

Trout Funeral Home

Carole Didlake

(Died January 17, 2013)

Carole Irene Farley Didlake was born May 24, 1934 in Detroit, Michigan to Leslie Farley and Jessie Morris Farley. She went to be with Our Lord, family and friends on January 17, 2013. She attended high school in Seattle, Washington where she met her future husband, Jim Didlake. They married in 1953 and moved back to his home state of Oklahoma, where he made a true Okie of her. They lived in Stillwater while he received his degree from Oklahoma State



University and settled in Ponca City in 1966. Together they had four children: Paul, Kerin, Russ and Mardi. After raising her children, Carole went back to her love of banking and retired as vice-president of First National Bank after a 30 year career. Jim preceded her in death in 1986.

For a number of years, she was the Travel Coordinator for the Heritage Club at First National Bank and traveling became her passion. She married Downing Johnson in 1997 and continued her love of travel by touring the United States with him until his death in 2006.

Carole was a long time member of Grace Episcopal Church, where she was involved with ECW, Daughters of the King, Friendship Feast and was a past vestry member. She made lifelong friendships with her beloved sisters of Xi Gamma Sigma Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi. In 1992 she was inducted as the first woman president of the Pioneer Rotary club. She continued as a Rotarian and lived its motto of "service above self." She served as chairman of the board for the Ponca City American Red Cross. Over the years she was a member of 20th Century, PEO chapter FC, Ponca City Mother's Club and Eastern Star. She volunteered for a number of organizations including Hospice, the Ponca City Humane Society and the Marland Children Home. She served as a tutor with the Literacy Council and as a guide for the Marland Mansion. She remained active in her church and community until her death.

Carole will be remembered for her larger than life personality, her smile, her open arms and her loving warmth. She loved people and called them all her friends. She brought a smile and a little joy to everyone's lives.

She is survived by her son Paul Didlake and wife Lisa of Bartlesville, daughter Kerin Didlake Miller and husband Sherman of Broken Arrow, son Russ Didlake and wife Tracy of Ponca City, and daughter Mardi Didlake

Gates and husband Adrian of Seattle, WA, brother Howard Farley and wife Julie of Nome, AK, Reid Johnson and wife Carolyn of Ponca City; twelve grandchildren: Andy and Amanda Miller, Carrie and Terry Laughlin, Brook and Winston Lindsay, Clair and Dustin Wood, Seth and Amanda Miller, Hutch Didlake and Emily Dewey, Jake, Blair and Morgan Didlake, Wyatt, Caroline and Georgia Gates; fourteen great-grandchildren and one on the way, a host of beloved family and many dear friends, and her dog "Buddy Boy".

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, January 23, at Grace Episcopal Church in Ponca City. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in her name to Grace Episcopal Church, Marland Children Home or the Humane Society.

[Back](#)