



Obituary

Born: Sunday, December 25, 1921

Died: Monday, June 29, 2020

Dorothy May Rukgaber Apps, 98, of Pittsfield, passed away Monday afternoon (June 29, 2020) at her residence. She was born December 25, 1921, in Moberly, MO, daughter of Henry Warren Rukgaber and Ada Miranda Goodin Rukgaber. She married Donald W. Apps, Sr. on March 12, 1946, in First Christian Church in Pittsfield, and he preceded her in death May 30, 2009.

She graduated from Iowa Wesleyan College. While attending summer school in 1943, she met the love of her life, Donald, Sr. She started her first teaching position at Maple Grove in Pike County, IL 1940-1941. She then taught in Atlas from 1941 - 1943.

Dorothy worked at the Pike County Highway Office from 1943-1951. She also worked in Apps Super Market 1946 - 1986. Her love of education drew her back to teaching in 1966 to 1986, at which time she taught at Nebo Grade School and Pittsfield South School. In 1986, she retired and then served as a substitute teacher through 1996.

Dorothy was an accomplished musician. She started playing the piano at age 4 and performed her first piano recital at age 6. She gave another recital at her church in Moberly at age 8 and also accompanied her brother who played the violin. She blessed many people with her piano playing down through the years. She accompanied Helen through her years of singing and later accompanied Helen's vocal students.

She was a member of First Christian Church and served as a Sunday School teacher, youth group leader, church pianist, substitute organist, junior choir pianist, piano accompanist, and sang in Vesper Choir. She was also active in ladies circle, Daughters of the American Revolution, and served in many volunteer capacities at First Christian Church.

Most of all, Dorothy loved her family. Her greatest joy was spending time with her kids, grandkids, great-grandkids, and great-great grandkids. She instilled the importance of family in each of them.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Donald Apps, Sr., her brothers Warren Burdette Rukgaber, Robert Henry Rukgaber, and sister Nancy Ann Rukgaber. Surviving are a daughter, Helen Earls and husband, William, of Pittsfield; a son, Donnie Apps and wife Tereasa, of Pittsfield; nine grandchildren, Julie Lierly of Marietta, GA., Jacque Walston and husband Chris "Butch", of O'Fallon, MO, Jeffrey Lierly and wife, Jaime, of Dayton, OH, Jennifer Griffith and husband, John, of Marietta, GA, Chris Apps and wife, Amber, of Pittsfield, Patrick Apps of Pittsfield, Michael Earls and wife, Kim, of New Canton, Jodi Markham and husband Rocky, of Jerseyville, and Michele Everhart and husband, Carlton, of Kingsport, TN; 15 great-grandchildren; 12 great-great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Due to COVID-19, the family will be having a private family

Service Summary

Private Services

Location: - *Not available* -

service at First Christian Church and burial will be at Goodin Cemetery. Memorials can be made to First Christian Church or Goodin Cemetery. Online condolences may be left to the family at www.nieburfh.com. Niebur Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Charitable donations may be made in Dorothy's memory to the following organizations:

First Christian Church
225 N. Memorial, Pittsfield, IL 62363

Goodin Cemetery