



Lela M. Epley

February 11, 1926 - August 21, 2015

Lela Epley, 89
Kearney resident

Lela Epley, 89, of Kearney, died Friday, August 21, 2015 in the comfort of her home.

Funeral Services will be 10:00 a.m. Monday, August 31, 2015 at the Kearney Evangelical Free Church. The Rev. Brian Klein will officiate. Burial will follow at the Prairie Center Cemetery at Haven's Chapel. Visitation will be 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Sunday, August 30 at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to Press On Youth Center, TEAM Missions, or the Kearney E-Free Church Mission Fund. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. O'Brein Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Lela Maye Epley was born February 11, 1926 in Cheyenne County, Colorado to James and Ethel (McGinnis) Hird. When Lela and her twin sister Lois were 13, the family moved to Buffalo County, Nebraska. Lela received her education in country school, Poole School and Ravenna High School, graduating in 1945. Lela earned her teacher's certificate and taught school for 2 years. On October 14, 1947, she was united in marriage to William W. Epley. In 1961 Lela and Bill and their 3 children moved to Sherman County,

where they bought a farm near Ashton. Following her husband's death in 1975, Lela moved to Loup City and worked at the Loup City Medical Clinic for 11 years. In 1990 Lela moved to Kearney to be closer to family.

For many years, Lela was active with Extension Clubs and her children's 4-H clubs and ball teams. She was an active church member all of her life, joining the Kearney Evangelical Free Church in 1990. Lela enjoyed cooking, gardening, embroidering, scrapbooking and reading. She avidly followed the news, praying for many people, for the nation and for the world. Lela was known for her joyous attitude, her contentment with life, and her love of family and friends.

Left to cherish her memory are her sons, Russell (Flossie) Epley of Tokyo, Japan and Glenn (Nancy) Epley of Kearney; daughter Carol (Drew) Arnold of Sumner; grandchildren, Christie (Chul) Moreau of Seattle WA, Joel (Christina) Epley of Augusta ME, Dana (Chris) Stelling of Yorktown VA, Jeff (Mandi) Epley of Panama City FL, Brand (Sheila, fiancée) Bonsall of Scottsdale AZ, Broc Bonsall of Vail CO, Donna (John) DeMarco of Clarksville TN, Pam (Les) Miller of Ankeny IA, Clark (Catie) Rathe of Farmington NM, Grant (Amanda) Rathe of Nashville TN, Nolan Rathe of Lincoln, Jason (Patty) Lacoss-Arnold of St. Louis MO; 18 great-grandchildren; her brother Wesley (Jean) Hird, sisters-in-law Patricia Hird and Muriel Epley, and many beloved nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

Lela was preceded in death by her parents; 6 brothers, 5 sisters and her husband.

Cemetery Details

Prairie Center Cemetery at Haven's Chapel

31918 160th Road
Kearney, NE

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 30. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations
4115 Ave N
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 234-3500
info@osrfh.com
<https://www.osrfh.com>

Funeral Service

AUG 31. 10:00 AM (CT)

Kearney E-Free Church
4010 7th Ave
Kearney, NE 68845
<http://www.kearneyefree.com>

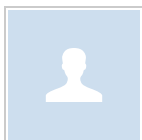
Tribute Wall



“ O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Lela M. Epley



O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations - August 31, 2015 at 04:18 PM



“ Lela M. Epley

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ To the family of Lela Epley,
I am sorry for your loss. May you find comfort in knowing that
"Jehovah is close to the brokenhearted; He saves those who are
crushed in spirit." (Psalm 34:18) With sympathy,

kelsey lee - August 30, 2015 at 12:13 AM



“ Aunt Lela was always so gracious and kind to me when I visited her
at her home in Kearney. She was a wonderful lady and will be
missed by all who knew her. Bruce McCoy

Bruce McCoy - August 28, 2015 at 02:16 PM

JZ

“ Remembering your mother with a kind heart and always willing to help. I was pretty young when her and my mother were in extension club together back in Ashton and Loup City area, but always thought she was a neat person and enjoyed when my parents and I would go visit your family on a Sunday afternoon.
Jane (Janulewicz) Zeleski

Jane Zeleski - August 26, 2015 at 09:04 AM

JT

“ Your mother was a definite joy to get to know while she was here at Mother Hull Home. I was very happy for her when she was able to go home to her home and see her in her home. My prayers are with you and your family.

Joyce Taylor - August 25, 2015 at 03:40 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lela M. Epley.



August 25, 2015 at 12:16 PM

TF

“ Tim Cunningham and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lela M. Epley.



Tim Cunningham and Family - August 24, 2015 at 07:17 PM

TC

“*Mrs. Epley, one of the most beautiful and caring women I have met. As a teenager, you showed me patient loving care and respect. You were loved, you will be missed, most of all remembered.*

*Tim Cunningham and Family
Scottsdale, Arizona*



Tim Cunningham - August 24, 2015 at 06:31 PM