



Betty Dell Benassi Updike

May 3, 1935 - December 30, 2022

Frankfort – Betty Dell Benassi Updike, age 87, passed away Friday, December 30, 2022. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Good Shepherd Catholic Church on Friday, January 6, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. with Father John Lijana officiating. Burial will follow at Frankfort Cemetery. Visitation will be held at Harrod Brothers Funeral Home from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 5, 2023.

Betty, affectionately known as “Meemaw,” was born in Frankfort, Kentucky on May 3, 1935. She graduated from Good Shepherd High School and was a lifelong member of Good Shepherd Church. She retired from the Legislative Research Commission and had many cherished, lasting friendships through LRC. She also spent some time working at the family Italian Restaurant, Putt’s. Betty was very proud of her Italian heritage.

Betty was an outgoing and cheerful person by nature – she was always smiling. She was an avid gardener which is evidenced by the lovely flowers in her yard. Betty was a fierce tennis player back in the day. She was a city tennis champion in the early 50s. She loved going to Keeneland, especially with her son, David, and daughter-in-law, Marta. Betty was very active and thrived when hanging out with her family and friends. She loved going to visit her daughter, Donna, in Akron and going to visit her son, Dawson in Nashville. Betty and her daughter, Dianna, could always be seen going up and down Versailles Road on their way to the Fayette Mall. Betty was very proud of her children and grandchildren. She also enjoyed going to Bel-terra with her

partners in crime, Ann, Pat, and Brenda.

Betty and John Updike, Jr., were married in 1955. Betty was preceded in death by her parents, Constantine and Cleofe Benassi; husband, John; grandson, Linden Rogers; brothers, Geno and Carmello Benassi.

She is survived by her children, Dianna Rogers, Donna Kikel (Jeff), David Updike (Marta), and Dawson E. Updike (Vicki); grandchildren, Jennifer Rogers (Russell), Jeffrey Kikel (Jane), Lizzi Kikel, Dawson C. Updike, and Cooper Matheson; sister, Connie Largen (Harry); sister-in-law, Mary Gaines; and by many cherished nieces and nephews.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to Betty's caregivers, Aundrea Owens, Debbi Pike, and Lois Larson, for the compassion and care shown to her in her last months.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in Betty's memory to Capital City Activity Center, 202 Medical Heights Drive, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, or Bluegrass Care Navigators, 643 Teton Trail, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, or to any charity of your choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Harrod Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 5. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Harrod Brothers Funeral Home
312 Washington Street
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 227-4526
hbfh@harrodbrothers.com
<https://www.harrodbrothers.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Good Shepherd Catholic Church
72 Shepherd Way
Frankfort, KY 40601

Tribute Wall



“ *Betty Dell Benassi Updike*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Betty Dell Benassi Updike.

January 06, 2023 at 10:26 AM



“ *Tammy And Walter Weitzel lit a candle in memory of Betty Dell Benassi Updike*



Tammy and Walter Weitzel - January 05, 2023 at 07:58 AM



Thank you..

Dianna Rogers - January 06, 2023 at 02:21 AM



“ *Betty is one of Frankfort, Kentucky's great women. She was a joy to be with at all times. I am thankful to her for her kindness, loyalty, and hard work for anyone who knew her. Blessings for comfort to Betty's family.*

Liza Hancock West - January 03, 2023 at 01:06 PM

DR

Thank you for the kind comments

Dianna Rogers - January 03, 2023 at 04:32 PM

KA

“ *It was an honor to get to know Betty when she came to Ohio to visit her Daughter Donna , a best friend of mine. There was always fun to be had when Betty was around. I am thankful for the memories. We are praying for Betty’s family to feel the loving arms of Jesus around each one of them . With love, Brian and Kathy*

Katherine - January 02, 2023 at 08:29 PM

DR

Beautiful comments

Dianna Rogers - January 03, 2023 at 08:47 AM



“ 93 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Harrod Brothers Funeral Home - January 02, 2023 at 04:28 PM

KC

“ *My heart is saddened by this news. That Betty!!! She sure put with a lot from Dianna and myself when we were teenagers. She was a great wife, Mother and friend to all. May God be with the family during this sad time.*

Kim Cornett - January 02, 2023 at 03:42 PM

DR

Thank you Kim

Dianna Rogers - January 03, 2023 at 08:48 AM

JP

“ *Betty Dell always had that beautiful smile. My family and I frequently ate at Putt's Restaurant. This is where I first met Betty during our teen years. I, too, was a May baby, but a few months older. Betty and her family became so dear to our community. After our teen years, Betty and I met up again as we both retired from LRC. If I had a computer problem, I called Betty and she had my problem worked out ... pronto! Yes, we miss her siblings and parents, and we most assuredly will miss her beautiful smile and the heartfelt kindness that came so easily with that smile!*

June Payton - January 02, 2023 at 02:50 PM

DR

Wonderful comments...thank you

Dianna Rogers - January 03, 2023 at 09:04 PM

CM

My heart just breaks seeing the passing of Ms. Updike. What a kind, friendly woman with a wonderful smile for everyone. So sorry for your loss and will keep your family in my thoughts and prayers! With love - Chermie & Scott Maxwell

Chermie Maxwell - January 05, 2023 at 12:08 PM

DR

Thank you Chermie

Dianna Rogers - January 08, 2023 at 10:02 AM

HE

Dianna and family, was so sorry to hear of your mom passing. Met her several times, especially at a bank! She was a beautiful person. Judy Ellis

harold dudley ellis - February 24, 2023 at 03:33 PM