



# Mary Lou Morris

APR 13, 1927 - APR 5, 2019



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## Mary Lou Morris

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Mary Lou Morris, 91, went home to be with her Saviour on April 5, 2019 at Centerville Specialty Care. She was born on April 13, 1927 to James and Esther (Day) Morris near Jerome, Iowa. Mary graduated from Centerville High School in 1944 and began her long teaching career in a one room schoolhouse near Brushy, Iowa. In 1957 she graduated from Bob Jones University. Mary Lou then taught at Pensacola Christian School where she became a supervisor. Along with other PCS teachers, they helped to lay the foundation and write the curriculum for ABeKa; one of the largest and most popular Christian school and homeschool publishers in the country. Later, Mary would graduate from Truman University in Kirksville, Missouri with her Masters degree in education. Mary also faithfully taught neighborhood Bible clubs for many years, leading hundreds of boys and girls to Jesus Christ. She taught in several Christian schools spending many years in Marshalltown, Iowa. Later, she would return home to tend to the needs of her terminally ill brother, Charles. She remained there after his death and eventually homeschooled her three great nephews. Eventually she retired from teaching but never stopped sharing her wealth of knowledge and wisdom. Mary enjoyed books and reading. She was also a loyal member of Grace Baptist Church in Chariton, Iowa. One of the ministries she loved to do was to send cards and letters, never missing our birthdays without a special card and still kept in touch with friends she had made back in college. Mary's life exemplified her Lord until the very end. Her faithfulness to Him never wavered and she lived that life before everyone, still sharing her faith in the nursing home with staff and residents. She would pray for her loved ones and encouraged those who needed it. Certainly she must have heard from her Lord, "Well done thy good and faithful servant." Mary is survived by her brothers: James Morris of Sublette, Kansas and John Morris of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; 14 nieces and nephews and many great nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers: Paul



## Obituary

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Morris of Mystic, Iowa and Charles Morris of Jerome, Iowa; sisters: Jeanette Condra of Numa, Iowa, Caroline Leaming of Liberal, Kansas, Martha Kline of Satanta, Kansas and Joanne Long of Centerville, Iowa. She was also preceded by her nephew, James Condra and her niece, Susan Morris. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 11, 2019 at Thomas Funeral Home in Centerville. Interment will immediately follow at Jerome Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Memorials may be made to Missionaries of Grace Baptist - Chariton and online condolences may be shared at [www.thomasfh.com](http://www.thomasfh.com) or [facebook.com/thomasfuneralhome](https://www.facebook.com/thomasfuneralhome). To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Mary Lou Morris please visit our Sympathy Store. Cemetery Details Jerome Cemetery Jerome, IA 52544 Visitation APR 11. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CDT) Thomas Funeral Home-Centerville 501 North 18th StreetCenterville, IA 52544 <http://www.thomasfh.com> Funeral Service APR 11. 11:00 AM (CDT) Thomas Funeral Home - Centerville 501 North 18th StreetCenterville, IA 52544[[emailprotected](mailto:[emailprotected])]



# Tribute Wall

**Mary Lou Morris**

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**Thomas Funeral Home** posted:

October 21 at 12:05 PM



**Thomas Funeral Home** shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 12:15 PM



**James J. Condra** posted:

Mary Lou Morris was my great aunt, one of many, but one who nevertheless made an indelible impression on me. This is in spite of the fact that it has been so long that I cannot remember the last time I was actually in her presence. When I was struggling with phonics in the first grade (51 years ago), she tutored me at her dining room table and ended up teaching me how to read with proficiency. The love of reading mentioned in her obituary was likely passed on to me directly from Mary Lou. She was a woman of staunch conviction about right and wrong, and was unafraid of acting on it. (I will never forget the day she sent home an older brother of a classmate of mine because he showed up at school wearing a tee-shirt with a message that could be taken as blasphemous.) Nevertheless, I remember her being patient and indulgent towards my own immaturity. Rom 8:38-39.

April 8 at 7:00 PM



**Lisa Tharpe** posted:

She was one of the toughest teachers I ever had, but God knew that is what I needed to give me the push to make a true commitment to my schoolwork. Even though she was a strict teacher, I knew she cared for me. Because of her Christian example I came to know Jesus as my personal Savior in her 5th & 6th Grade class at C.I.C.A. -- Lisa T. (Burton)

April 7 at 7:00 PM



**Florist Choice Bouquet** posted:

Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Morris.

April 7 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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EM

**Elaine McDonnell** posted:

Miss Morris was a greatly respected and loved teacher by many students at Central Iowa Christian Academy. What an amazing lady, and what a huge influence she had over the span of her life. -)

April 7 at 7:00 PM

DS

**Dale & Susan Sales** posted:

She was such a sweet lady. Our thoughts and prayers to the family.

April 6 at 7:00 PM

PC

**Penni Murra Chadderdon** posted:

She was one of the best teachers I had! She was great at showing me toughness & love at the same time. I had to repeat 5th grade because she cared that much. (And I'm sure she just wanted to be my teacher for 3 years straight) grin She loved the Lord with her whole heart. I also remember the very thick cheese sandwiches she ate everyday at lunch.slightly\_smiling\_face

April 6 at 7:00 PM

EY

**Elizabeth Young** posted:

She was an amazing teacher. I will never forget the small New Testament she gave me when I finished 6th grade. She wrote Joshua 18 in the front which says, 'This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.' She wanted us all to find true success by reading His Word.

April 6 at 7:00 PM



## Media

**Mary Lou Morris**  
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Thomas Funeral Home shared 2 photos to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 12:15 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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