



## Kathleen "Kay" Rose Springer, 95

January 7, 1929 - March 16, 2024

Clay Center resident Kathleen "Kay" Rose Springer, 95, passed away Saturday, March 16, 2024, at the Providence Place of Hastings, NE, surrounded by her loving family.

Funeral services will be conducted at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, March 21, 2024, at McLaughlin Funeral Chapel (New Building, 204 W. Johnson Street) in Clay Center, NE with Pastor Kathy Uldrich officiating. Interment will follow at the Clay Center Cemetery in Clay Center, NE. Visitation will be Wednesday, from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., with the family present from 5:00 p.m. until 7 p.m., at McLaughlin Funeral Chapel in Clay Center, NE.

Services will be live-streamed from McLaughlin Funeral Chapel's Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/claycenterchapel>

Memorial contributions may be directed to the donor's choice or to the family to be designated later.

Kay was born on January 7, 1929, in Rural Kearney County to Raymond and Elsie (Schluntz) Schubert. Kay was a caring, generous, and God-fearing individual who cherished her family above all else.

Kay grew up in Wilcox NE, attending a rural school and Wilcox High School.

She then went to Kearney State College and obtained her teaching degree. She taught in rural schools in Ragan and Sacramento County in Nebraska.

She married Donald L Springer of Kearney on July 27, 1952. They moved to Clay Center in 1961 where they owned and operated Clay Center Locker Plant and Grocery. They later purchased Springer Market. She sold the store in 1990 and retired, caring for her elderly parents in their final years. Her children often joked she needed to go back to work, so they would know where she was.

Kay had a passion for serving her community. One of her greatest accomplishments was achieved in 2018 when she donated her 25th gallon of blood. Kay volunteered at the Clay Center Food Pantry for several years. She was a certified instructor for the Laubach Literacy Action program teaching illiterate adults to read. Her greatest pride was sewing quilts in the church basement for World Relief and later for military personnel located overseas.

Kay was baptized and confirmed at ST. Paul's Lutheran Church, Hildreth, NE. When she moved, she became a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Clay Center, NE, where she found solace and community.

In her free time, Kay enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, sewing, quilting, embroidery, playing cards, and tending to her yard. She found joy in the simple pleasures of life and treasured every moment with her loved ones.

Kay is survived by her daughters, Nancy Springer of Ashland City TN; Brenda (Bob) Leaper Cortland, NE; Carol (James) Cooper of Paragould, AR; Jean Ann Springer, and her friend Mike Hitchcock of Clay Center, NE; 8 grandchildren, Colton Applebee; Donnie, Rachael, Sam and Anthony Griess; Roderick Fitzke; Joshua (Kellee) Springer; Kathy (Brandan) Kelley; step-grandsons, Thomas, Preston and Chris Cooper and Matthew Leaper; she was

blessed with 22 great-grandchildren; her twin brother, Clayton of Holdrege, NE; sisters, Delores (Franklin) Carlson of Holdrege, NE; Marjean (Max) Schultz of Oxford, NE; sister-in-law, Willa Winger of Hastings, NE; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 32 years, Donald Springer; her parents, Raymond and Elsie Schubert; her parents-in-law, Lauren and Millie Springer; sisters-in-law, Grace Schubert and Florence Karenbauer; brothers-in-law, Willard and Marion Springer; and nephews, Mark Schubert; Robert Olexo and Jack Karenbauer.

# Cemetery Details

## Clay Center Cemetery

31371 Woodland Rd  
Clay Center, NE 68933

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 20. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

McLaughlin Funeral Chapel  
204 W. Johnson Street  
Clay Center, NE 68933  
(402) 762-3474  
[suttonmemorial@windstream.net](mailto:suttonmemorial@windstream.net)  
<http://www.mclaughlinchapel.com/>

## Family Present At Visitation

MAR 20. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

McLaughlin Funeral Chapel  
204 W. Johnson Street  
Clay Center, NE 68933  
(402) 762-3474  
[suttonmemorial@windstream.net](mailto:suttonmemorial@windstream.net)  
<http://www.mclaughlinchapel.com/>

## Funeral Service

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MAR 21. 10:30 AM (CT)

McLaughlin Funeral Chapel  
204 W. Johnson Street  
Clay Center, NE 68933  
(402) 762-3474  
suttonmemorial@windstream.net  
<http://www.mclaughlinchapel.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ 37 files added to the album Flowers



Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel - March 21, 2024 at 02:26 PM

TB

“ Kay was always a busy person, loved her family, her church family, and the town of Clay Center. Our sympathy to Jean Ann, Kathy and the rest of the family. Tim and Jeri Beale

Tim Beale - March 20, 2024 at 09:57 PM

PC

“ Preston, Amy, Tre, RJ and Devin Cooper purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Kathleen "Kay" Rose Springer, 95.



Preston, Amy, Tre, RJ and Devin Cooper - March 19, 2024 at 05:29 PM

YF

“ *Your SonShine Family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Kathleen "Kay" Rose Springer, 95.*



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**Your SonShine Family** - March 19, 2024 at 02:54 PM

AB

“ *Kay was a great person. I remember a sewing project with her - she was very patient with me. I have many memories throughout my childhood spending much time at their house. Sending hugs and prayers to her 4 beautiful daughters and all of her family!*

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**Ann Bannister Bohannon** - March 18, 2024 at 08:18 PM

EB

“ *I remember Kay being a girl scout leader. I made a tablecloth with her assistance. She was a good person. Loving thoughts and prayers to the family.*

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**Elizabeth Benavidz** - March 18, 2024 at 07:49 PM