



## Vesta Jean Bockenkamp

January 21, 1938 - May 20, 2024

Come on Mother, let's go to the river to pray...

Vesta Bockenkamp (nee St. Clair) – January 21, 1938 – May 20, 2024

Vesta loved her name which was given to her in honor of her father's beloved childhood teacher. She was born at home in Wappapello, MO to Marie (nee Barnfield) St. Clair and Chester Eli St. Clair and grew up in Dexter, MO with her two sisters Wanda and Phyllis.

She died on Monday, May 20 with a hospital room full of family all singing her favorite gospel, Amazing Grace and her favorite Blake Shelton song "Boy's Round Here." Those that couldn't be there for her passing, were definitely there in spirit!

Vesta met the love of her life, Rene Bockenkamp in downtown St. Louis in 1960 and were married by the justice of the peace in Montgomery, Alabama, several months later. They had four daughters, Linda, Laura and the twins Christy and Carole who were born and raised in the St. Louis area.

Vesta would best be known for her quick wit, compassion, fierce love for her family which included traveling with her daughters and ice cream. In the last few years, she would never share dessert, you wanted ice cream, get your own! She also had a wicked sense of humor, it could sometimes be dark, but whenever you were with her, you were never bored, you never felt alone and you always felt loved.

Family Who Went Before

Vesta was predeceased by her father Chester St. Clair, December 7, 1986,

mother, Marie St. Clair, May 26, 2010, husband Rene, July 10, 1997, sister Wanda Myers, February 7, 2020, Son's-in-law: Jim Harr, December 24, 2018 and John Kronmueller, July 4, 2021.

#### Family She Left Behind

She is survived by her daughters: Linda (Jim) Harr, Laura (Mike) Hale, Christine (Robert) Blum and Carole (John) Kronmueller. She was blessed with many grandchildren: Rodney, Jon (Sheryl), Scott (Amy), Alaina, Jacob (Jessica), Mitchell (Jessica), Sydney and Alex and great-grandchildren: Alexis, Kaity, Maggie, Isabelle, Nathan, Mason, Adecyn, Allie, Cora, Emily, Madeline, Rhaygen, Lonnie, Jozi Rose and Morrison Cash.

Vesta asked that she be remembered for her love of God, love for her family and her love and patriotism for her country.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to St. Jude's or the Salvation Army:

<https://www.stjude.org/give.html>

<https://give.salvationarmyusa.org/give/164006/#!/donation/checkout?amount=>

Other

Proverbs 31:26 "She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue."

Isaiah 66:13 "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you."

# Cemetery Details

## Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens

6300 SR 30  
Cedar Hill, MO 63016  
(636) 274-4100

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 28.** 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Cedar Hill  
6300 Highway 30  
Cedar Hill, MO 63016  
(636) 274-4100  
info@stlfuneral.com  
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

## Funeral Service

**MAY 28.** 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM (CT)

Chapel Hill Mortuary - Cedar Hill  
6300 Highway 30  
Cedar Hill, MO 63016  
(636) 274-4100  
info@stlfuneral.com  
<https://www.stlfuneral.com>

## Graveside Service

---

MAY 28. 1:00 PM (CT)

Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens  
6300 SR 30  
Cedar Hill, MO 63016  
(636) 274-4100

# Tribute Wall

MC

“ Vesta possessed an even temperament and had an intuitive understanding of others. She was warm and caring. She had a quick wit and a great story teller. Her family was her main purpose and it showed by her devotion to them.  
As her friend, we had many fun times even at work. We traveled together, camped together and played together. Had long conversations sharing our lives and connecting although it had been awhile since getting together.  
I'll miss those conversations but continue to feel her love. She was content here but immensely joyful where she is now.

Marian Clanton - May 28, 2024 at 10:40 AM

KV

“ Karen Vanhoogstraat lit a candle in memory of Vesta Jean Bockenkamp



Karen Vanhoogstraat - May 28, 2024 at 10:31 AM

KV

So sorry for your loss...Prayers to your family

Karen Vanhoogstraat - May 28, 2024 at 10:32 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vesta Jean Bockenkamp.



May 26, 2024 at 10:50 PM

JF

“ John & Patti Barton & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vesta Jean Bockenkamp.

John & Patti Barton & Family - May 26, 2024 at 10:50 PM

LB

“ Liz & Chuck Bourgeois purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Vesta Jean Bockenkamp.



Liz & Chuck Bourgeois - May 25, 2024 at 10:25 AM

LT

“ Love, Bayer CropScience TD purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Vesta Jean Bockenkamp.



Love, Bayer CropScience TD - May 22, 2024 at 09:58 AM