



Kitty Wells

August 30, 1919 - July 16, 2012

Ellen Muriel Deason Wright, known to the world as, legendary “Queen Of Country Music”, Kitty Wells, age 92, passed away Monday, July 16, 2012. Funeral services will be held Friday, July 20, 2012 at 1 pm at the Hendersonville Church of Christ with Bro. Steve North officiating. Burial will follow in Spring Hill Cemetery with her nephews serving as pallbearers. Serving as honorary pallbearers former band members, The Tennessee Mountain Boys. The family will receive friends at the church on Thursday, July 19 2 pm - 8 pm. Muriel was born on August 30, 1919 in Nashville, TN to the late Carey and Myrtle Deason. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her devoted husband of 74 years, Johnnie Wright; her daughter, Ruby Wright Taylor. She is survived by her son, Bobby Wright; daughter, Sue Wright Sturdivant; grandchildren, Larry “Duke” Stephenson, Kitty Ervin, Corrie Cluck, LeAnn Henson, Kamela Stewart, John Sturdivant, Jr., David Sturdivant, and Stephanie Sturdivant; 12 great-grandchildren; 5 great-great-grandchildren; and devoted nieces and nephews. Kitty Wells started her career with Johnnie in 1937. In 1952 she was the first female singer to reach #1 in the country charts with her song, “It Wasn’t God Who Made Honky Tonk Angels”. For the next 14 consecutive years she reigned as country music’s top female singer. In 1976 she was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. Some of Kitty’s other accolades include: NARAS Governor’s Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Recording Industry, Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, Grammy Hall of Fame, Music City News Living Legend

Award, and Academy of Country Music Pioneer Award. She toured with her family show until 2007. She was a member of the Church of Christ and DAR. Revered by her accomplishments in music, she will be mostly remembered and respected for her love of the Lord, family, friends, and fans. In lieu of flowers make donations to Goodpasture Christian School, Madison, TN: C/O Kitty Wells / Johnnie Wright Scholarship Fund

Austin & Bell Funeral Home in Springfield is in charge of these arrangements.
AUSTIN & BELL FUNERAL HOME- 509 WALNUT STREET, SPRINGFIELD,
TN (615)

Tribute Wall

KE

“ I had the pleasure and honor of opening for Kitty Wells, and her Family Show at the Deerfield Fair, in Deerfield New Hampshire. She was one of the most humble down to earth people I had ever met. So kind and genuine. She will always be the queen of country music. Nobody will ever full her shoes. God Bless the family, and the Tennessee Mountain Boys. Sincerely Kevin E.

Kevin E - August 15, 2024 at 04:51 PM

DR

“ I've always been a huge fan from the time I was knee high to a grasshopper. I met Kitty back stage opry years ago. She was as sweet as everybody says she was. I was star struck to say the least. But, she made me feel comfortable with her down to earth personality. Those were some of the best days of my life. Remembering Kittyfrom her biggest fan!

Daniel Reed - July 12, 2023 at 04:55 AM

CG

“ i remember my mom and dad listening to her christmas songs every christmas since i was a kid, they both have been gone now for years and im now 51 and every christmas i still listen, it brings back so many happy memories of my childhood sometimes i cry because i miss those days but i also smile, i will listen to her every christmas till im gone.

cathy galvin - november 27, 2018

cathy galvin - November 27, 2018 at 06:17 AM

JC

“ I remember Kitty Wells when she came to upstate n y and she sang her heart out and put on a fantastic show . I enjoyed it very much , beautiful down to earth music and songs still listen to her on my computer Rest in Peace thank you for the music

John Clukey - January 13, 2014 at 09:03 PM

TM

“ A true musical legend.

Tom Mears - July 22, 2012 at 07:28 PM

FF

“ We are so sorry for your loss. My grandmother loved her singing too. God Bless.

Forest & Linda Ford - July 20, 2012 at 05:53 PM

IR

“ I have been playing Kitty's Cd's and Cassettes all day today, the day of her funeral. We will miss her up here in Ontario. Come up and see us again Bobby. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Ina Rutherford - July 20, 2012 at 04:35 PM

ML

“ There is only one Queen of Country Music, and only one Kitty Wells. She was here on earth a long time, and every moment she was a constant inspiration to us all, she showed us everything that is to be the best kinda people you can be. I was beside myself when I met her, but she made me feel like she was just as pleased to meet me. In her own words, which she used to describe a fellow artist, she was "a good 'un." Fact is, she was the best, she was the Queen, and the Heavenly Hillbilly Band has one helluva girl singer now. They have her majesty, Kitty Wells.

Mary Lynn - July 20, 2012 at 12:15 AM

LS

“ Thank you for the great songs. My Aunt would sing your songs to us when we would all get together. She is no longer with us but those memories will never fade. May you rest in peace with you beloved Johnny. love always, The Seymour Family

Lawrence Seymour - July 19, 2012 at 11:09 PM

ED

“ A fan for many years, watched Miss Kitty perform @ Buck Lake here in Indiana and many other places and of course the Opry. She was deeply appreciated and will be missed. Thank You Queen of Country Music.

Elizabeth Dunham - July 19, 2012 at 10:47 PM

BR

“ Will miss you. You where always wonderful to work with. Our prayers go out to Bobby and the whole family. May god be with you...

bill reed - July 19, 2012 at 04:57 PM

DM

“ Our condolences to Bobby and Carol Sue and grandchildren. We will miss the Queen of Country Music. Thank you for paving the way for Country Music. You will remain the Icon. RIP

Darrell & Mona McCall - July 19, 2012 at 04:34 PM

JB

“ Kitty was such a wonderful person and a great singer. I may have quite a hearing problem/loss.. But have admired all her songs. There are not too many great people like her left.. We appreciate what you have done for us and will always remember you... You will be missed...

Thanks,
Johnnie

Johnnie S. Bergman - July 19, 2012 at 02:56 PM

DM

“ TO, THE FAMILY OF KITTY, WELLS. IM A BIG FAN OF OF YOUR MOTHER. SHE, WILL BE MISSED BY ALL HER MANY, FANS. BUT SHE WILL LIVE ON IN ALL OUR HEARTS FOR EVER. MAY, THE GOOD LORD WATCH OVER YOU AND KEEP YOU IN HIS MOST LOVING CARE. MAY, GODS LOVE AND PEACE BE WITH ALL OF KITTY, WELLS FAMILY.

DENNIS P. MALONE - July 19, 2012 at 02:28 PM

SR

“ Kitty Wells

Sheri Reznicek - July 19, 2012 at 12:37 PM

BS

“ *The Heavens are brighter that another STAR has been added. The choir in Heaven has another great voice added.
To the family: May God's peace and comfort be with you now and in the days to come.*

Billy Slimp - July 19, 2012 at 12:29 PM

MJ

“ *Miss Kitty provided me with untold, countless hours of pure listening enjoyment. Of all the gals in traditional Country Music, she did it BEST! I think I have about everything she ever recorded in her long career. I've had the pleasure of visiting with Kitty many times at her concerts over the years, and what a sweet, caring and down-to-earth lady this Queen of Country Music truly was. Rest in peace Miss Kitty.*

Michael James - July 18, 2012 at 09:00 PM

CW

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I had the honor of meeting your mother and father several times. They were so grounded and down to earth. Who else would have taken the time to come and play in a town with less than 800 people? I have the deepest respect for your family. Miss Kitty will always be the Queen of Country Music and the Queen of my heart. May the strenght of the Lord be with you all. God Bless.*

Cora Weiland - July 18, 2012 at 08:52 PM

SR

“ *My prayers and thought goes out to her family. She will be greatly missed but not forgotten may the lord above keep his hand on the family in this time of need. She was loved by so many people my mom got to meet her.*

Shaune Reed - July 18, 2012 at 05:18 PM

JR

“ To the family of Ellen(Kitty) such a sad sad loss. May god hold you in the palm of his hand at this difficult time. She is now with the angels and her lord and savior.

JIM ROCKWELL - July 18, 2012 at 02:56 PM

WC

“ I was always a big fan of your music. Thank you for all the wonderful songs you shared with the world. You will be missed greatly.

Wade Canaday - July 18, 2012 at 12:52 PM

CF

“ Kitty, we will all miss you and are deeply saddened by your passing. Our condolences go out to Bobby, Carol and the rest of the family.

Charles Rogers & family - July 18, 2012 at 11:26 AM

LM

“ We are thinking of you and may God Bless you and your family.

Linda Lou Martin - July 18, 2012 at 10:43 AM

BW

“ I mat mrs kitty at the todd county funeral home in Elkton ky went she and her husband and sun Bobby came to sang at the open house the where very sweet people I,m so glad I got to meet her and johnny,Bobby. my god be with the famliy. RIP mrs kitty

bertha williams - July 17, 2012 at 11:41 PM

SJ

“ *The Queen of Country Music Kitty Wells will always be the Queen of everything to me! Being in the presence of her and Johnnie was to be in the presence of Royalty. Thankful for the music and memories.*

Sharon Jackson - July 17, 2012 at 11:58 AM

TP

“ *She was simply the greatest.*

Tracy Pitcox - July 16, 2012 at 10:00 PM