



## Carol Jean Kruse

January 4, 1938 - December 20, 2015

Carol Jean (Brautigam) Kruse, 77, of rural Botkins, died 9:49 p.m., Sun. Dec. 20, 2015, at Elmwood Assisted Living Center, New Bremen, with her family at her side. She was born in Botkins, January 4, 1938, the daughter of Carl Vernon & Luella (Berg) Brautigam. On Aug. 14, 1955, she married Emerson LeRoy Kruse, and he died June 3, 2014.

Survivors include, children: Sharon (Pat) Baumer, Minster; Christine (Bill) Fogt, Anna; Susan (Dave) Griffith, New Knoxville; and Chuck (Amy Clink) Kruse, Wapakoneta; grandchildren, Ben (Lindsey) Baumer, Janel (Stefan) McGraw, Rob (Shantelle) Fogt, Steven (Sarah) Fogt, Trenton (Erin) Fogt, Melinda (Levi) Gehrlich, Michael (Jess) Griffith, Matthew Kruse, Brandon Kruse, Hayley Kruse and Courtney Kruse, great grandchildren: Liam, Maribel, Cohen, and Dylan Baumer, Gavin, Ivy, Isabelle, and Eleanor Fogt, Landynn, Logan, and Savannah Fogt, Brock, Keegan, and Mallory Gehrlich, Gabby and Kadin Griffith, brother, Norman (Jobie-deceased) Brautigam, Rockville, MD. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister and brother-in-law, Mary Ellen & Robert Koenig, New Bremen.

Carol graduated with honors in 1955 from Botkins high School. A homemaker, she was a past Avon representative and worked at Roettger Hardwood, Inc. She was a member of the New Knoxville United Methodist Church and a member of the United Methodist Women. She had served as treasurer and Sunday school teacher at the former Olive Branch United Methodist Church. She was baptized and confirmed in St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed

Church in Wapakoneta.

Carol was also a member of the Kettlersville Van Buren Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary. She served as a 4-H advisor, volunteered at Anna elementary School, and worked the election polls for many years. She enjoyed driving in parades in the 1965 Ford Galaxy convertible that her husband, Emerson, lovingly restored.

Carol loved her family and enjoyed spending time with them. She also enjoyed collecting elephants and had received many as gifts from friends and family. Each child, grandchild, and great-grandchild will receive one as a remembrance.

A Celebration of her life will be 10:30 a.m., Mon. Dec. 28, 2015, at the New Knoxville United Methodist Church, with Pastor Dennis Gaertner officiating. Burial will follow in the Greenlawn Cemetery, Wapakoneta. The family will receive friends at the church 4-7 p.m., Sun. and 1 hour prior to the service, Mon. Memorial contributions may be directed to the New Knoxville United Methodist Church.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenlawn Cemetery

Presar Road  
Wapakoneta, OH

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

New Knoxville United Methodist Church  
109 South Main Street  
New Knoxville, OH 45871

## Visitation

DEC 28. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

New Knoxville United Methodist Church  
109 South Main Street  
New Knoxville, OH 45871

## Service

DEC 28. 10:30 AM (ET)

New Knoxville United Methodist Church  
109 South Main Street  
New Knoxville, OH 45871



# Tribute Wall

Cheri  
Sloan  
Scheer

“ *Cheri Sloan Scheer lit a candle in memory of Carol Jean Kruse*



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**Cheri Sloan Scheer** - December 28, 2015 at 04:39 PM

Cheri  
Sloan  
Scheer

“ *Cheri Sloan Scheer lit a candle in memory of Carol Jean Kruse*



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**Cheri Sloan Scheer** - December 28, 2015 at 04:38 PM

MW

“ *Sharon, Chris, Susie & Chuck - Your mom, Mrs. Kruse was our 4-H advisor for many, many years. She had a great giggle and laugh. I remember craft projects, working on a Wizard of Oz float for 4-H, working on our 4-H booth for the fair. I also remember seeing her and your dad working at the K-Ville fireman's picnic. She really did a lot through her volunteering and service. Thinking of you and your family.*

*-Marsha Watkins*

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**Marsha Watkins** - December 28, 2015 at 01:04 PM



“ I met Carol & Emerson many years ago at the law office where I worked. They were both such kind and genuine people. My thoughts and prayers are with your family. May God's love and peace surround you all during your time of loss.

Tracy Lee  
(Former employee Henkener & Miller Law Office)

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**Tracy Lee** - December 28, 2015 at 12:39 PM

PF

“ We are very sorry to hear of your loss. Carol was a wonderful lady and she loved each of you. Our love and prayers are with each of you during this difficult time.

With Deepest Sympathy,  
Phil and Alice (Opperman) Fisher

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**Phil and Alice (Opperman) Fisher** - December 26, 2015 at 09:52 PM

BW

“ I just wanted to send the family I a message expressing my sympathy on the loss of your mother. I worked part-time at Elmwood and loved to get her to smile. While I knew she was struggling lately, I will forever miss her sweetness.

Betty Wehrman

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**Betty Wehrman** - December 26, 2015 at 05:22 PM

BC

“ Aunt Carol was my Dad's, Norm, younger sister and always our fun aunt. On our visits to the Brautigam farm, my sister Karen and I eagerly waited at the window for Carol to arrive home on the school bus. Aunt Carol would greet us with a beautiful smile and play with her 5 and 7 year old nieces. This friendship grew with the years. I always enjoyed our family trips to Ohio and reading Carol's long letters filled with news about her children and the community activities that she and Uncle Emerson enjoyed so. Aunt Carol had a genuine interest in our families too. July 2015 Carol and my dad, Norm, attended their Botkins High School Reunion together!

*I can see Aunt Carol smile and hear her laugh.*

*Sharon, Chris, Sue and Chuck, May your mother's smile give you comfort and memories of her make you smile. Love is Eternal!*  
*Your Cousin,*  
*Beth Caywood*

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**Beth Caywood** - December 24, 2015 at 12:08 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Carol Jean Kruse.*



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December 23, 2015 at 04:43 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Carol Jean Kruse.*



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December 23, 2015 at 04:38 PM



“ *Sharon, both Gary and I are thinking of you and your family, Love, Kathy Ogg*

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**Kathy Ogg** - December 22, 2015 at 08:45 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. I will always remember Carol's beautiful smiling face. My mom and I so enjoyed seeing her and your dad driving that gorgeous convertible in parades. May your memories give you comfort. Love always, Susan McCullough Whitaker*

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**Susan Whitaker** - December 22, 2015 at 10:37 AM