



# Caterina "Kay" (Poretta) Mahanes

SEP 6, 1924 - MAY 3, 2020



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# Caterina "Kay" (Poretta) Mahanes

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Caterina "Kay" (Poretta) Mahanes, 95, peacefully left the caring arms of her daughters and joined the loving arms of her husband, parents, sister, brother and many friends on May 3, 2020.

She was born on September 6, 1924 in Arma, KS, the daughter of John and Teresa (Massa) Poretta.

She lived most of her life in South East Kansas, not only was she a coal miner's daughter but also a farmer's daughter on a small family farm in 50 Camp. She and her mother delivered fresh milk daily to Pastories, a local grocery store in Arma for many years.

In 1942 she worked in Detroit as "Rosie the Riveter." One of women's first economic opportunities. "Rosie the Riveter" is an icon and symbol of feminism. These women began replacing the male worker who joined the military. Women "war workers" riveted the B-17 aircraft in the collective effort of World War II.

She worked beside her husband, Carl Mahanes, designing and building two homes. Together they had a small business called Kay's Lures. Caterina hand tied fishing lures with deer hair and brilliant colored feathers for many years. She also beaded jewelry and strung glass beads to the age of 94.

Caterina had many hobbies, cooking, canning, gardening, playing cards and dominos, camping and fishing. She loved planting numerous trees, so many that she acquired the nickname "Tree Lady". She enjoyed traveling to Italy, New York, Montana and many trips to Colorado and Alaska.

She was a devoted Mother, Grandmother and Great-Grandmother who will be deeply missed.

Caterina is survived by two daughters; Teresa (Jim) Larsen of Eagle Rock, MO, Barbara Toschi of Mulberry, KS, three grandchildren; Holli (Tony) Papish of Olathe, KS, Shala Larsen of Saugatuck, MI, David (Amy) Jenkins of Weir, KS, three great-



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grandchildren; Ellie Barde and Sam Larsen of Saugatuck, MI, Jessie Jenkins of Weir, KS and a niece and nephew.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, brother Dominic (Dorothy) Poretta and sister Joann (Clark) Fikes.

No services are planned at this time, Caterina will be buried next to her husband at the Fort Scott National Cemetery at a later date.

E-mail condolences may be left at [www.bathnaylor.com](http://www.bathnaylor.com). Arrangements are by the Bath-Naylor Funeral Home of Weir, KS



## Tribute Wall

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LS

**Linda Saia** posted:

Teresa, Barbara, so sorry for the loss of your Mother. Prayers for the family! Linda Saia

May 14 at 9:53 AM

EP

**Emil Pronier** posted:

So sorry to here of your mother's passing. May God be with you and your families during this great sorrow. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

May 9 at 6:31 AM

JC

**Jacob Paul Cukjati** posted:

Teresa Barbara and family, I am deeply sorry for your loss and give to you my condolences. Blessing to you and your family during this time of loss. Sincerely Jack Cukjati

May 8 at 3:24 PM

AM

**Albert Jan Mikrut** posted:

Teresa and Barbara, and family Thoughts and prayers to you and Family. Albert Jan Mikrut

May 8 at 3:11 PM

TR

**Theresa Sighel Renn** lit a candle in honor of Caterina "Kay".

Teresa, Barbara and family, I am so very sorry to here about the loss of your beautiful Mother. Sounds as though she led a very full life. May all your wonderful memories help you through this loss. Your school friend, Theresa Sighel Renn

May 8 at 1:12 PM



LG

**Linda Grilz** lit a candle in honor of Caterina "Kay".

My condolences to Teresa and Barb on the loss of your mother. I want to hear more stories of the beautiful life your mother had. Prayers for healing. 🙏

May 8 at 6:23 AM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Caterina "Kay" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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