

Carol Deam (1935-2020)

January 22, 1935 - May 5, 2020

DEAM (Pyles), Carol Ruth (Pyles) Deam, 85, of Springfield, Ohio, went to be with the Lord on May 5, 2020 after a brief illness. She was born on January 22, 1935, in Sherritts, Ohio, to Henry Roscoe Pyles and Zelda (Payne) Pyles and was the tenth of their 11 children.



Ruth graduated from Southeastern High School in South Charleston, Ohio. She was the editor of the school yearbook and class treasurer. When told by their advisor that the senior class could only afford a yearbook or a class trip to Washington and Niagara Falls, Ruth organized fundraisers and sold ads to local businesses. When all was said and done, the senior class paid for their yearbook and their trip and had 35 cents left over!

On January 5, 1954, Ruth married the love of her life, Dale Allen Deam, whom she met on a blind date set up by her brother-in-law. They had five surviving children: sons Thomas A. Deam of West Liberty; Steven S. (Deidre) Deam of Hilliard; and Neil M. (Jennifer) Deam of Stone Creek and daughters Michele E. (Steve) Specht of Dover and Beth A. (Bill) Davenport of Greenville.

Ruth and Dale weathered Dale's 16-month tour of Germany shortly after their wedding and settled in Columbus while he completed his degree at The Ohio State University. They later built a home on Dale's family farm in Springfield where they raised their children. Ruth was an active partner in the farm, serving as secretary of the local Farm Bureau board, 4-H advisor and as a member of the Ladies Guild at Grace United Church of Christ and of the Northwestern Mothers Club. She also worked as a cook at Northwestern High School for 14 years; she enjoyed interacting with the students. Ruth loved watching her brothers, children and grandchildren play basketball, baseball, football and softball. She cheered for the Ohio State Buckeyes and the Cincinnati Reds and instilled a love of sports in her family. She also enjoyed traveling, visiting Hawaii and taking trips to Branson, Missouri, with Dale later in life.

Ruth and Dale celebrated 50 years of marriage in 2004. On July 7, 2011, Ruth and Dale's love story came to an end when Dale passed away after a long battle with colon cancer. In addition to her children, Ruth is survived by 20 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren: Kelly (Kyle) Huffman and children Will, Katie, Sarah and Spencer; Todd (Brandi) Deam and children Brodey, Bayleigh, Bentley and baby on the way; Shannon (John) Crowder and children Kipton, Kolbie and Avery; Laura (Brad) Cox and children Hayden, Graham and Elliot; Tyler (Addie) Deam and baby on the way; Kaleb (Amy) Deam and son Jonah; Allison (Matt) Jaynes; Annie Ruth Specht; Adam Specht; Rachel (Mike) Fearon and children Madelyn, Seth and Edee; Nathan (Jennifer) Davenport and daughters Adriana, Brielle, Carleigh and Gracie; Nicia (Josh) Hanes and children Harley, Caden, Cole and Hadley; Abbey (Chase) Moore and children Lillian Dale, Navie and Toby; Nicole Deam and daughter Layla; Trevor, Garrett, Madison and Bryson Deam; and Victoria and Emily Deam. Ruth is also survived by her sisters Alma Jean Pyles and Gertrude Clark and brother Robert Pyles, as well as her sisters-in-law Phoebe Pyles, Ethel Pyles and Martha Pyles. Ruth was preceded in death by her parents, Roscoe and Zelda; her father- and mother-in-law Edward and Isabel Deam; an infant daughter; daughter-in-law Kathy (Weyrich) Deam; and great-grandson Kobe Fearon. Her sisters Wilma Webster and Mary Smith and brothers Howard, Verlyn, Homer, Roland and Dale Pyles also predeceased her.

Following her husband Dale's death, Ruth wrote, "We were lost without our husband, father, grandfather, great-grand father and friend. Now I live in the home we made together and wait until the day we will meet again in heaven where the sun always shines. Always keep God in your life, my lovely family and friends." A private family service will be held Saturday, May 9, in the North Hampton Community Church, 110 Community Drive, with Pastor Jim Welch officiating. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery in Tremont City. Memorial contributions can be made to the North Hampton Community Church. You may express condolences to the family at www.littletonandru.com