



Opal Ella Hodges

JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023



Scan to Visit

Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5
Media	Page 12



Opal Ella Hodges

JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023

Opal Hodges, age 96, of Centerville, passed away Thursday, May 11, 2023 at MercyOne Medical Center, LTC in Centerville.

Opal was born on July 24, 1926 in Frontier County, Nebraska, the daughter of Jack and Ella (Kline) Miller. She graduated from High School in 1943. On December 31, 1943, Opal was united in marriage to LaVern Hodges, and to this union, three children were born, Sharlyn, Jim and Lyle.

Opal was a lifetime member of the Nazarene Church, and taught Sunday School for a number of years. She loved to sew and made most of her clothes. She also quilted several quilts. Opal loved her garden and flowers. She was a hard worker from an early age. Opal took pride being on the farm and working in the office at the hospital for 34 years.

Everyone loved her strawberry and chocolate pie, especially her grandkids. Opal's brothers and sisters were known as the Seven Dwarfs, and she truly was her dwarf name, HAPPY. She was known by many for having a smile and kind heart.

Left to cherish Opal's memory are her children, Sharlyn (Walter) Dixon of Cedar Rapids, Jim (Linda) Hodges of Mercer, MO, and Lyle (Debbie) Hodges of Moulton; six grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren; a sister, Lucille Fleck; as well as a number of nieces and nephews.

Opal was preceded in death by her parents, Jack and Ella Miller; her husband, LaVern; a great grandson; and siblings, Eula Danko, Ralph Miller, Rex Miller, Corrine Rumley and Cloyd Jack Miller.

Funeral services will be held at 1PM, Friday, May 19, 2023 at Thomas Funeral Home in Centerville with Brian Hargrave officiating. Burial will follow in the Mt. Ararat Cemetery, just east



Obituary

Opal Ella Hodges

JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023

of Centerville.

Visitation will take place Friday, May 19, 2023 at Thomas Funeral Home in Centerville with the family greeting friends from 11AM-1PM. Memorials have been established to the Moulton First Responders, and may be mailed to Thomas Funeral Home, ATTN: Hodges Family, 501 North 18th Street, Centerville, Iowa 52544.

Condolences may be shared online at www.thomasfh.com or on our funeral home Facebook page. The family would like to thank the current and past MercyOne Long Term Care workers (nurses, LPN's, CNA's and housekeepers) for the love and care you gave Opal the last nine years, truly the best place to have a loved one when they need care.



Tribute Wall

Opal Ella Hodges
JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023



Thomas Funeral Home posted:

October 21 at 6:32 PM



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



October 13 at 6:52 PM



Alana Pratt posted:

Q: How did you meet Opal? A: My mother and Opal were dear friends. Our families attended the Church of the Nazarene in Centerville where Sharlyn and I became good friends. Opal was a beautiful seamstress and through the years made Sharlyn and me several matching dresses. One year she made us little nurses outfits for Halloween. I loved visiting their farm, swimming in the creek, and eating that home grown corn on the cob. Special memories of a very special lady. ❤️

May 16 at 7:00 PM



Suzanne Odonnell posted:

Condolences to the family

May 16 at 7:00 PM



Jerry Power posted:

Opal could have coined the term "Always be Nice"! First met her at the hospital on South Main when I worked at McGraw Edison when I would take an employee in for some first Aid. The first thing I would get would be that trademark smile! May she Rest in Peace and our sincere condolences to the entire Hodges Family. She will join another great partner LaVern!!!!

May 15 at 7:00 PM



Linda Orman posted:

Lyle & family, so sorry for your loss. She was such a sweet lady with a nice smile. Our sincere condolences.Linda & Bernie Orman

May 15 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Opal Ella Hodges

JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023

KS

Kathy Steele posted:

Thank you so much for the kind words about the Mercy Long Term Care staff. It has been our pleasure to take care of Opal the past 9 years. She was a very kind and caring person

May 15 at 7:00 PM

JB

Jenn Buban posted:

So sorry!! This lady had such a kind heart!! She will be missed by many my heart is heavy many prayers and blessings!!❤️🙏❤️🙏❤️

May 14 at 7:00 PM

RS

Rick Singley posted:

Lyle, So sorry for your loss. Your mom was such a nice lady. You're all in my thoughts and prayers my friend.

May 14 at 7:00 PM

RS

Rick Singley posted:

Q: How would you describe Opal to someone who had never met them? A: One of the sweetest people I had the privilege of knowing in my lifetime!!

May 14 at 7:00 PM

JB

Jim E. Buban posted:

Opal was a sweet lady and a real good friend to my family and me. She will be sorely missed. Jim E. Buban, Sr. and family

May 14 at 7:00 PM

PW

Pam Wells posted:

Such a wonderful lady!! I called her my 2nd mom, she will be missed.

May 14 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Opal Ella Hodges
JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023

SB

Susie Bischof posted:

Seeing Opal over the years at the Mercy Hospital where I worked. When seeing her in The Long Term at her meals. saying good morning to her although she only looked at us I believe she could hear us but just couldn't talk. She always brought a smile to faces just looking at you. Sorry for your loss. She will always be remembered.

May 14 at 7:00 PM

TC

Twyla Casteel lit a candle in honor of Opal.



May 13 at 7:00 PM

TC

Twyla Moore Casteel posted:

prayers for the family

May 13 at 7:00 PM

RH

Roger & Susie Houser posted:

Lyle, and the rest of the Hodges family, please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. The loss of a parent/grandparent is a tough one. Cherish your beautiful memories and be thankful for the blessing she was in your lives.

May 13 at 7:00 PM

SC

Samantha Ann Clark posted:

Loved her so much she was a sweet lady

May 12 at 7:00 PM

KL

Kristopher Laurson posted:

Such a sweet lady!! Condolences to her family

May 12 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Opal Ella Hodges

JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023

VB

Vicki Butler posted:

So sorry for your loss. Prayers.

May 12 at 7:00 PM

DA

Debbie Atkinson lit a candle in honor of Opal.

I remember this amazing and beautiful lady from church, her heart always had so much love to give to you, and her kindness and the love she showed towards you was true ❤️ I have never forgotten that. My condolences to the family and all of you are in prayers 🙏



May 12 at 7:00 PM

ST

Sara Tait lit a candle in honor of Opal.



May 12 at 7:00 PM

LN

Linda Newland posted:

My thoughts are with you. I have many memories of the time I spent at your home & playing with you kids.

May 12 at 7:00 PM

SS

Shirley Scritchfield posted:

Opal and Laverne were good friends of my parents and grandparents. Opal always had the sweetest smile and warmth that just drew you in. Holding all the family in the Light as they celebrate Opal's life. Bless you all!

May 12 at 7:00 PM

RP

Renea Oberheim Proctor posted:

Sweet lady! Always enjoyed visiting with her while seeing my Grandma 😊

May 12 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Opal Ella Hodges
JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023

NS

Nancy Bryant Sackett posted:

She was the best Sunday School teacher, and in later years such a wonderful friend. Loved to hear her laugh. Many good memories of the Hodges family!

May 11 at 7:00 PM

KS

Kirk Swarts posted:

Sorry for your loss

May 11 at 7:00 PM

CP

Carolyn Padavich posted:

So very sorry 🙏

May 11 at 7:00 PM

KC

Krishna Jo Doll Carlyle posted:

Prayers for the family.

May 11 at 7:00 PM

DD

Dianna Davis posted:

Please know our thoughts are with you and yours as you grieve the loss of a lovely mom and grandmother. Rex and Dianna Davis

May 11 at 7:00 PM

BK

Brenda Prim Korthaus posted:

Sympathy to your family.

May 11 at 7:00 PM

WW

Wilma Jeane Wilson posted:

Thinking of you all at this time!

May 11 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Opal Ella Hodges
JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023

LB

Lydia Buck posted:

I am so sorry for your loss Opal was a bug part of my life growing up

May 11 at 7:00 PM

JH

Judy Harris posted:

So very sorry for your loss.

May 11 at 7:00 PM

LC

Lora Condra posted:

Sorry to hear this - she was one great lady!!

May 11 at 7:00 PM

BL

Beverly Sisul & Dennis Laurson lit a candle in honor of Opal.

What a sweet lady. Worked with her many years ago, and she always had a friendly smile for everyone. So sorry for your loss.

May 11 at 7:00 PM



RB

Robert D Broshar posted:

Condolences to the family

May 11 at 7:00 PM

AH

Aj Horn posted:

Prayers for peace and comfort.

May 11 at 7:00 PM

VB

Vicki Bride posted:

What a fine lady!

May 11 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Opal Ella Hodges
JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023

ME

Mary Jo Engle posted:

So sorry for your loss

May 11 at 7:00 PM

JH

James Hushour posted:

She was a very, very nice person. Prayers and comfort to the family. 🙏

May 11 at 7:00 PM

CM

Carol Jean Daniels Mcclurg posted:

So sorry for the family's loss!

May 11 at 7:00 PM

CK

Carolyn Kruzich posted:

So sorry for your loss

May 11 at 7:00 PM

TD

Tony Deininger posted:

Sorry for the family's loss! 🙏

May 11 at 7:00 PM

CS

Connie Swarts posted:

So sorry for your loss.

May 11 at 7:00 PM

JM

Janice Houser Mcelvain posted:

So sorry

May 11 at 7:00 PM



Media

Opal Ella Hodges
JUL 24, 1926 - MAY 11, 2023



Thomas Funeral Home shared a photo to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 6:52 PM



Thank you so much for the kind words about the Mercy Long Term Care staff. It has been our...



Memories only last if you share them

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



Scan to Visit