



Billie Key

March 2, 1939 - February 18, 2012

Billie Annette Brown Key, age 72, of Oberlin, passed away on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at Mercy Regional Medical Center.

Billie was born March 2, 1939 in Briceville, Tennessee to the late William and Helen (nee Jefferies) Brown. She married Bill Key on September 4, 1954 and shortly after moved to Mantua, Ohio where they raised their family.

Billie worked as an inspector at Joy Manufacturing Co. in Solon, and then later worked in the deli department at Nell's in Hanover, PA.

She was an active member of Mantua Missionary Baptist Church, where she had served as the treasurer and also played the piano there. Billie enjoyed traveling and dining out.

Survivors include her beloved husband, Bill F. Key, her sons, Tony (Daniella), of Oberlin and Rick L.; her grandchildren, Rachel Hughes, Shawna Graddy, Nicole Peters, William Key, Kelly Marino, Katie Key, Kim Key, Christopher Key, Maryann Key, and Anthony Key; 14 great-grandchildren; and her brothers, Tom (Dolly) Brown and Robert Miller.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Ken Miller.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, February 21st from 4p.m. until the time of funeral service at 7:00 p.m. in the Dovin and Reber Jones Funeral & Cremation Center, 1110 Cooper Foster Park Rd., Amherst.

Family and friends may leave online condolences at www.dovinreberjones.com.

Events

FEB 21 **Visitation** 04:00PM - 07:00PM

Dovin and Reber Jones Funeral & Cremation Center
1110 Cooper Foster Park Road, Amherst, OH, US, 44001

FEB 21 **Funeral Service** 07:00PM

Dovin and Reber Jones Funeral & Cremation Center
1110 Cooper Foster Park Road, Amherst, OH, US, 44001

Comments



“ dear tony & family and rick & family,

I have had uncle bill and aunt billie ann on my mind often. with every thought I still cannot believe they are not here. Sometimes I wonder what they are up too! I just wanted to let you all know your are in my thoughts always and this time goes by to quickly but I am glad the memories in time always stand still...love you all...mary

mary and bill collins and family - tallmadge ohio, OH - niece - March 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Many of you know Billie Ann, mama key as a sister, wife, mother, aunt, and a grandma, and a dear friend. Mama Key has always opened heart to all of us in many ways. She will be missed deeply, and I know her legend will carry on... I have learned a lot from mama key in the past 12 yrs, and I will treasure every moment I have spent with her. I have learned to make her famous gravy?which she called one day from Florida, to see how it came out... and her son tony said: We can market it at homedpoet to fill the cracks in the driveway. I tried... lol I also tried to make her bisquits but failed trebily (they came out like boulders). I have learned to make chix/dumplings yummo? The times I spent with her were fun, and memorable. I looked up to her as mother, and respected her highly. She understood me..you always were there to listen and never judged me. She was an excellent granny to my son Anthony. And her spirited ways made her the person she was... you didn't mess with her, she told you like it was. We were a lot alike in that sense. I hope one day I can be the woman she is; she was the foundation to the family. She wanted everyone to love each other, and didn't like nonsense. Mama, When it's time for me to leave this earth, I will bring you some coffee, and chocolate cake. I love you dearly and you will always hold a place in my heart. I will never forget you. Rest in peace. God bless!

This is a tribute to you Mama:

A Wonderful Mother-in-Law

"God made a wonderful mother-in-law,
a mother-in-law who never grows old.

He made her smile of the sunshine;
And He molded her heart of pure gold.

In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,
in her cheeks, fair roses you see.

God made that wonderful mother-in-law,
and he gave her to me."

"A mother-in-law seems to specialize in doing thoughtful deeds,
before you ask she understands your problems and your needs.
Quietly she does her best to help, inspire, and cheer,
and everything looks brighter right away because she's near.

She always has a lot to do but still finds time to spare,
to listen, and to give advice because she really cares.
She helps because she wants to, she finds joy in being kind,
and making others happy is the first thing on her mind.
She makes this world a better place by practicing the art,
of reaching out to others and by giving from the heart."



“ Dear Granny,

It's so hard to accept the fact that you are really gone, but if I had the chance to talk to you one last time, it would be to tell you that you always were and always will be my favorite person in the whole wide world. I cherished you so much, but I don't think I did a very good job of letting you know that. For the past couple years, every time I would talk to you I would end the conversation by saying "I love you more!" You would laugh and say "Oh no no, honey, I love YOU more!" But I always knew deep down in my heart that I meant it. I really did/do love you more than you'll ever know. I've saved every voicemail you've ever left me, every card you've ever sent me, every letter you've ever written me, every gift you've ever mailed to me. You're words and your memories are engraved in my heart forever. I thank you for the care and support you gave my mom to try to help her have a better life. I love you for how deeply you have loved me. You always made me feel like the most loved person on this earth. I guess I just assumed that you'd always be here. I never imagined we would lose you this soon. I love you so much, Granny. And I miss you more than words can express.

I love you more...
Love, Amber.

Amber Myers - Hanover, PA - Great Granddaughter - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My Dearest Grandma & Grandpa,
Saying good-bye to you is one of the hardest things I've ever had to do. You took me in when everyone else had given up on me. You showed me how to love, & gave me a (stable family) life I wouldn't have had other wise. No matter how rough things got - you never gave up on me. I miss how you use to spoil me...there were many days I returned home from school to find that you had been shopping, & laying on the couch were all kinds of new things (just for me).
I remember how you use to drive me crazy every [weekday] morning by telling me to "jump up" & get ready for school. I am so NOT a morning person!
I remember: your wonderful cooking; the way you hummed, whistled, or sang no matter where we were; how every time I asked, you would sing "Just A Little Walk With Jesus" while you played it on the piano or organ. I think it's amazing how you taught yourself to play the piano by sound.
The two of you have been w/me through everything. You both mean so very much to me! You've helped me to be a better-stronger person. When the two of you moved to Ohio/Florida, my heart broke in two. I knew I wouldn't be able to hop into my car, drive to your house, & spend the day w/you any more. I miss sitting at the dinner table, hanging out, drinking coffee & talking about everything & anything. No matter all the bad judgements I've made - you never criticized or judged me. You loved me for me. You've always been there for me grandma, & I don't know what I'm going to do w/out you. I took for granted that you'd always be here.
Like a precious treasure, I will hold you near. Forever in my heart you'll live, along w/all the memories you have left me with - The way you could say "I love you" w/nothing but your smile. A beautiful smile that lit up your face so bright, & made your eyes sparkle w/the blue radiance of a precious gem. You are loved so very much & will be greatly missed! I am truly blessed to have had you in my life - even if but for a moment.

Rachel Key - Hughes - Littlestown, PA - Granddaughter - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ To the best Aunt and God Mother a nephew could ever ask for. We'll miss you, and love you always. So many memories I will never forget. Thanks for being you, a wonderful person and a great Aunt.

Billy Joe - Abbottstown, PA - nephew - February 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry for your family's loss. There is no more suffering and pain. She is heaven now forever. She will be watching over your family and will be your guardian angel.
Ann, John, Keith

ann mastorovich - sheffield lake, OH - friend - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Uncle Bill & family,

Auntie was such a wonderful lady. She was always there for the family no matter what. I will treasure my memories of her forever. She gave Grandma Brown's necklaces to me years ago with a a note telling me how much it meant to her for me to have it I was so honored.

I love you Auntie and I promise you we all will take care of Uncle Bill for you.

Love, Helen & familyziSsj

Helen Reed - Hanover, PA - Niece - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bill, Tony, Ricky and Family,

Your Mom will always be remembered, for the many people she was a blessing to, that attended the Mantua Country Baptist Church. She was such an inspiration and encouragement to so many of us and the work she did so willingly for the Lord, playing the Piano, singing with your Dad, treasurer, are just a few of the many other wonderful things she will be remembered for.

Your Mom's hospitality and generosity, was the finest example of Christian love that anyone could have and she will always be remembered for that.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your life and we sorrow with you today but have that assurance that we will meet her again, knowing she is at home with the Lord.

The following friends would wish to include their sympathies,

Dolly (Rhodes) Puckett , Jr and Nell Hooie, Bill and Rachael Hayden and Family N.C., Donna Hamlin, Hauck family ,Mike and Lonetta Witt and family, Bay family. Please know that our prayers are with you all at this time,

Murray Bay (pastor. MCBC)

Mantua Country Baptist Church - Aurora , OH - Church Family - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Sis,
You are the light of my life. Sis, all of us are going to miss you. You're in heaven now and we will see you soon, you are with Mother and Daddy and Ken and Ken's Dad, say hello to all of them from all of us.

All our love from your baby brother.

Tom & Dolly (We love you very much)

Tom Brown - Hanover, PA - Brown - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Family,
Billie Ann was a very special person. Know that I am thinking of everyone in the family with deepest sympathy. Precious memories and prayers will help you through this time of sadness.

Shirley

Shirley - Ravenna, OH - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept our condolences' as well as every one from River Grove. Aggie & Penny

Agnes McLellan - Micco, FL - Friend - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ To Uncle Bill, Tony, Ricky and your families. I am so sorry for your loss. There are so many great memories and so much love that Aunt BillieAnn gave and shared with all of us. She is a great loss to our family and to this life. There are so few like her. I love you all. My Dad will take care of her until we all meet again. I love you Aunt BillieAnn and I will miss you very much.

John Miller - Rootstown, OH - nephew - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Sis,
I can not write down how I feel. I will see you and Ken again.

Love, your brother, Bob

Bob - Ravenna, OH - Brother - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ we always remember Aunt Billie Anne and Uncle Bill as happy and joyfull during summer picnics when the relatives gathered. Fun to hear stories of family from Maryland and Texas. Our prayers are with Uncle Bill Tony Danielle Rickie and family. May the Angles in heaven welcome Billie Anne with open arms. love, dave jeanne kyle and eric

dave/jeanne miller - hudson, OH - nephew - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My Dearest Grandma,
I will always remember you for the warm hugs and kisses that would await us when visiting with you. I always remember our Thanksgiving and summer trips to PA to visit. I remember waking up to biscuits and gravy, eggs, and of course coffee. I am grateful to have had a grandmother like you and will always cherish the times we had together. Your kind smile and loving heart are going to be missed by all. May you rest in peace until we meet again.

Your Loving Granddaughter,
Kim, Eric, Julianna, and Brooklynn

Kimberly Key - Wickliffe, OH - Granddaughter - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I just want to say how much I will miss her and my heart and prayers are with you Uncle Bill, Ricky and Tony. The thing I loved about her was love for her family, her great laugh she had and when we boys were getting carried away she wasn't afraid to make us go find our own switch to give us something to think about! That's real love. I remember how much she loved rock and roll when I was young and my mom and her dancing to 45's of Elvis, Chubby Checker and she had the first Jerry Lee Lewis record I ever heard with "Great Balls of Fire" on one side and "Whole Lotta Shakin" on the other. That was cool. Well what can I say other than she was an awesome soul and let her love light shine while she was here. They don't make Aunts like her anymore.

Mike Miller - Tallmadge, OH - nephew - February 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Billie had been a very dear friend for over 50 years. She was a wonderful and caring person. I will miss her deeply. Rest in Peace.

June Phillips - Streetsboro, OH - friend - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ It has been many years since I have seen her but as a little girl I used to fall asleep listening to her and my grandma (Dolly) talking over coffee. Her presence to me always seemed powerful yet comforting. She was a positive influence in many people's lives and will truly be missed.
God Bless You Aunt Billie Ann and my condolences to the family.

Jessica Armstrong - Dallas, TX - Great Niece - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My heart goes out to Uncle Bill and the family. I live in Uncle Bill's hometown of Cordova, AL next door to my mother, Mary Key Ingram, his baby sister. Mother had 2 older brothers, but always considered Aunt Billie Ann the sister she never had. Uncle Bill & Aunt Billie Ann's visits were looked forward to like a child looking forward to Christmas morning. There is one particular trait that sticks out in my mind when I think of Aunt Billie Ann: I never ever saw her without her hair "done" or make-up "on". She could also drink me under the table when it came to coffee consumption. She also loved Dean's country sausage and would take a cooler full back home with her at the end of each visit. I admired the way she always doted on Uncle Bill and I will never forget the sweetest advice she shared with me on my wedding day and that was to never go to bed angry at each other. To know her was to love her.

All my Love,
Kim Ingram Vance (Scottie, Molly & Joe)

Kim Ingram Vance - Cordova, AL - neice - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ THE GREAT MEMORIES OF FUN AND LAUGHTER WE HAD WHEN WE ALL GOT TOGETHER. WE WILL MISS HER GREAT SMILE AND SOUTHERN ACCENT. HER LAUGH,STORIES AND MUCH MORE. RIP BILLIE ANN ALL OUR LOVE TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. GOD SPEEDshtaj

GEORGE AND MARGIE TUMA - BEDFORD HTS., OH - IN-LAWS OF BROTHER KEN MILLER - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I have fond memories of Billie Ann at family outdoor gatherings at the Miller house. Always smiling, good humor and YES with that cup of coffee and cigarette right along with the rest of us. She is in a "better place" and in relief of pain and tears and with loved ones. Prayers are for the family members left behind that they may have the courage and strength to overcome the sadness.

Cookie and Helen Batko - stow, OH - distant relative via marriage - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I really did not have the pleasure of knowing Billie, other than she's my Uncle Bob's sister, but it is obvious that she was much-loved, and to all family members, I am very sorry for your loss...may your precious memories help you through his time.

Sandi Batko - Thompson, OH - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ To Tony,Daniella Anthony And Papa Key

Am so sorry to hear of your loss but want You to know that our hearts and prayers are with You today and always,and if there is anything we can do at all please don't hesitate to ask.And to Mama Key You will be dearly missed by all May you rest in peace until we meet again someday.

Love Always
Scott and Michelle Smith And Family

Michelle Smith - Willoughby Hills, OH - Family Friend - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Key Families:

Aunt Billile Ann was a wonderful and special person. All of my memories are fond and happy. A lot of laughter and love surrounding her always. She is now with all of our other loved ones who have passed before her....god bless you all. My mom is happy to have you with her again.

My sincere sympathy to my uncle and my cousins and their families. This is a very difficult time, but know she's in a much better place. Time slowly heals.

Our deepest love and comfort,
Lynda, Paul and the boys

Paul, Lynda and boys - Peninsula, OH - Niece and family - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bill, Tony, Ricky and the Key Family,

Please accept our deepest sympathies during this time of loss. Aunt Billie Ann now has eternal comfort and is with Uncle Ken and Mom and will await all of us with love and open arms. Her kindred spirit will never be forgotten.

Love,
Don & Rochelle

Don & Rochelle Miller - Richfield, OH - Nephew - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Granny,
I miss u! Mommy says your an angel now, I wanna come and see you! I love you,
and I still have your lil' dog I gave you witht he piece of paper attached that said"
GET WELL". I love you!

Love ,

Anthony

Anthony Key - obelrin, OH - grandson - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dearest Uncle Bill,
You and Aunt Billie Ann have always been very special to myself and my
family..There was such great love from both of you,amazing hugs and wonderful
memories. For as long as I can remember Aunt Billie Ann always saying how she
missed "Mother and Daddy" all I can think of at this time is the sorrow for all of you
and the wonderment of the reunion of all of them..We will be forever lost of thier
wonderful lives but the joy of knowing we will see all of them happy and healthy
again lightens our hearts and restores our faith in life everlasting..Too all of our
departed angels we know you rest on our shoulders and with that we will never lack
for love or protection everyday. So, to my dearest Uncle and our beloved Aunt Billie
Ann and Ricky&family,and Tony&family and kids,know we are with you all. I now
know my dad is there extending his hand to say "I love you "Sis" and welcome home!
Such love between brothers and their sister will always be everlasing! love Bill and
me and Rachael,Hanna Mae and Emily

Mary, Bill, Rachael, Hanna Mae, Emily - Tallmage, OH - Niece and family - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Sis,
You were more than an in-law you were the sister to me, I never had and I really love
you much. You are now my sister Angel. Please tell Ken I said hello and I love him
very much. Love You, Ethel

Dear Bill, Tony and Rick,

Your Mom was special and loved you all very much, just like the rest of us
love you too. We are all here for you. Just know she is at peace now and
is your Angel above and watching over you. God will help at this time.

Love , Ethel (Aunt)

Ethel Miller - Ravenna, OH - Sister-in-law - February 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My dearest Aunt, you have been so much a part of my childhood that you always felt strong and close by. Many visits were spent sitting at your kitchen table with my mom, while you both talked and drank coffee. One time you were at our house when I fell out of our tree house and you carried me back into the house - I have never forgotten that rescue! I remember seeing you at Grandma's house all the time, and I know how close you were to her. My dad took some super 8 movies of a picnic we had when I was really young, and you were there, drinking Pepsi and driving a big 50's Biscayne I believe it was. Those were the very good times, and I am happy I got to share that with you. Thank you my dear Aunt.

I am very sure all of us will see you again, and will be happy at that time. I will miss you so much, but until that day, you are in my heart.

Love you so much,
Your Niece Kathy

Kathy Miller - Richfield, OH - Niece - February 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Grandma,

It meant the world to me to be able to see you and talk to you last week. As Shawna said, you and grandpa were a big part of our childhood. I have many great childhood memories of the summers I spent with the both of you. I remember going skating, to the pool, the lake, how I sung at your church while grandpa played his guitar, your amazing biscuits and gravy, the cookies you always had in your cookie jar, the huge Easter baskets you would send every Easter, the generous Christmas gift each year and the awful haircut I got one summer that my sisters would not stop teasing me about until my hair grew out lol. I still have pictures of that and get a little chuckle everytime I look at them. You will truly be missed. Thank you for all the wonderful childhood memories. I love you!!!

Nichole Peters - Bamberg, Germany - Granddaughter - February 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ To Bill and Family,
We send you our prayers . Know that all are thinking of you and will keep you in our hearts.

With Love & Prayers
Bob & Sally

Bob & sally Wyatt - Anderson, SC - Long time friends - February 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Thinking of you and the people whose lives you have touched.
-Shayn

Shayn - FL - February 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My Dear Grandma,
Thank you for the wonderful childhood memories. I think back at a lot of happy moments in my childhood and you are a part of most. The trips to Hershey Park and Jogga(sp) Lake what fun we had! Yours and grandpa's visits were wonderful always giving us our choice of what we wanted to do and where we wanted to go..always Chuck E Cheese of course. You found out how much I loved the drums and for Christmas you gave me a drum set. You took us shopping, got our hair done, made sure we were stocked with candy and icecream. How we loved Christmas, grandma and grandpa new how hard it was for a single mother to raise us and always sent plenty of money for us to buy each other gifts as well as do things like go to movies. Grandma, you were a big part of my life and happy memories and I thank you for that...I love you and you will always be in my thoughts. Forever and Always, Shawna

Shawna - FL - February 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM