



Alice Jean Odell-Westcott

September 27, 1924 - June 19, 2022

Alice Jean Odell was born September 27, 1924, at her parents' home on Cherry Street in Kendall, MI. Her parents were Gilbert Allen Odell (ticket agent and leverman for the Michigan Central Railroad) and Amelia Marie Reigle-Odell (Dr. Wilkinson's midwife and postmaster for the Kendall Post Office). As a young girl, she was raised by a family who showed her unconditional love—her Grandma Odell and Uncle Charley in particular. Grandma Odell read her lots of stories from the Bible, and her Uncle Charley took her to the fields to work at the sheep fold just southwest of the main four corners in Kendall. Churning butter and drinking the buttermilk were also parts of growing up that she loved. The train station in Kendall was a big part of her life, and as far as traveling was concerned, she would often go to Kalamazoo, and during the summer, the family took many trips to Mackinac City camping near the lighthouse.

She graduated from Gobles High School in 1942 and started working at Checker Cab in Kalamazoo. Later, in 1943, a young man named Earl Charles Westcott was given a 5-day leave from the Army Air Corp (he was stationed in Tucson at the time). His time in the Army Air Corp/Air Force was spent as a waist gunner on B-24 bombers. He arrived home on a Wednesday and proposed to Jean on the way home from Kalamazoo. They were married Thursday, spent time with family and friends both Friday and Saturday, and Sunday he left for Tucson. By July 1st, he was in England; by August 1st he

had been shot down twice, and the second time he ended up being a Prisoner of War in Rumania. After close to 14 months, he was able to return home, and in a couple of years a family was started.

Son James Allen Westcott was born October 23, 1945. Jim married Linda Jean Little (deceased 1995) and later married Ruth Angel. Surviving grandchildren are Susan Kay (Chris) Best, Shari Lynn Smith, Cindy Jean (Kelli) Rumery, Daniel Earl Westcott (Schuyler). Son Dwight Earl Westcott was born 1951 and died in 1952. Daughter Pamela Sue Westcott (b. September 19, 1958) also survives. In addition, Jean and Earl were a couple who opened their home to numerous young people needing an extra guiding hand. Jean spent much of her life teaching English, Shorthand, Typing, and Journalism at Bloomingdale High School where she was very involved with the school Yearbook, directed the school plays, and also served as the NHS sponsor. A member of the Kendall United Methodist Church, she taught various levels of Sunday School, attended Church Conferences, was a member of the United Methodist Women's group, sang in the church choir, headed up luncheons for various activities, and served as the church's secretary and historian. She was also involved with Wesley Foundation on WMU's campus, and she served on the Board for Lakeview Hospital in Paw Paw from 1979 to 2003.

She loved her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren (Gavin, Cade, Cole, Dylan, Peyton, Drew, Lucas and Jackson). Spending summers on Bois Blanc Island were always a highlight each year. Wine time with cheese and crackers always took place with neighbors and friends at 4:00 p.m. In addition, Jean was a founding member of the BBI Historical Society. In her life, she had many friends and was a friend to many. She died peacefully at her home that she and her husband built. Thank you for all the memories, mom. You will be missed.

The family will meet friends from 4-7 PM on Monday, June 27, 2022, at the Gobles Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home. The Funeral will be held on Tuesday, June 28 at the Kendall United Methodist Church, Kendall with Pastor Glenn Litchfield officiating. Inurnment will follow funeral at the Kendall Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials be made to the Kendall United Methodist Church or Centrica Care Hospice, <https://centricacare.org/giving/>

Cemetery Details

Kendall Cemetery

CR 653 and CR 388
Kendall, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

D.L. Miller Funeral Home, Inc. - Gobles
208 West Main, PO Box 6
Gobles, MI 49055
(269) 628-2852
info@dmlmillerfuneralhhome.com

Memorial Service

JUN 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Kendall United Methodist Church
26718 CR 388
Kendall, MI

Tribute Wall

PH

“*Mrs. Wescott; I think my favorite teacher. And often thought of. Those few words best salute you, "Mrs. Wescott". Smiles and tears, Phil Hunsberger 67'*

Phillip W Hunsberger - October 05, 2022 at 02:59 AM

KN

“*Alice Jean and Earl were always willing to help anyone. When Bruce and I were married in the Kendall church Earl took some pictures for us, her mom played the piano and Alice sang. A wonderful memory.*

Kathy Buis Nogle

Kathryn Buis Nogle - July 09, 2022 at 04:45 PM

PO

“*I never actually met Mrs. Westcott but I spoke to her on the phone several years ago. I am an Odell and I research the family tree and grew up in the little town of Manton, MI where her Uncle Birt lived. I have been researching all the family lines down from Amasa (I come down from Aaron) and many years ago ran into someone at the Kendell cemetery who was a Hudson who came down from Pearl Odell Hudson. They mentioned Mrs. Westcott would know more and that I should go and meet her but that she out of town that weekend. She seemed really nice when I called her and she said she had a ton of family history photos to share and boy did she just looking at the photos you have here! I wish I had seen this before now, I would have come down from Cadillac and gone to the funeral.*

Patti O'Dell - July 05, 2022 at 03:51 PM

SM

“ Have been so Happy to have gotten to know Alice Jean since I married my Husband Robert Majure, 25 years ago. Years past we enjoyed time visiting and I especially loved singing in the church choir while she played the piano both in Kendall and Gobles. Bob and I visited at Jean's house recently and we're so glad we got to see her before she left us. Thank You Alice Jean, just for being You.
Sheri Majure

Sheri Majure - June 26, 2022 at 05:38 AM

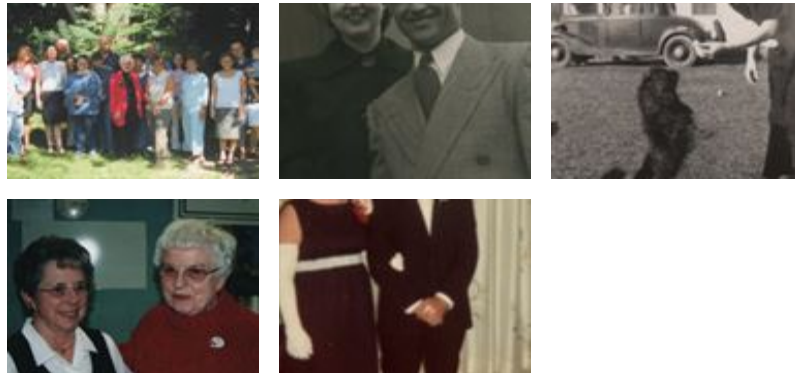
TC

“ Alice Jean and the Wescott family were close friends with the Cook family Norma- Don- Ray-Judy and Tom. She was like our second mom. Many great memories growing up in Kendall and being great friends with many in the community. She will be greatly missed.

Thomas Cook - June 25, 2022 at 09:08 AM



“ 40 files added to the album Life Tributes



D.L. Miller Funeral Home - June 24, 2022 at 11:47 AM

CB

“ Alice Jean and my Mom, Joyce Uramkin, were best friends. When Jim and I (Jean and Joyce's first babies), were born only a few months apart, we naturally grew up as best friends. Then when Pam came along, she was everyone's baby girl. We all had to have our picture taken with Pammy! Our families were FAMILY! So many memories, So many stories. So many shared times...Card parties, Church, Sunday School, Rummage Sales, Church Suppers, Bios Blanc Island trips, doing hair in "Joyce's Beauty Shopp".
What I loved were the long visits with Alice Jean. We talked about everything! She was like Kendall's Historian. She seemed to have a helpful answer to every question. Guess that was the teacher in her and the love of Our God in her heart.
I will miss Alice Jean a lot!!! Carol Brill
John and I send our forever love and our heartfelt prayers to Jim, Pam, all the kids and extended family.

Carol Brill - June 23, 2022 at 06:09 PM



“ Such a wonderful, wonderful lady who was an influence on so many young people's lives, including mine. I thank you so much for everything you did for all of us in school as well as the communities you worked and lived in. My future after high school included graduating from WMU with my degree in education, of course majoring in English; you were that guiding force. Much love...Roxie Robbins...

Roxann Deegan - June 23, 2022 at 07:16 AM

KH

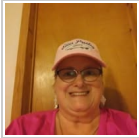
“ Mrs. Westcott, I will always remember you.. You were so loving and kind. You helped me so much during high school and I have never forgotten.
Kathy Haynes class of 71.

Kathy Haynes - June 21, 2022 at 07:54 PM

PW

Kathy, this is Pam Westcott, Jean's daughter. I have a question. I was only 13 when you graduated from B'dale, but I remember a Kathy who, along with some friends, put "For Sale" signs in my mom and dad's yard. Would that have happened to be you? I ask because that's a memory I've had often in my life. In fact, I think some of those signs are still at my parents' home. ; -)

Pam Westcott - June 22, 2022 at 11:09 PM



“ Thank you, Mrs. Westcott! I remember you! LeAnne (Knapp) Burgess Class of 1969.

LeAnne Burgess - June 21, 2022 at 01:29 PM

JA

“ Mrs. Westcott was my favorite teacher of all times. She even visited me when I lived in Utah! Peace to you Great Lady..💔💔💔💔💔

Jackie Chatterson Antony - June 21, 2022 at 12:56 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Alice Jean Odell-Westcott.



June 21, 2022 at 09:32 AM