



Mary Lou Kohler

February 2, 1922 - September 22, 2022

Former Sutton resident Mary Lou Hoskins Kohler, 100, was born to eternal life on September 22, 2022, at the Echo Hills assisted living in Omaha NE. She attained her goal of reaching 100 years of age and celebrated it with her family.

Funeral services will be conducted at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at the Federated Church in Sutton, NE with Pastor Mary Scott officiating. Interment will follow at the Sutton Cemetery in Sutton. Visitation with the family present will be Monday, October 17, 2022, From 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., at Sutton Memorial Chapel in Sutton, NE. The casket will be closed.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Sutton Federated Church PO Box 306 in Sutton, NE 68979. Cards may be sent to William Kohler PO Box 40 in Sutton, NE 68979.

Mary Lou was born in Portland, Oregon on February 2, 1922. She had one brother, Lewis Hoskins who preceded her in death. They grew up in Newberg, Oregon where she attended school and eventually graduated from George Fox College which was directly across the street from her house. Her Oregon roots gave her a lifelong love of the Oregon coast.

She lived through the Great Depression which changed and shaped her life.

She developed a lifelong virtue of hard work, modesty, diligence and frugality. Mary Lou took time off from college during World War II to work at the Portland shipyards where they built ships for the war effort. There she met her beloved husband, the late Morris Kohler. They were married in 1943 by her father, a county judge, in their home in Newberg, Oregon. They were married for 68 years.

She and Morrie lived in Portland as she finished her college degree while commuting to George Fox College in Newberg. After graduation, the young couple moved to Seattle where Morrie played professional football and Mary Lou was the team secretary for the Seattle Bombers. They started their family with the birth of their first son Richard. After his birth, they moved to the Oregon coast and expanded their family with 2 sons Robert and James.

During that time the family made the sacrifice to live apart. Mary Lou stayed in Oregon with Robert and James while supporting their family by working at an insurance agency. Richard lived with his paternal grandparents in Nebraska while Morrie attended mortuary school in Kansas City in order to join his father's mortuary business in Sutton.

After about a year apart, the entire family moved to their long-time home in Sutton in 1951. The family grew again with the birth of their two sons William and Steven. But the attraction of the Oregon coast was always there, and almost every summer the family would drive to Oregon to visit her mother and father and to spend time at the beach. That annual trip would continue with Morrie and then in her later years with her sons.

In 1962, Mary Lou used her inheritance from her father to buy an insurance agency in Sutton and became one of the few female business owners at that time. She worked diligently as the sole proprietor of her insurance agency, Kohler Insurance Agency, on Main Street for 30 years until her retirement in

the early 1990's.

Mary Lou was passionate about tennis and golf which she played late into her life. She was a longtime supporter of the Fox Hollow Golf Course. She enjoyed watching tennis matches and especially looked forward to the US Open and Wimbledon. She was a big Husker football fan and would watch every game dressed in red. She also enjoyed watching Husker women's volleyball.

Mary Lou was extremely independent and would resent anyone telling her she couldn't do something. She always proved them wrong. She was passionate about women's place in the world. She lived on her own until 95 years of age, then moved to live the dorm life with her friends at the Sutton Community Home. Mary Lou moved to Echo Hills Assisted Living in Omaha her last eight months to be close to family.

Mary Lou was a member of the Federated Church, Order of the Eastern Star, served as secretary of the Sutton Cemetery and an active member of the P.E.O.

Mary Lou was deeply loved and will be missed by her family.

Mary Lou is survived by her five sons: Richard (Sharon); Robert, James, William (Tish), and Steven (Diane); five grandchildren: Laura, Lisa (Patrick), Danielle (Brett), Logan and Dylan; and two great-grandsons: Chace and Tyler.

Cemetery Details

Sutton Cemetery

1202 N. Saunders Ave
Sutton, NE 68979

Previous Events

Family Present At Visitation

OCT 17. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Sutton Memorial Chapel
804 S. Saunders, Ave.
PO Box 612
Sutton, NE 68979
(402) 773-4100
suttonmemorial@windstream.net
<http://www.suttonmemorial.com/>

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Funeral Service

OCT 18. 10:30 AM (CT)

Federated Church
407 N. Saunders Ave.
Sutton, NE 68979
(402) 773-5336
<https://www.suttonfedchurch.org>

Tribute Wall



“ 17 files added to the album *Flowers*



Sutton Memorial Chapel and McLaughlin Funeral Chapel - October 18, 2022 at 01:22 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of *Mary Lou Kohler*.



October 17, 2022 at 08:57 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray* was purchased for the family of *Mary Lou Kohler*.



October 15, 2022 at 01:01 PM

LF

“ Love the Baum family purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Mary Lou Kohler.



Love the Baum family - October 14, 2022 at 04:43 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Kohler.



October 14, 2022 at 02:31 PM

SB

“ I am so sorry. You all are in my thoughts and prayers. Such a beautiful woman.



Sandra (Alberts) Beahm - October 13, 2022 at 11:48 AM

AH

“ Dear Jim, Bob, Dick, Steve, Bill and your families,
We're so sad to hear of Aunt Mary Lou's passing. She was our favorite aunt on Lewis' side – our only aunt, but still, very easy to love! I remember marveling at how calmly she seemed to manage living in a household of six boys/men, seemingly at ease and full of good humor. While our dad was alive, their regular phone calls and letters meant a lot to him, always newsy, funny, and down-to-earth. Though rare in recent years, we loved seeing her at the Oregon Coast, where she answered our many questions about family history from her clear memories. Her contagious cheer and long, healthy life are an inspiration, and we'll miss her.
Love,
Adrienne

Adrienne Hoskins - October 09, 2022 at 03:57 PM

CC

“ Cara Crawford purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mary Lou Kohler.



Cara Crawford - September 29, 2022 at 02:02 PM

AP

“ I was honored to get to meet Mary Lou in the last 5 years. Beautiful smile and such a wonderful women. Thankful to have gotten to know her.
Sending my love and prayers to all the Kohler family.



Angela Pope - September 26, 2022 at 09:14 PM

KJ

“ Condolences to Mary Lou’s family. She will be resting in the place she was so dedicated to preserving for Sutton. It was an honor to carry on with her mapping. Kathy Johnson

Kathy Johnson - September 22, 2022 at 06:22 PM