

Victoria (Vicki) Buckingham Mays

November 6, 1948 - March 11, 2020

Victoria Ann (Vicki) Mays, 71 years, of Carl Junction, MO, departed this life on Wednesday, March 11, 2020, at Freeman Health System, in Joplin, MO, after a short illness. Vicki, the daughter of Albert Fred and Mary Katherine (Kay) Buckingham, was born on November 6, 1948, in Joplin.



After graduating Joplin High School in 1966, Vicki received a degree in music education from MSSU in 1971, and then shared her love of music with thousands of students while employed as an educator in Seattle, Carl Junction, Jasper, Carthage, and finally at Columbus, KS, before she retired in 2009. Knowing that the love of playing in a band doesn't stop at graduation, she became director of the Heartland Community Band and until last year led them in performances around the region.

She married Lyle F. Mays on August 2, 1969 in Joplin.

She is survived by Lyle, and her children: Jennifer Mays and husband, Scott Cordes, of Kansas City, MO, Brian Mays and wife, Katherine, of Carl Junction, Janet Oishi and husband, Pat, of Seattle, WA, their exchange-student-turned-daughter, Anastasia Roeck and husband, Juergen, Germany; brother, Col. John Buckingham and wife, Victoria, Parker, CO; sister, Liz Burnaw and husband, Ken, Seattle; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and stepfather, K. Lynn White.

Funeral services will be held at the Simpson Funeral Home, in Carl Junction, on Sunday, March 15, at 2 p.m. with Rev. Roger Nichols officiating. A visitation will be held at the funeral home one-hour prior to the service on Sunday. The family invites you to join them for a celebration of life at the Carl Junction Community Center from 3-5 p.m. Graveside interment will be at the Park Cemetery, in Carthage, MO, at 11 a.m., Monday, March 16. Services are under the direction of Simpson Funeral Home, in Carl Junction.

Visit www.simpsonfh.com for online condolences.