formerly of Effingham, KS



Mary R. Wessel, 89, formerly of Effingham, KS, passed away on Saturday, June 4, 2022 surrounded by her family at the Hillside Village of DeSoto, KS where she received loving care the past eighteen months.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 AM, Thursday, June 9, 2022 at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Effingham with Fr. Hughes as Celebrant. Burial will follow in St. Ann's Cemetery. A Parish Rosary will be recited at 6:30 pm, Wednesday evening, at the church with visitation to follow until 8:00 pm. Friends may call at the Becker Chapel, 402 3rd Street, Effingham, KS, after 9:00 AM on Wednesday. Memorial contributions are suggested to St. Ann's Church and may be left in care of the funeral home. Words of comfort and remembrance may be left online at www.beckerdver.com.

Mary Rosina Grollmes was born on January 5, 1933 in Seneca, KS, the daughter of Paul and Helen (Gudenkauf) Grollmes. Mary graduated from Valley Falls High School in 1950 and she and Joseph Wessel were married on Feb. 11, 1956 at Valley Falls. Joseph preceded Mary in death on August 4, 2018. They celebrated 65 years of marriage.

Mary loved being a homemaker, housewife and mother. Family was very important to her, especially spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. St. Ann's Church and her faith was also important as she served in many ways at the church and even was the church organist for several years. Mary was a cook manager for the Atchison County Community Middle School for several years until she retired. Mary was a member of St. Ann's Altar Society, a bridge card club, and she enjoyed cooking, sewing, quilting, and playing cards and games with family.

Survivors include two sons, Steve (Peggy) Wessel, Baldwin City, KS, Pat (Lisa) Wessel, Valley Falls, KS; three daughters, Judy (Tony) Jackson, Lancaster, KS, Linda (Tony) Kearney, Atchison, KS, Marlene (Mark) Westermann, Everest, KS; ten grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; brother, Leo Grollmes, Winchester, KS; brother-in-law, Tom (Connie) Wessel, Ft. Worth, TX; sister-in-law, Virginia Grollmes, Valley Falls.

Mary was also preceded in death by her parents; brother, Francis Grollmes; and three sisters, Alice Frakes, Helen Grollmes, and Sarah Grollmes.