



## Cleta Jane Bowman

July 29, 1935 - September 12, 2016

Cleta Jane Bowman, 81, a long-time resident of the Bloomington area, passed away on Monday, September 12, 2016 at Garden Villa Health Care Center.

She was born in 1935 in Blaine, Kansas to Russell Rigsby and Janie Pritchard. Cleta then resided with her family in Freedom, Indiana. Cleta later married Robert J. Bowman of Stinesville, Indiana. Cleta was self-employed for many years and later worked in Indiana University classrooms educating children with special needs. She concluded her career at IU providing research and educational information to those affected by autism. She retired in 2008

Cleta is survived by her children, Rob Bowman and wife, Lisa and Robin Garrett and husband, Jim; grandchildren, Cody, Chad, Colton, Jessi, John and Randy; and her great-grandchildren, Lindsey, Sadie and Ellie.

She was preceded by her husband, Robert "Bob" Bowman.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Monday, September 19, 2016 at Chandler Funeral Home in Ellettsville from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Cleta will be laid to rest at Chambersville Cemetery with her beloved husband.

# Cemetery Details

## Chambersville Cemetery

North County Line Road and State Highway  
46  
Spencer, IN 47460  
(812) 327-1553

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

SEP **19**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Chandler Funeral Homes - Ellettsville Chapel  
203 E. Temperance Street  
Ellettsville, IN 47429  
(812) 876-6075  
chandlerfh@bluemarble.net  
<https://www.chandlerfh.com>

# Tribute Wall

LF

“Cleta, I will miss you. We have been through a lot over the years, too many times to even count so many precious memories. A lot of them of Robin and I getting into a little bit of trouble (haha), but, most of the time we were nothing but angels, and yes, to hear her tell it till the day you died, that is exactly what we were... I doubt you remembered anything we did wrong (so in my book it didn't happen). □ I could always count on one thing from you till the end and that was honesty. If you didn't care for what I had on, what I was saying or even what you thought I was going to say, you let me know about it, you never held back. Sometimes I would say ... Wait, I wasn't going to say that. (and really all the time I probably was, she knew I was and we both knew I had just gotten caught so I would just change my story just a little. HAHA Cleta could also could be my biggest cheerleader when I came to visit, she would tell me how good I looked, smelled, and one of my last visits she complimented my smile which meant so much to me. One thing that made Cleta's eyes light up was when you mentioned Robin or Rob or any of her grandkids. She loved her family so much. She appreciated and loved her son in law Jim too she was always mentioning all the things Jim did for her. I remember several times her telling me how strong Jim was and how he took her to her doctor appointment and just picked her up and carried her up the steps. I never once heard her refer to John as her step Grandson, I believe he was as much her grandson as any of the others... Cleta was one of a kind and she will be missed by many. I know Tom has missed you driving by telling him he needs to mow, he needs to get the Halloween stuff down, time to take down the Christmas stuff, and just in general keeping him in line. <3 We love you and will truly miss you so much. You can now be with Bob doing whatever you want now.



Lisa Figg - September 19, 2016 at 08:16 AM

SF

“ *What a fun, second Mom I had! Cleta was always so welcoming when I'd come over to the house to hang out with Robin when I was in college. And later after I graduated and moved away, I loved the friendship she developed with my mom. And then we realized she was already friends with my mother-in-law, Edith Fulk! Small world. My mom always enjoyed the time she spent with both Cleta and Edith. I hated to see Cleta struggling these last couple of years, but was glad I could visit whenever I was in town. Cleta, you will be so greatly missed. I hope you are enjoying being reunited with my mom now in heaven! May you live peacefully now in your eternal home.!*  
~Sarah Fulk

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**Sarah Fulk** - September 18, 2016 at 08:35 PM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Cleta Jane Bowman.*



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September 17, 2016 at 10:58 AM

BP

“ *Berry Payton purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of Cleta Jane Bowman.*



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**Berry Payton** - September 16, 2016 at 11:05 PM

BP

“ Rob and Robin, Dad called me with the sad news, I am so sorry for your loss. You two will never know how much it has meant to me that you shared both your mom and dad with me, The guidance and many talks in your basement have impacted me, my kids and grand kids in so many positive ways.,Love you both Berry

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**Berry Payton** - September 16, 2016 at 10:20 PM

SF

“ Scott Bellini and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Clea Jane Bowman.



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**Scott Bellini and Family** - September 16, 2016 at 08:03 PM

JG

“ Mourning is strong and seems like it will last forever. But good memories will keep pushing in that will make the journey easier to bear. Our condolences and love to you.

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**Judy and Bob Garrett** - September 15, 2016 at 11:11 PM



“ I knew Clea was special from the first time I met her. I had the privilege and pleasure of being her nurse during her stay at GV. Clea was much more than a patient, she was like family. She will always have a special place in my heart. Robin, thank you for sharing your mother with us! You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers!

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**Erin Reuter** - September 15, 2016 at 03:59 PM



“ I was one of several who took care of Clea at Garden Villa, I was there the day she came in to us. There wasn't a lady that was loved more than Clea was and she will be missed. We all love you Clea Bowman R.I.P beautiful.

*Kim Thatcher CNA/QMA*

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**Kim Thatcher** - September 15, 2016 at 11:29 AM



“ Clea you were one of a kind! An infectious smile, an inquiring comment and a staff that loved you. You were one of those pillars that surrounded the courtyard. No center was stronger than the support staff that helped to make it run. Thanks for making great memories at IIDC! Betsy

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**Betsy Traub** - September 14, 2016 at 09:22 PM



“ Sincere sympathies to your family at this difficult time. Your mom was always so friendly any time I would see her!

*-Paula Stockton Watkins*

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**Paula Watkins** - September 14, 2016 at 06:09 PM



“ *Dear Cleta: When I think of our times together, I have this huge smile on my face. We also had some great time together celebrating family things and crying on each others' shoulders when we lost our loving husbands. You kept telling me it would get better but we both had big tears in our eyes talking about Bob and Clarence. Thank you for being my friend for many, many years.*

*I will miss you my dear friend.*

*Harriet Figg*

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**Harriet Figg** - September 14, 2016 at 04:26 PM

FH

“ *Robin: I was notified of your Mother's passing on Monday. Very sorry of your loss. I know how you feel since we went through this almost three years ago. But she is at peace and in a better place. May the Good Lord comfort you. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

*Frans & Kay*

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**Frans Hollanders** - September 14, 2016 at 12:26 PM

GV

“ *I worked with Cleta for several years. Her energy, fun loving approach to life and love of her family and the children with whom we worked made working with her a joy.*

*Gracia Valliant*

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**Gracia Valliant** - September 14, 2016 at 12:21 PM

SH

“ Robin, so very sorry for you and your family's loss. Without a doubt your momma is at peace and has no more health issues to face. All is new! Love and hugs may God Bless you with peace and comfort in the days ahead, that only He can give.

*Shelly and Charlie Beaver*

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**Shelly** - September 14, 2016 at 09:55 AM

RS

*Hi Robin,  
Shocked & feeling guilty for not keeping in touch after move to Indy! A personal fault, for sure, but so many happy memories! If you need ANYTHING, if I can do anything, will be there! Don't hesitate to call. I know something of that Robin/Mom special bond. Her love surrounds you still. Peace & love...*

*Rozella S.  
812-320-2348*

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**Rozella Stewart** - September 14, 2016 at 03:23 PM

LB

*Rob, Robin, & Families,  
So very sorry to hear of Clea's passing. It was always such a pleasure to visit with her at the reunions. Loved her sense of humor. Thinking of all of you during this difficult time.*

*Linda Brobston*

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**Linda Brobston** - September 16, 2016 at 06:18 PM

AF

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to Robin, Jim, Jessi, John and Randy. Also to Rob, Lisa and the boys.  
May God comfort you and give you peace during this difficult time.

*Matt & Amy Fogleman*

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**Amy Fogleman** - September 14, 2016 at 09:05 AM

KH

“ I had the pleasure of working with Cleta when I was a graduate student at IU. Still remember fondly her warm (and loud) greeting every time I entered IRCA. Always something to chat about, asking about my family...she was a fixture at IRCA and lucky to have crossed paths with her!

Kara Hume - September 14, 2016 at 07:15 AM

GB

“ I will always remember Aunt Cleta's warm smile and how much she loved to laugh, a wonderful lady. Garry Bowman



Garry L. Bowman - September 13, 2016 at 08:50 PM

KG

“ Cleta was my cherished and much loved friend. And, I know, she will be deeply missed by all those who knew her. From her "God love your sweet heart" when you entered the room to her "Love you" when you departed, each of us was able to laugh and enjoy her many "Cleta-isms" as well as benefit from her "words of wisdom". Rest in peace my dear friend. Love you from KC.

Karen Goehl - September 13, 2016 at 07:58 PM

JB

“Granny I will miss you so much your humor your smart remarks your contagious smile your love for us grandchildren you never missed a game event or play and was always there to pick me up bring me food for school events and watching dancing with the stars and talking about it. I am watching it without you and it's so hard. I love you granny and I know you are with pap and so happy. I love you granny and miss you dearly but I know you are watching over me everyday.



Jessi Bennett - September 13, 2016 at 07:26 PM

MS

“Mary Stout lit a candle in memory of Cleta Jane Bowman



Mary Stout - September 13, 2016 at 05:04 PM

MS

Prayers for comfort and strength for the family and friends, Praying for you Robin <3

Mary Stout - September 13, 2016 at 05:05 PM

JG

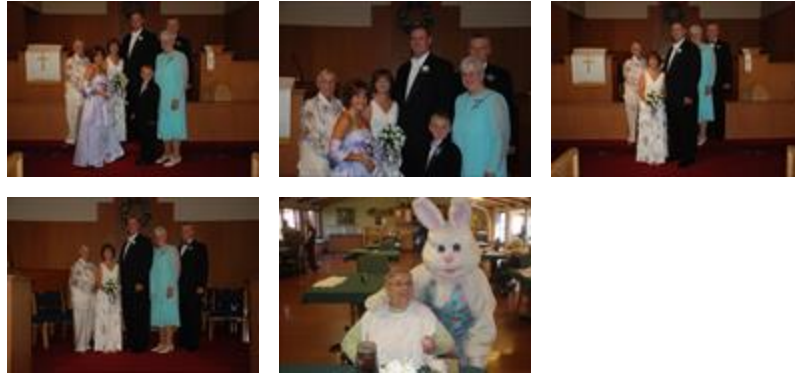
“Cleeta retired in 2008 partly because I had orders to deploy to Iraq. This was the kind of person she was, wanting to be there to help out her daughter and the rest of my family when I couldn't be there to do it all myself.

God Bless you, Cleeta...rest in peace.

Jim Garrett - September 13, 2016 at 03:43 PM

JG

“ 30 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Jim Garrett** - September 13, 2016 at 03:35 PM

AE

“ All of us at *Richard's Small Engine* purchased the *Country Basket Blooms* for the family of *Cleta Jane Bowman*.



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**All of us at Richard's Small Engine** - September 13, 2016 at 03:14 PM