

## Obituaries

### Helen Viola Donohue



Helen Viola Donohue passed away on Saturday, March 29, just a few days short of celebrating her 99th birthday.

Born April 3, 1926, northwest of Buxton in Wilson County Kansas she was the middle child of Arthur F. and Rica M. (Williamson) Pryor. Helen was born during a 10-inch snowstorm and arrived before her father could bring the doctor with his team and wagon.

When Helen was 3 years old, her family moved south of Fredonia. Then in 1933, her parents bought a farm 7 miles west of Fredonia. It was fun, but there could be hard times growing up on the farm with two sisters and two brothers.

Helen went to Pleasant Point, a one room country school. Later she attended Fredonia High School, graduating in 1943. She missed her graduation ceremony because the Fall River was flooding, and the family could not get across.

After graduation, Helen worked at the Ben Franklin 5 & 10 store. She was working at McKrae Telephone company when an ice storm hit. Her brother Harold walked her to work from their farm near the Mill Dam. They took a route following the railroad tracks. She wanted to do her part to keep the phones operating in case of emergencies during the storm.

In 1958, Helen married Joe Donohue. They celebrated 60 years of marriage before his passing. The marriage was blessed with a son Daryl who provided the couple with much pride and joy.

They spent their lives engaged in farming and ranching north of Fredonia. In 1998, they retired and moved to town when Daryl and daughter-in-law Jody took over the business.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, husband, sisters Alma Bade and Dorothy Vaughn and brothers Harold Pryor and Lee Pryor.

In addition to Daryl and Jody Donohue, she is survived by several nieces and nephews. During the past few years, Helen had several care givers who became extended family members. They were dearly loved and appreciated by Helen.

### LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in the Wilson County Citizen on Thursday, March 20, 2025)

IN THE THIRTY FIRST (31ST) JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF KANSAS SITTING IN FREDONIA, WILSON COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of WARREN CLAUDE TOWNSEND, Deceased

Case No. WL-2024-PR-000016

(Proceedings Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

### NOTICE OF HEARING

To All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that the Petition For Final Settlement filed herein by Nelson C.E. Townsend and Morgen A. Townsend will come on for hearing on April 17, 2025, at 10:30 o'clock a.m., at the Courthouse of Wilson County, Kansas, 615 Madison St., Fredonia, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail to appear or plead in response to the Petition, judgment and decree will be entered in due course thereon.

All interested parties take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Nelson C.E. Townsend  
Morgen A. Townsend

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### Victor R. Runer



Victor R. Runer, 71, of Fredonia, Kan., passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at Fredonia Regional Hospital. Vic was born on September 22, 1953, in Fredonia, the son of Marvin and Elpha "Jill" (Cutler) Runer. Vic's father passed away at a very young age and his grandmother Virginia Cutler helped in raising him.

Vic was a graduate of Altoona-Midway High School, class of 1971. On Oct. 17, 1975, Vic married Terri L. Matlick, and she survives at their home. Vic and Terri were married for 49 years.

Vic was a born salesman, who loved to tell stories and visit with anyone. Vic worked for A-Lert Roof Systems for 28 years, until his retirement 2023. Vic was an avid golfer and enjoyed spending time at the golf course. An overall sports enthusiast, Vic dedicated many years as a baseball and basketball coach, a fan of KU and the Broncos. He was a member of the Buffalo Christian Church and the Masons. Most importantly, Vic was a huge supporter of his grandchildren and their daily lives.

In addition to his wife Terri, Vic is survived by two children, Jake Runer and wife Alyssa of Pittsburg, Kan., and Whitney Slater and husband Jeff of Burlingame, Kan.; five grandchildren, Kinsley, Deacon, Acelyn, Hailey and Addie; five sisters, Marva Yarnell and Dena Gatlin, both of Buffalo, Kan., Gwenda Runer of Vilas, Kan., Troylene Kinnamon of Meeker, Okla., and Desty Hall of Bedford, Texas.

Vic was preceded in death by his parents

A graveside memorial will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 19, 2025, at the Buffalo Cemetery. Memorials have been suggested to the Fredonia Golf Club and can be left with or mailed to the funeral home. Online condolences may be left at [www.countrysidefh.com](http://www.countrysidefh.com). Services are under the direction of Countryside Funeral Home 420 S. 20th St., P.O. Box 247, Fredonia, KS 66736

### Cathy Ann Howard

Cathy Ann Howard, beloved wife, mother, sister, nana and friend, peacefully passed away in her home on March 27, 2025, at the age of 73.

She was born on February 28, 1952, in Wichita, Kansas. Cathy spent her life embodying strength, kindness and bravery, qualities that left an undeniable mark on everyone she met.

Cathy was preceded in



death by her parents, Ruth and Gerald Lance. She is survived by her loving husband of 57 years, James Arthur Howard; her sisters Kala Tarter, Susan Eck and brother-in-law Harold Eck; her sons Allen (Tina) Howard and Eric (Kathleen) Howard; 5 grandchildren, Alisan Bennett, Devin Howard, Madison Hinkle, Sidney Spencer and Noah Howard. Cathy is also the proud nana of seven great grandchildren.

Cathy's journey in life was marked by her entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to her family. She held positions at TG&Y, La Dow & Spohn, and First National Bank. She also embarked on many successful ventures with her husband Jim. Together they owned and operated several businesses such as J&C Auto Parts & Repair, CJ's Tavern, Valley Auto Sales and Flea Market. Through these endeavors Cathy demonstrated her unwavering commitment and work ethic.

In Cathy's younger years she was an avid and talented water skier and show skier. Always being at the top of the pyramid. She enjoyed attending her son's and grandson's football games and being their loudest and biggest supporter. Jim and Cathy were also both proud members of classic car clubs over the years. Jim built the hot rods and Cathy upholstered the interiors.

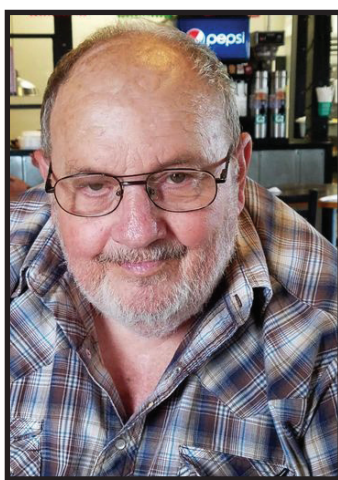
Cathy had several hobbies that kept her busy at home. She loved to be outside messing in her flower beds, in her garage working away with her upholstery business, cross-stitching, sewing, puzzles, and most of all spending time with her family. Cathy loved her family unconditionally and she will be missed beyond measure.

Memorials have been suggested to be made to Fredonia Pound Pals or the American Cancer Society. Direct cremation has been requested by the family and no public services are planned at this time. Online condolences may be left at [www.countrysidefh.com](http://www.countrysidefh.com). Services under the direction of Countryside Funeral Home 420 S. 20th St., P.O. Box 247, Fredonia, KS 66736

### Raymond Pharis Shoaf

Raymond Pharis Shoaf Sr., 79, a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, and veteran, passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at The Journey Home in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

He was born on September 22, 1945, in Neodesha, Kansas, the son of Marvin



Pharis Shoaf and Alice Pearl (Worford) Shoaf. Raymond's education began at Dickinson County Community High School in Chapman, Kansas, from which he graduated in May of 1963. He furthered his technical knowledge by attending General Motors School in Shawnee Mission, Kansas, in 1965. Following his education, he established himself as a talented mechanic and took pride in his role as the owner of S & S Motors.

On February 20, 1965 in Columbus, Kansas he was united in marriage to Linda Kaye Preble, and she survives at the home.

A service member with exemplary dedication, Raymond joined the United States Army Reserve on May 6, 1968, and continued to serve for nearly four decades until May 6, 2007. His military service included tours in Vietnam and Desert Storm, where he demonstrated bravery and commitment to his country.

Raymond had various hobbies that enriched his life, particularly fishing and hunting, pursuits that offered him joy and connection with nature. His love for these activities was only rivaled by his passion for his family, who remained central to his existence.

He is survived by his loving wife, Linda Kaye (Preble) Shoaf; two sons, Raymond Pharis Shoaf Jr. (Angie) and Lee Marvin Shoaf (Melissa); a sister, Marlene Shinkle; and a sister and brother-in-law, Marilyn and Jack Vaught. Also, he leaves behind the wonderful legacy of 9 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren who

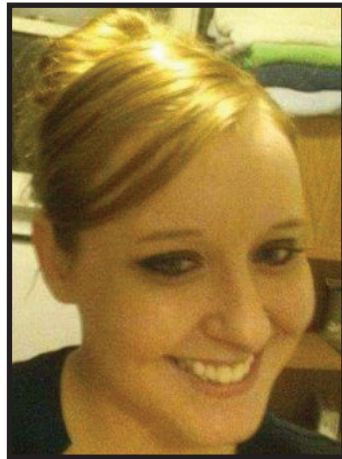
cherished him dearly.

Raymond was a proud member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1186 in Independence, Kansas, holding the title of Life Member. He was also a Mason in Thayer, Kansas, and an active member of the Community Christian Church in Independence, Kansas. His contributions to the community were valued, and he was deeply respected for his involvement.

Raymond's memory will be cherished by many, as he leaves behind not only a remarkable family but also a community that admired his integrity and dedication. He was predeceased by his mother, Alice Shoaf, and his father, Marvin Shoaf. While his absence will be profoundly felt, the impact of his life and the love he shared will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew him.

Cremation has taken place. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday April 5, 2025, at Farmington Cemetery 8467 1800 Road, Fredonia, Kansas. Services are under the personal care and guidance of Wickham Family Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 510 North 7th, Fredonia, Kansas 66736.

### Cassie A. McKee



Cassie A. McKee, 38, passed away on February 24, 2025 in Wichita, KS., the daughter of Joel E. and Cheryl L. (Heater) McKee. Cassie was born on April 28, 1987, in Fredonia. Cassie attended school in Fredonia and later

graduated from Pampa High School, in Pampa, TX. Cassie married Jimmy Lawler. Cassie worked hard taking care of her children, while attempting to care for her own illness. After Thanksgiving of 2024, Cassie's health declined, and she ultimately passed away under hospice care.

Cassie is survived by her father Joel McKee and step mother Melody; brothers Dillon and Kendall; children Zander and Erica; numerous aunts/uncles and their children. Cassie was preceded in death by her mother Cheryl.

A celebration of life service will be held on Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 2 p.m. at the Cornerstone Christian Church in Fredonia. Memorials have been suggested to the children's educational fund and may be left with or mailed to the funeral home. Online condolences may be left at [www.countrysidefh.com](http://www.countrysidefh.com). Countryside Funeral Home 420 S. 20th St., P.O. Box 247, Fredonia, KS 66736

### KHP to conduct sobriety checkpoint Friday in Labette County

A sobriety checkpoint, intended to remove impaired drivers, will be set up in Labette County on Friday, April 4.

"The purpose of these checkpoints," said Technical Trooper Gary Boles, "is to decrease traffic crashes through awareness and enforcement."

Sobriety checkpoints are aimed at reducing collision rates by identifying impaired drivers.

The goal of this checkpoint is to encourage compliance with the alcohol related statutes of this state, by removing drivers from Kansas roadways that are under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

Annually about 11,000 persons are killed in alcohol related traffic crashes, averaging one alcohol related fatality every 39 minutes. These deaths constitute approximately 32% of the total traffic fatalities.

## Cornerstone Christian Church

# RESURRECTION SUNDAY

## APRIL 20

## PLEASE JOIN US!!!

SUNRISE SERVICE

South Mound

⌚

6:30 AM

BREAKFAST

Cornerstone Church

⌚

9:00 AM

WORSHIP

Cornerstone Church

⌚

10:00 AM

1005 Golf Course Rd. Fredonia, KS 66736

Sign Up NOW

## Westminster Woods

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**Questions? 316-253-4783**

**18487 Barber Rd. Fall River, KS**