

Dorris Mae Beckenhauer

November 2, 1920 - March 9, 2026



Dorris Mae Beckenhauer, age 105, joined her husband, Neil in the Lord's grace on March 9, 2026.

Born November 2, 1920, Dorris was a lifetime resident of Manhattan, Kansas, having attended Woodrow Wilson Elementary School and graduating from Manhattan High School, class of 1938. She attended Kansas State University and was a member of the Alpha Xi Delta Sorority. Later serving as their board President.

She met Neil while at K-State, graduated in 1942, married in 1943, and became an Air Force officer's wife for the next 26 years. They moved multiple times, entertained constantly, and raised two children. She used her degree in art to teach adult classes in painting ceramics, and sewing throughout their Air Force careers.

She returned to Manhattan after Neil's retirement and returned to K-State earning her Masters in clothing and textile. She returned to teaching art at St. George High School and coaching cheerleaders until her retirement.

She was a member of the Domestic Science Club, a lifetime member of The American Legion Auxiliary, the Eastern Star, and a member of the Konza Prairie Quilt Guild. She enjoyed painting ceramics, gardening, quilting, and landscaping, having terraced the backyard in native limestone.

She is survived by her daughter Sharron Klingel of Princeton, Illinois, and her son Dr. Dwane Beckenhauer of Salina, Kansas. There are five grandchildren, Dr. Greg Klingel, Washington State, Shawn Klingel, Colorado, Sara Dix and David Beckenhauer, Kansas, and Dana Brown, Missouri. She has eight great-grandchildren: Holden and Graham Klingel, Washington; Nora and Owen Klingel, Colorado; Douglas and Catherine Dix, Kansas; Ace Beckenhauer, Kansas, Rosealee Brown, Missouri; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents Merrit and Alice Kastner, her two brothers Donald and Denzil Kastner, and her husband Dr. Neil Beckenhauer, DVM.

The family will greet friends during a visitation from 9:00 until 10:00a.m. Saturday April 11, 2026, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home in Manhattan.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00a.m. Saturday April 11, 2026, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Chapel, with Rev. Jason Pittman officiating. Interment will follow in the Sunset Cemetery in Manhattan.

Memorial contributions in memory of Dorris are suggested to the Johnson Cancer Research Center at KSU or the American Legion Auxiliary (to be used for the Alice Kastner Scholarship Fund). Contributions may be sent in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at www.ymlfuneralhome.com