



## Julia "Judy" Ann Cochran

January 24, 1932 - March 23, 2019

Julia Ann "Judy" Cochran, 87, finished her good run on this earth on 23 March 2019, in Mission, Kansas, following a lifetime in Johnson County, Missouri. She died peacefully of natural causes. Judy was born on 24 January 1932 to William Kirkwood "Pop" Gard and Helen Violet Frick on Six Cedars Farm near Kingsville, Missouri. She married her one true love, Harlan Edward Cochran, on 10 June 1949 in Holden, Missouri. Harlan preceded her in death on 1 February 1984.

Starting in the early 1960's, Harlan and Judy, with the help of their four children, developed an outstanding registered Jersey herd on their farm north of Holden. They received numerous production awards and wide recognition over the years. The herd, Cochran's Jerseys, continues under the management of their son Clint and his family. Following her retirement in 1990, Judy worked as a receptionist at B&B Veterinary Hospital in Warrensburg, Missouri, for eleven years.

Judy loved music. She sang in church and community choirs throughout her life, participating in the Warrensburg Community Chorus for over twenty years. She also volunteered at the Johnson County Historical Society.

Judy was a devoted genealogist who transformed fragments of family history and dry records into lively stories. She was passionate about preserving

memories and made dozens of treasured family photo albums and scrapbooks. Judy's preeminent love was her family. Her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren brought her a lifetime of joy and entertainment. She had a passion for books which she passed on to the children in her life who eagerly gathered to hear her read aloud with dramatic flair.

Judy's penchant for connecting with people led her to seek out the quiet ones, never wanting anyone to feel left out. She welcomed people and valued them, always taking time for caring conversation.

Judy is survived by her four children: Kirk (Carol) of Noblesville, Indiana; Clint (Donna) of Holden, Missouri; Susan (Jack) Schill of Belvidere, Vermont; and Chad (Jessica Kueker) of Prairie Village, Kansas. She will be fondly remembered by her eleven grandchildren: Kelly (Rick) Shields, Mike (Elizabeth) Cochran, Kyle (Rachel) Cochran, Katie (Matt) Hendricks, Dale (Melanie) Cochran, Eric (Hannah) Cochran, Angie (Morgan Young) Cochran, Noah Schill, Trent (Sarah) Schill, Cullen (Melissa Fontaine) Schill, Lydian Cochran; her fourteen great-grandchildren; and a multitude of extended family - related by blood and by unofficial adoption.

Judy is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and her four siblings, Russell Gard, Richard "Dick" Gard, Mary Edmondson, and Jeanette Patterson.

Her family is planning a Celebration of Life for June 15, 2019. To receive notice of the finalized plans, send your name and email address to [judy.cochran.celebration@gmail.com](mailto:judy.cochran.celebration@gmail.com). In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Johnson County (Missouri) Historical Society or Trails Regional Library in Warrensburg.

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ I am sorry to hear of Judy's passing, but blessed by the happy memories of those many years ago when she and her family, and Pop Gard had so much to do with the warmth of the church family we shared. My prayers are with her loved ones.

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**John Moody** - April 19, 2019 at 05:19 AM

KC

“ I just found out today about the passing of Mrs. Cochran. I was just thinking a couple of days ago that I hadn't seen her in the library for a while.

*What an amazing woman who came from an amazing family! I was privileged enough to know her two sisters and her beloved brother, Russell as well. I will miss her updates on her two adored adopted great grandsons whom she was always so thrilled to show me pictures of. She was just a wonderful person and will be dearly missed.*

*Condolences to her family. She was just light up when she talked about all of you.*

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**Karen Churn1** - April 16, 2019 at 04:26 PM

BL

“ Judy came into our lives when Chad and Jessica married - she immediately came a part of the family and attended many holidays - and plain old Sunday dinners. I am Jessica's grandma and Judy and I were just 6 months apart in age, (we always had fun in being the oldest and first 2 in line). We shared a great gift when Lydian came along, my first great grandchild and Judy's youngest grandchild. We will miss her but will cherish we years we had the privilege on knowing her.

*Lydian (Boots) Linden*

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**BOOTS Linden** - April 08, 2019 at 09:52 AM

LP

“ I grew up attending the same church as Judy. It was always such a treat to hear her sing. I may not have been planning to stay for church but if I saw in the program that Judy was going to sing there was no way I would miss hearing her beautiful voice. She was also a devoted friend. Judy and Harlan were close friends to my husband's parents and Judy remained a true friend. After my mother-in-law's stroke she would visit her in the nursing home. They were friends until the end. Judy had such grace and love for others. Judy was a special person and will be missed.

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**Lavonne Preston** - April 01, 2019 at 09:03 AM

SF

“ I was an evacuee in WW2 and in 1945 the school received a request for pen pals in USA. I gave them my name and address and received about 30 replies, one of whom was Judy. She was the only one I kept in contact with first by correspondence and then my husband, Bob, and I visited Judy in Warrensburg on a number of occasions We met with her family and were overwhelmed by the welcome they gave us. Since then we have enjoyed exchanging long letters with up to date news of her lovely family. She loved you all dearly and you are her legacy, a tribute to the years of guidance and encouragement she bestowed on you. We feel privileged to have known Judy and send our loving thoughts to all of you at this sad time. Bob and Stella Fryer in England

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**Stella and Bob Fryer** - March 30, 2019 at 06:35 PM