



## Mrs. Betty Lee Spence

January 10, 1931 - May 31, 2021

Betty Lee Spence, a resident of Willow Springs, passed away Monday, May 31, 2021, while at Willow Care Nursing Home. She was born January 10, 1931, in Oak Grove, MO to Deral Edward and Wilma Beth (Rowlett) McKee and was 90 years old.

Betty attended the Oak Grove School through the eighth grade, then went on to Willow Springs High School. She and Clemet Spence were married by a Justice of the Peace on March 7, 1949, in Willow Springs. She was employed at the Willow Care Nursing Home as an LPN for 21 years. When she was not working, she thoroughly enjoyed being a coach for Special Olympics for more than 20 years. She was also a District Representative and was inducted into the Missouri Special Olympics Hall of Fame. Betty was a faithful member of the First Christian Church until her health started to fail. She also loved to read and watch game shows on television; she especially loved Family Feud. However, her favorite times were just spending time with her family. She will be dearly missed by her family, her friends, and all who knew her.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Clemet Spence; her daughter, Vickey; and her son, Mickey.

She is survived by her sons: Rick Spence and his wife, Judy of Northridge, CA; Nick Spence and his friend, Karen Pittman of Willow Springs; Dickey

Spence, also of Willow Springs; five grandchildren: Josh, Michael, Garit, Ryan, and Jennifer; five great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

A visitation for Betty will be held on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, from 10:00 to 11:00 A.M. with funeral service to follow at 11:00 at the First Christian Church in Willow Springs with Pastor Bob Martin officiating. Interment will be in the Willow Springs City Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Willow Funeral Home, LLC. Online condolences may be left at [www.willowspringsfuneralhome.com](http://www.willowspringsfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Willow Springs City Cemetery

State Rte DD  
Willow Springs, MO 65793

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Christian Church  
310 N. Center  
Willow Springs, MO 65793  
(417) 469-2429

## Service

JUN 9. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Christian Church  
310 N. Center  
Willow Springs, MO 65793  
(417) 469-2429

# Tribute Wall

KH

“ *What's treasure "Betty Spence "!! I met Grandma Betty,( that's what all the kids at special Olympics called her) at a ball practice. Always a smile on her beautiful face.nick& dicky & family, you are in our thoughts & prayers Gone but never forgotten*

**Kay & "tiny Huddleston** - June 09, 2021 at 12:05 AM

SW

“ *I met Betty when I worked for Lyle James and she struggled to pay a repair bill at James Motor Company. She was faithful to bring in \$2 to \$5 every chance she could. I thought she was just a bigger woman until one day she came in thinner and said she had a baby. I was shocked, and she laughed and laughed to know I never knew she was expecting. This might have been in 1964. For years she teased me about that. (We didn't wear revealing clothes when pregnant back then.) A lovely lady sorry she has left this world.*

**Sandy Whitaker** - June 05, 2021 at 05:58 PM

AB

*I just loved going to Connie's house when we came back to Willow for the alumnae weekend. She welcomed everyone and was so kind to everyone. I know she is in heaven. I miss Sherman so much also. Loved watching him square dance when we were in high school. His dad played the fiddle for us. Alice Gist Bradberry*

**alice gist bradberry** - January 16, 2022 at 08:19 AM

DW

“ Rick and family, Sending love and condolence to you all. Betty was a wonderful, kind person. She worked for many years in service to others and for her family. Time passes quickly and saying goodbye is never easy. I pray that her memory and sweet works here on earth will comfort you in the days ahead.

Dianna Simpson Weaver - June 03, 2021 at 03:59 PM

JW

“ I worked with her for several years at Willow Care. She had a huge, kind heart. She was truly a blessing to many people. My sympathy to all the family.

Janie Webb - June 03, 2021 at 11:06 AM

SP

“ What a sweet lady. Rick, I send my condolences.



sadie burns pruisner - June 03, 2021 at 05:14 AM

JM

“ She was a wonderful Lady. I met her through Special Olympics. We enjoyed our time with her. She will be missed 😭



Jerri Miller - June 02, 2021 at 09:15 PM

MC

“ *May Cunningham lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Betty Lee Spence*



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**may cunningham** - June 02, 2021 at 07:44 PM

MF

“ *One thing that was left out of the obituary was all the young lifes that she touched by her many years of babysitting. I for one will never forget all the good times at "Aunt" Betty's house and meeting Clem at the door when he got home from work at the walnut factory. Sending lots of love and prayers your way from the Roark Family.*

*Marsha Roark-Fulton*

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**Marsha Fulton** - June 02, 2021 at 02:25 PM