



Virginia Eileen Cates

May 28, 1944 - April 9, 2026

Virginia Eileen (nee Rarick) Cates of Doniphan, Missouri, was born May 28, 1944 in Collinsville, Illinois to Clifford and Florence (nee Combs) Rarick and entered into rest Thursday, April 9, 2026 in Desloge, Missouri at the age of 81 years.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Clifford and Florence (nee Combs) Rarick; husband, Avon C. Cates, Sr.; children, Tina Cates and Avon C. (the late Rachel) Cates, Jr.; siblings, Maryann Rarick, Jeanette Robinson, Donald Rarick, and Denny Rarick.

She is survived by her grandchildren, Michael (Danielle) Cates and Loretta Cates; great-granddaughter, Mataia Cates; sisters, Gloria (the late Gary) Wilson and Michelle (the late Bob) Ubaudi; along with numerous other extended family and friends.

Virginia was a true country girl at heart, finding her greatest joy in the simple, meaningful things in life, especially her family. Her grandchildren and great-granddaughter were her whole world, and she cherished every moment spent loving and caring for them. She also had a special place in her heart for animals, surrounding herself with a lively and unique family of pets—from dogs and chickens to even a raccoon, squirrel, and deer. Virginia's warmth, love, and one-of-a-kind spirit will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 from 12:00 p.m. until the start of the Funeral Ceremony at 1:00 p.m. at Chapel Hill Mortuary, 6300 Highway 30, Cedar Hill, Missouri 63016. Interment will immediately follow at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Cedar Hill, Missouri.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made on behalf of Virginia to St. Just Children's Research Hospital, (<https://www.stjude.org/>).

Family and friends can review and share stories, photos and condolences online at www.stlfuneral.com and follow details of this event and others in the community at www.facebook.com/stlchapelhill.

Cemetery Details

Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens

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

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 14. 12:00 PM - 1:00 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 Ceremony

APR 14. 1:00 PM (CT)

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

Graveside Service

APR **14** (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

LG

“ Love always Gary, Chass, Larry and Gina purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Virginia Eileen Cates.



Love always Gary, Chass, Larry and Gina - April 13 at 09:03 PM

BB

“ Bill and Donna Rarick Barns purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Virginia Eileen Cates.



Bill and Donna Rarick Barns - April 13 at 08:33 PM

MK

“ Michelle Ubaudi & Richard Koetting purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Virginia Eileen Cates.



Michelle Ubaudi & Richard Koetting - April 11 at 11:47 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Virginia Eileen Cates.



April 10 at 05:57 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Virginia Eileen Cates.

April 10 at 05:57 PM