



Jean Elizabeth Wilburn Danley

January 18, 1929 - January 22, 2021

Jean Elizabeth Wilburn Danley passed away on January 22, 2021, in Memphis, Tennessee. She was born January 18, 1929, in Perry County, Tennessee, the only child of Jack and Ethel Ayers Wilburn. Jean was educated in the public schools in Perry and Humphreys counties, graduating in 1946 from Waverly High School, where she was a member of the women's basketball team. She was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in 1950 from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, with a major in Home Economics. While at UTK, she was active in collegiate aquatic sports. After her college graduation, she served a brief tenure as principal and teacher at Hurricane Mills Elementary School. She then joined the UT Agricultural Extension Service where she enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a Home Demonstration Agent, serving first in Lawrence County and later in Wayne County. In 1964, Jean joined the Extension Service in Hickman County and was named County Agricultural Extension Leader there in 1984, the position from which she retired in 1989. She received the National Association of Extension Home Economists Award for Distinguished Service in 1973.

Jean was married to Noah Neal Danley in 1951, at the home of her parents, Fairview Hereford Farm, in Hurricane Mills, TN. They were blessed with two sons, James Wilburn Danley, Colonel, US Army (Ret.), and Gary Neal Danley, Lt. Colonel, US Army (Ret.).

Jean was a loving mother and wife who enjoyed life to the fullest by sewing, quilting, playing golf, traveling, RV'ing, and avidly supporting UT sports—especially UT women's basketball. She loved time spent with her many friends and enjoyed meeting new people who immediately became friends. She was a long-time member of the First Baptist Church in Centerville, and later Fairfield Baptist Church, where she loved and enjoyed the Senior Ladies Sunday School Class.

She was predeceased by her husband and parents. She is survived by her sons: Jim (Beverly) of Germantown, TN, and Gary (Lora) of Richmond, KY; grandchildren: Jennifer Wheeler (Joe) of Dyersburg, TN, JP Danley of Los Angeles, CA, Andrea Francis (Kyle) of Lexington, KY, Neal Robert Danley of Richmond, KY, and great-grandchild, Judah Robert Francis of Lexington, KY. The family feels deep appreciation of Elsa Rodriguez for her long-time assistance of and friendship with Jean and Neal.

The funeral will be a private graveside service with immediate family only at the O.A. Kirk Cemetery, Linden, Tennessee. The Rev. Bill McDonald will officiate. A future Celebration of Life service, open to friends and family, will be held when pandemic-related mitigation efforts permit safe gatherings. Arrangements are with McDonald Funeral Home, Centerville, Tennessee.

Memorials in Jean's honor may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation at www.jdrf.org, to Crossroads Hospice at www.crhcf.org, or to The Ayers Foundation (www.theayersfoundation.org) which offers college scholarships to Tennessee's rural high school students, at: The Ayers Foundation, PO Box 756, Parsons, TN 38363.

Cemetery Details

Dr. O. A. Kirk Memorial Cemetery

Linden, TN

Tribute Wall

RS

“ I worked with Ms Jean only a few times while I was 4-H agent in Lawrence County. She was always a class act and a real pleasure to work with. With her connections in Lawrence County, she was always asking about folks she knew. I think that I might have been at UT Martin with one of her sons. May she rest in Peace.
Ricky C. Skillington

Ricky Skillington - January 29, 2021 at 07:25 PM

CB

“ James and Gary, I am so sorry for your loss! I loved Jean. She was a second mother to me and a great professional mentor during my time as an Extension Agent while I was in Centerville. She made a huge impact on the lives of those she touched through her work and her friendship.

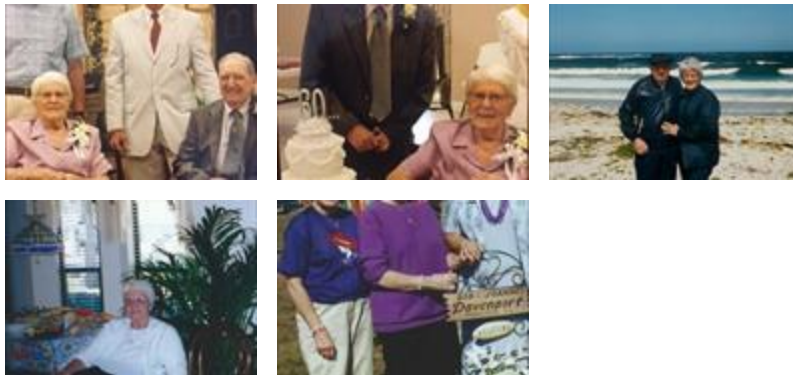


Cathy Lake Black

Cathy Lake Black - January 29, 2021 at 10:31 AM

MH

“ 15 files added to the album Family Photos



McDonald Funeral Home - January 29, 2021 at 09:11 AM



“ *David Bates lit a candle in memory of Jean Elizabeth Wilburn Danley*



David Bates - January 29, 2021 at 09:10 AM

VB

“ *Vicky Beagle lit a candle in memory of Jean Elizabeth Wilburn Danley*



Vicky Beagle - January 29, 2021 at 08:52 AM

SA

“ *A wonderful and gracious lady who helped many.*



Sawyer - January 28, 2021 at 09:00 PM

JD

“ *Janice Duncan lit a candle in memory of Jean Elizabeth Wilburn Danley*



Janice Duncan - January 28, 2021 at 11:44 AM



“ *Donna Qualls lit a candle in memory of Jean Elizabeth Wilburn Danley*



Donna Qualls - January 28, 2021 at 08:20 AM