



Elva M. Tucker

April 18, 1934 - November 13, 2023

Elva Mae Tucker, age 89 of Glen Carbon, IL, died Monday, November 13, 2023, at Meridian Village in Glen Carbon, IL.

She was born on Wednesday, April 18, 1934, in Medora, IL, the daughter of David and Flora (nee Perrine) Basse.

On Saturday, July 28, 1956, she married Paul Barry Tucker at Maplewood, MO, who survives.

She was a member of Evangelical United Church of Christ. She was also a member of Alpha Chi Omega and Highland Women's Club.

Elva was born in Medora, IL. She attended grade school and high school in Webster Groves, MO and graduated from Washington University, St. Louis, MO in 1956 with a degree in elementary education. She taught 3rd and 4th grades in the Webster Groves school district. Elva loved the teaching experience. She taught until informed that twins Mike and Mark would be arriving, and then retired to raise her children. Elva and Paul lived in the Missouri communities of University City, St. Ann, and Creve Coeur before moving to Highland, IL where they lived for 43 years. They moved to the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon area in 2015 to be near their daughters Jean and Gail. Her children's education was very important to Elva and she was much

involved in their education process in supporting roles. The children are all college graduates with advanced degrees. Elva thrived on family gatherings, especially those associated with birthday and holiday celebrations. She was also much involved in her church and community. She served on church committees, was an active member of the Highland Women's Club and she served as a care giver for an aunt and uncle (i.e. Ralph and Myrtle Perrine, brother and sister) that resided in a continuum of care facility in Highland. She was deeply involved in the Girl and Boy Scout programs. In later years, Elva lead groups of high school age girls that were dual registered in both the Girl and Boy Scout programs on trips throughout the U.S., to Canada, to Mexico, and on overseas trips to Hawaii and Europe. She received the Boy Scout Program Silver Beaver Award for adults. All four of her children achieved the highest rank in their respective Girl and Boy Scout Program. Elva participated in high school athletics (i.e. softball, basketball, field hockey) and she and Paul played tennis into their 80's. She was an avid reader and she loved to travel. It became evident in 2014 that Alzheimer's disease was beginning to take Elva away from us. Hopefully, a cure to the terrible disease is in the offing.

Survivors include:

Husband - Paul B. Tucker, Glen Carbon, IL

Son - Michael R. (Ellen) Tucker (twin) , Cashiers, NC

Son - Mark D. (Janira) Tucker (twin), Albuquerque, NM

Daughter - Jean E. (James) Swearingen, Edwardsville, IL

Daughter - Gail A. (Jeffrey) Rice, Edwardsville, IL

Grandchild - Matthew A. (Courtney) Tucker

Grandchild - Adam M. (Cynthia "Annie") Tucker

Grandchild - Sarah E. Tucker (twin)

Grandchild - Hannah M. (Alex) Causey (twin)

Grandchild - Aaron P. Tucker

Grandchild - Abigail E. Tucker

Grandchild - Thomas M. (Lori) Swearingen
Grandchild - Amy A. (Grant) Armstrong
Grandchild - Jacob W. (Fiancée Audrey Magnoni) Rice
Grandchild - Elizabeth A. Rice
Great Grandchild - Adelaide M. Tucker
Great Grandchild - Eleanor D. Tucker
Great Grandchild - Rachel E. Swearingen
Great Grandchild - Joseph T. Swearingen
Great Grandchild - Lauren S. Swearingen
Great Grandchild - Lillian S. Armstrong
Great Grandchild - Clara E. Armstrong
Great Grandchild - Theo T. L. G. Armstrong
Brother - David Basse, Jr.
Brother - Fred (Janet) Basse
Sister - Janette (Jack) Tschannen

She was preceded in death by:

Father - David Henry Basse, Sr.

Mother - Flora Anna Basse (nee Perrine)

Sister-In-Law - Dorothy Basse

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Visitation will be held from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM on Friday, December 1, 2023, at Evangelical United Church of Christ in Highland, IL.

Funeral Service will be at 10:00 AM on Friday, December 1, 2023, at Evangelical United Church of Christ in Highland, IL, with Rev. William E. Kapp, pastor, Evangelical United Church of Christ, officiating.

Interment will be at Highland City Cemetery in Highland, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association.

Cemetery Details

Highland City Cemetery

12301 Koepfli Lane
Highland, IL 62249

Previous Events

Morning Visitation

DEC 1. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Evangelical United Church of Christ
2520 Poplar Street
Highland, IL 62249
(618) 654-7459

Funeral Service

DEC 1. 10:00 AM (CT)

Evangelical United Church of Christ
2520 Poplar Street
Highland, IL 62249
(618) 654-7459

Tribute Wall

BW

“ I will always remember Elva. She was beautiful inside and out. I remember her coming to the Tucker reunions with Paul and the children. She was loving, gracious and a true lady. She and Paul always showed love of God and family. The children were well behaved at all times. We were blessed to have her as part of our family. I will always remember her with a smile. My heart and prayers are with the family.

Bonnie Griffith Williams - December 14, 2023 at 06:49 PM

JH

“ I met Elva my very first year of teaching. She and Paul were band parents. During my time in Highland, I always admired Elva's dedication and service to her family, to the band and to the Girl Scouts. She was an excellent role model for this new teacher - there was never a job that she couldn't handle. She was joy to be around. I when I think of her, I will always have a smile on my face. John Heath

John Heath - November 28, 2023 at 10:29 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Elva M. Tucker.



November 26, 2023 at 05:01 PM



“ Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Elva M. Tucker.



November 15, 2023 at 12:50 PM



“ Mark, Janira, Aaron, & Abby planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elva M. Tucker.

Mark, Janira, Aaron, & Abby - November 15, 2023 at 12:50 PM



“ I have such fond memories of traveling with Elva! So thankful to her for all the time she gave to the Girl and Boy Scouts. Keep exploring Elva, you will be missed!

Amy Darnell - November 15, 2023 at 10:21 AM



“ Good memories of fun times with an amazing lady! Sympathy to the Tucker family. Diane Frey

Diane Frey - November 14, 2023 at 04:39 PM



Elva was a wonderful friend. Enjoyed being a leader in scouting with her. Will remember the good times on Exploring trips with Elva. But most of all her laughter.

Mary Hundsdorfer - November 15, 2023 at 10:34 AM