

THE LOSS OF A MOTHER

Is an inevitable part of our life.

We know it will come around
And we know the day will hurt
But we are not prepared,
Never prepared
For the tearing.

The tearing of a part of our soul
From its very seams
Stitches pulled asunder
Heart wretched in half
Soul split in two.

But that tearing is not what you may think
It is, it is not her leaving you

It is the loss of her physical form
Which you have been so very used and attached to.

And now she must remove that part
For it no longer serves you
And you no longer need it
Despite what you may think.

Because she made you well
And she built all of her love into you
Cell by cell
Thought by thought
Lesson by lesson.

And the split that you feel
Is simply the new the new way
You will carry on your love
For your mother
Just in a different way

For she did not leave
Mothers cannot leave

They are in you
Look inside
She's there
And that bond
That connection
Is unable to be taken now

That is all yours to keep

Forevermore.
Donna Ashworth

Anna Lou Gooch
October 14, 1932—March 23, 2023



**“I can do all things through Christ who
strengthens me.”
Philippians 4:13**

Wednesday March 29, 2023
Murdale Baptist Church
Carbondale, Illinois

Anna Lou Gooch
October 14, 1932 - March 23, 2023

Lou is survived by her son, Marty (Shelia) Gooch; daughters, Patti Berry, Kathy (Jeff) Nuttall, Dena (Scott) Ashenbremer; Grandchildren, Mark (Tina) Berry, Kristin (Jordan) McClaine, Kayla (John) Aitken, Alex (Rylie) and Carter (Kylie) Nuttall; and Ashley (Michael) Philip, and Emily Ashenbremer; Great-grandchildren, Landyn, Mailee, Braelyn, Nolan, Parker, Tyson, Aubrey, Rayne, Tanner and Myles; brother, Bob Stewart; sisters, Kay Hilligist and Elvira Stewart-Haile; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband Bill; parents; and siblings, Augusta Stewart, Johnny Stewart, Tom Stewart, Ruth Merritt, Reta Hill, Reba Tibbs and Lea Doty



The Gooch family would like to extend their gratitude for your continued thoughts and prayers. You have eased the pain during this difficult time. We are truly blessed by your presence in our lives.

Memorials may be made to:
Murdale Baptist Church
or
Hospice of Southern Illinois

Celebration of Life
Background Music recorded by Dr. Bill Gooch

Prelude

Song: "What a Day That Will Be"

Welcome & Prayer
Rev. Paul Hicks

Congregational
"Heaven Came Down and Glory Filled My Soul"

Dena Ashenbremer

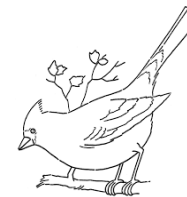
Song: "Sweet Bye and Bye" by Dr. Bill Gooch

Message and Prayer
Rev. Paul Hicks

Congregational
Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

"Where Her Heart has Always Been"

Postlude



"Well done my good and faithful servant."
Matthew 25:21