



Bernietta C. Ley

January 30, 1924 - July 19, 2018

Dodgeville – Bernietta C. Ley, age 94, of Dodgeville, passed away on Thursday, July 19, 2018 at Atrium Post Acute Care of Mineral Point.

She was born on January 30, 1924 in Wadena, Minnesota, a daughter of George and Gladys (Lawson) Auel. She graduated from Wadena High School and was a member of the Leaf River Builders 4-H. After high school, she helped make WW II warhead bombs in New York. She then worked for Fairbanks – Morse in Beloit for 5 years. On October 7, 1948, she married George Ley at St. Jude’s Catholic Church in Beloit, Wisconsin. They were married for 58 years until George’s death in 2007.

They moved to Dodgeville and rented several farms in the Dodgeville area until buying the Dunbar farm in 1954. Project Understanding was very important to her. It was giving kids from Mississippi a chance to experience farm life and she also cared for over 50 foster children over the years. Bernietta received the Rose Award which was for delivering “Meals on Wheels”, which she did for many years.

Bernietta used the sewing room in the farm house as her corner to teach the ABC’s, 123’s and spelling lists to her children. She spent many hours producing quilts to pass out to family and friends, when not crocheting and knitting and embroidery. She went to and enjoyed various family reunions and

picnics in Minnesota and Wisconsin and went on many trips, visiting and touring all the states except for Hawaii.

Grateful for having shared her life are: Jeanette (Edward Dickinson) Fernald, James (MaRoche) Ley, John (Beth) Ley, Donald (Pauline) Ley, Betty (Daniel) Broaden, Diane (David) Funk, Patricia (Kevin) Doyle, Steven (Deanna Kruse) Ley, Philip (Dymphna) Ley.

She is further survived by her grandchildren Brian Fernald, Kevin Fernald, Sara Bollinger, Karen Bollinger, Lance Ley, Justin Ley, Jared Ley, Dawn Ley, Dennis Ley, Kayla Ley, Kelly Jo Ley, Krista Ley, Michael Broaden, David Broaden, Jeff Broaden, Karl Doyle, Lindsay Trankle, Laura Ley; her great grandchildren Lauren Fernald, Amabel, Brogan, Caecia, Danger Fernald, Allysa King, Silas Ley, Abigail, Eleanor Ley, Logan, Nash Ley, Jenna, Joshua Mayne, Anabelle Rossing, Addison Broaden, Tegan, Viera Broaden, Brooks, Baby Girl Broaden; her brothers Leonard (Rosalie) Auel and Lee (Ellie) Auel; her sisters Genevieve Sauer, Mary Ann (Carl) Butzin and Janice (Ed) Hofer; her sister-in-law Naomi Auel; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband George, her parents, her brothers Arnold and Lois Auel and Eugene Auel, her grandson Thomas Broaden, her father and mother-in-law William (Susan) Ley, her brothers and sister-in-law Bert (Dora) Ley, Leo (Helen) Ley, Mary (Edward) Sperbeck, Eugene (Agnes) Ley and Francis Ley.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH in Dodgeville. Fr. Richard Leffler will officiate. Burial will be held in St. Joseph's Cemetery. Friends may call from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday at the GORGEN-McGINLEY & AYERS FUNERAL HOME in Dodgeville and from 10:00 a.m. until time of Mass on Wednesday at the church.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **24.** 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Gorgen-McGinley & Ayers Funeral Home
400 East Grace Street
Dodgeville, WI 53533
(608) 935-5222
gorgenfh@mhtc.net

Visitation

JUL **25.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
405 S. Dacotah Street
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL **25.** 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
405 S. Dacotah Street
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Tribute Wall



“ *Bernietta C. Ley*

November 15, 2022 at 06:49 AM



“ *Bernietta was a wonderful woman. I only knew her for a short time at the nursing home. I enjoyed doing her hair there. Our conversations were always about family and dancing. Always dancing! She was a treasure! I'm glad to have met her. My sympathy to you all.*

Trudy Clark

trudy clark - July 29, 2018 at 03:29 PM



“ *I always remember coming there with my parents, Carl & Mary Ann. She was so kind, loving and welcoming. She is now home with Jesus and that make my heart happy but down here on earth we still missing her.*

I'm so sorry for your loss.

I pray for your healing and comfort during this difficult times

Love and prayers

Vickie & Bill



Vickie ButzinSchwindel - July 25, 2018 at 09:02 AM

OS

“ *Our sympathy Tom (Genevieve's son)and Chris Sauer purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Bernietta C. Ley.*



Our sympathy Tom (Genevieve's son)and Chris Sauer - July 24, 2018 at 10:29 AM

TA

“ *my deepest sympathy from Bob Auel and Tico Madlyn Auel, We are sending blessings to all the family.....so very sorry for this loss.*

Tico Madlyn Auel - July 23, 2018 at 12:19 PM

DJ

Our deepest sympathy to the family in their loss.

Darlene Jones - July 26, 2018 at 05:29 PM

RA

“ *Special memories of a special sister-in-law. We recall when my brother, Bob Johnson flew Len and me to Wis., during deer hunting season (1960). Bernietta met us at the airport with most of her kiddos along. Our intent had been to visit at the airport and return back to Park Rapids. She talked us to going to their house for a short visit. We sat on laps during this drive. No seat belts! We saw hunters in their orange garb and Bob remarked, "Hunters may get angry from the noise of an airplane and may shoot at us." Ouch! Tho doubt that they would!*

Another old memory is when they first got a microwave. She made most of our dinner in it. To us it was magic as we had never even heard of a microwave.

I could write so much more, with me knowing her for 63 plus years, but will end with her making the Auel reunions memorable, planning programs and just talking with her. Always so upbeat! I look forward to memories from families and her many friends!

Rosalie Auel - July 22, 2018 at 09:48 AM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Bernietta C. Ley.*



July 21, 2018 at 08:46 PM

VS

“ *Steve and Dee, May the memories held deep inside your heart, help to comfort you... You're in our prayers. With our deepest sympathy . Steve and Vicky Stucker, Ellsinore, MO.*

Vicky Stucker - July 21, 2018 at 07:16 PM

CS

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Auntie will be dearly missed by many. R.I.P. Sweet Angel You'll always be in our hearts ❤️
❤️❤️ Carl Butzin Family*

carol saarela - July 21, 2018 at 07:53 PM

JH

Blessing my big sister as you join the other family members who have passed. She certainly sit the bar high as her four brothers and us three sisters with seven years between us followed. The story is that she brought at Christmas time from WI gifts of baby clothes wrapped. And as the siblings unwrapped them they questioned her. "But why baby clothes?" And she responded "Because Momma is going to have a baby in the spring." Yes I was last to be born to the family raised on the Auel homestead and because she then married and started to raise her large family on a farm in WI it was many years before we saw her. I think I was 12 years of age when I first saw her.

How our world has changed since those days with all our electronic gadgets. Yes she was the first to have a microwave oven as on a return trip to MN we stopped at the farm to say "Hi" to the family (and the pet raccoon) and she was disappointed we didn't stay for chicken dinner but The House on the Rocks was in the schedule making our home arrival in the Twin Cities well after mid-night.

A common question she would ask me on the phone was "What you stitching?" Because it was such a relaxation for her she made plenty of quilts, throw pillows, dish towels, pillow cases for gifts and what a nice remembrance to have.

She did travel and we were happy to have her celebrate her 85th birthday in AZ. She wanted to go pick grapefruit from the tree. -What a trooper she was in riding the tram up to Sabino Canyon with daughter Betty keeping an eye on her.

May the perpetual light shine upon you and may you rest in peace.

Janice Auel Hofer - July 26, 2018 at 02:12 PM