed working the voting booths and donating blood to the Red Cross. During the war, she loved volunteering at the North Platte Canteen.

Mercedes will be deeply missed as her family's prayer warrior, emotional defender and up lifter, nurturer, teacher and celebrator. She could lift anyone's spirits and guide them at the same time, never judging and always unconditionally loving. It is well with her soul.

She is survived by her three children; Alan (Margaret) Michels of Payson, Arizona, Helen (Paul) Lange and Kelly (William) Schellhase both of Kearney; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and a brother, Alan Westfall.

Cemetery Details

Curtis Cemetery

Road 391
Curtis, NE 69025

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Curtis Cemetery
Road 391
Curtis, NE 69025

Tribute Wall



“ Mercedes J. Michels

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ Helen, Kelly, and Alan -- so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing so soon after your Dad, but I'm sure they're happy to be together again. Your folks were wonderful neighbors during my early teen years and were a wonderful influence for me and great friends to my parents. Your families will be in our prayers.

Thomas Wilson - August 17, 2020 at 04:42 PM



“ Kelly, Helen, and Alan , my deepest condolences on the deaths of both your parents in such a short time. Perhaps they could not bear to be apart. Your parents very lovely people and I know you will miss them, but I'm sure you have many good memories to comfort you. Blessings, Lori McCammon O'Brien

Lori O'Brien - August 15, 2020 at 08:41 PM



“ So sorry for your loss Kelly and Bud! You had wonderful parents! I loved them very much!

Connie

Connie L. Beans - August 15, 2020 at 01:55 PM



“ My prayers for all of you, Helen and Kelly I knew best. Jelly and I were friends in elementary school, dance class and church functions. Both your parents were always kind to me, and I enjoyed being around your house! Sorry to loose both your parents in such a short time. Love to all, Cindy (Wells) Howells

Cindy (Wells) Howells - August 15, 2020 at 01:18 PM

DB

“ So sorry to hear about your mom. She was such a happy and sweet lady. Your family will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Mike and Deb Blevins



Deb Blevins - August 15, 2020 at 12:28 PM

RG

“ Helen, Jana just emailed me about your mom's passing. I was so sad to hear the news. Your mom had a special place in my heart. She was always so kind and loving to me. In a way, she like a second mom. For me, she was about as close to a living angel as can be. She was a very special person to everyone in family. I also noticed that your father passed away in July. I am also so sad to learn that. I'm really out of touch because of covid and because I'm not on Facebook,. but I'm sending you. Kelly and Bud and all of your families love from the bottom of my heart. I will inform Tom and Dave. I'm thinking of you, Helen. Love, Becky

Rebecca A Green - August 15, 2020 at 11:15 AM

TW

“ I loved her since I was a child. Because she made me feel loved every time I saw her. My love goes out to the family with the double burden of grief you must carry as you adjust to all the changes.

Terry Yost Westing - August 15, 2020 at 09:49 AM