



Darlene Miller

December 22, 1932 - June 2, 2022

Darlene Miller, age 89 of Newcastle, passed away Thursday, June 2, 2022. Darlene Joyce Rinkenberger was born December 22, 1932 in Lexington, Illinois, the 4th of 7 children born to Benjamin and Minnie (Wenger) Rinkenberger. She was raised in Strawn where she began school, and graduated from Forrest-Strawn-Wing High School, with the first class to do so. Darlene attended business school, and earned an Associates Degree. On the advice of her uncle, she moved to Austin, Texas seeking work. It was here that she met a young serviceman named Joe Dolison Miller. They were the perfect couple, and on June 7, 1953, Darlene married Joe in Fairbury, Illinois. They made their home in Oklahoma City, where together they raised son Mike and daughter Carmen. Darlene worked in the insurance industry as a secretary, and settled in at Oklahoma Farmers Union as a claims supervisor, retiring after 18 years of service. She worked tirelessly for her family, while caring for her daughter Carmen, who was born with cystic fibrosis. She constantly gave support and help to Joe while he would work all day running heavy equipment, then come home to break and train quarter horses, farm and raise cattle. She also kept up with Mike's baseball, basketball and Rodeo events. She was a member of the Sooner Saddle Club and the Newcastle Senior Citizens. She loved horses, rodeo, wagon trains, draft horse events, music and Thunder Basketball. She was never happier than the day she became a grandmother to Joshua, and started all over again, supporting him in his baseball and basketball, from grade school through high school

graduation. She was a woman of great faith, and longtime member of the Newcastle Christian Church. Darlene was a wonderful partner for Joe for nearly 69 years, the best mother and grandmother, a sister, aunt and friend. She will be dearly missed!

She was preceded in death by: her daughter, Carmen Kay Miller; parents, Benjamin and Minnie Rinkenberger and brothers, Dewayne, Don, Ken and Bob.

Darlene is survived by: her husband Joe Miller; son, Mike Miller and wife Kelly of Newcastle; Grandson, Joshua Miller and wife Lacey Lett-Miller of OKC; Sister Barbara Jean Lund and husband Kenneth of Tucson, AZ; brother Jack Rinkenberger and wife Carolyn of Fairbury, IL; several nieces and nephews and a host of other family and friends.

Funeral Services are scheduled for 11:00 A.M. Wednesday, June 8, 2022, at Newcastle Christian Church. Interment will follow at 3:30 PM at Mound Valley Cemetery in Thomas, OK. Send online condolences @ www.wilsonlittle.com.

Tribute Wall

MD

“ Sweet Joe, We are so very sorry for you and Mike's loss of such a wonderful and funny soul. Darlene's smile could easily light up a room. Chloe speaks of you both often. We love you and Darlene so much. Sending you much love and light to help carry the weight. Prayers, Beverly & Melanie



Melanie Sykes and Beverly Darby - June 07, 2022 at 12:00 AM