



Marian Frances Fritsche

November 23, 1928 - January 24, 2023

A celebration of life service will be held on Friday, February 3, 2023, at 2:30 PM at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Winchester with Rev. Nate Hill officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Marian Frances (Karisch) Fritsche, our dear Mom, Nanny, sister, aunt, friend, Honeybun, Prayer Warrior, age 94 left her earthly farm home on January 24, 2023, at the end of a rainy day (she loved the rain!). She left with a little smile on her face in anticipation of finally going to her heavenly home to join her husband and family members in God's amazing presence.

She was born in Winchester, Texas on November 23, 1928, the 4th child of 7 to Hulda Noack Karisch and Walter H. Karisch. She was baptized Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1928, in St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Winchester, Texas by Rev. J. Moebus and was confirmed there April 18, 1943, by Rev. E.R. Rathgeber. Her confirmation verse was Romans 5:1, "Therefore, having been justified in faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." She married the love of her life, Melvin Fritsche, on the beautiful snowy and very cold winter day of January 30, 1949, in the same church by Rev. George Heinemeiar. They spent their wedding night in the home that Melvin built for them, where they also raised their three daughters. Marian was blessed to host 74 years of special family gatherings in that same home, where she was able to stay until her passing.

Marian attended first grade through high school in Winchester and her class was the last high school class to graduate from that little country school. She was an accomplished homemaker. Learning how to sew at a very early age, she designed and made many of her family's clothes, including annual Easter & Christmas dresses (with matching outfits for her daughters' dolls) and then going on to design and sew wedding dresses for all three of her girls as well as gowns for their bridesmaids. She learned to milk a cow by the time she was 6. She said she sometimes rued the day she learned to milk because that became her daily chore, morning and evening. As a teenager, she helped her dad in his bar and ice cream store in the evenings so that he could have supper at home with her mom, after which he would return to the store so she could go home. She said she loved those times spent at their store, serving folks their favorite beverages while dishing out Blue Bell ice cream and visiting with the Winchester community.

Marian and Melvin worked side by side farming and ranching and she enjoyed all the activities of living life on a small farm (except picking cotton, but since she married a farmer, she continued to pick cotton). She continued to exercise her milking skills with Rosebud the cow, who was a wedding gift and who supplied the family with milk, butter, and cheese. She loved working her garden summer and fall, preserving vegetables and fruits for her family and providing extras to anyone who wanted them, and she often talked to God there. She continued her gardening almost to the very end, recruiting grandkids and sons-in-law and caregivers for her plowing, planting, and harvesting activities. She was an awesome cook, with smells of homemade bread (with her homemade jellies and jams), noodles, coffee cakes, cinnamon rolls, and cookies welcoming visitors, but especially every Saturday morning. She was a Prayer Warrior – she was always praying for her family and friends and was always ready to listen to anyone's stories, joys, and troubles. She loved starting a conversation with anyone – there were no strangers by the

time she finished talking.

Marian was very active in her community and church. She helped in her daughters' 4-H club, served as Youth Counselor in the Walther League, sang in the church choir, was a member of the Ladies Aid, the Braille workers and the Quilters.

Marian is survived by her three loving daughters and their husbands, Susan and Bill Friedrich of Georgetown, Elaine and Lonnie Lehmann of Round Rock, and Karen and Paul Miller of Cedar Park; her grandchildren, Keith and Taylor Burba, Robert and Desiree Burba, Katie Stephens and Aaron Johle, John and Jenna Friedrich, Jeff and Jacquelyn Lehmann, Craig and Erika Lehmann, Stephanie and Eric Sawyer, Troy and Andrea Miller, and Wade and Sara Miller; her step grandson, Bryan and Lina Miller; great grandchildren, Madison, Will, and Georgia Burba, Caroline Stephens, Wyatt and Olsen Johle, Lauren, Shelby and Cameron Lehmann, Meredith Lehmann, Hannah and Jacob Sawyer, Logan Miller, and Brody and Karma Miller. She is also survived by her brother, Morgan and wife Delores Karisch; sisters-in-law, Gladys Karisch and Eleanor Mutschink; brother-in-law, Ivan Fritsche, and numerous nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Melvin Fritsche; parents, Hulda & Walter Karisch; brothers, Elton and wife Verna Karisch, Roy Karisch, and Leslie Karisch; sisters, Lera and husband James Ephraim and Yvonne and husband Hugo Koenning; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Milton Mutschink, Nancy Fritsche, and Stanley and Carolyn Fritsche, and two nieces and two nephews.

The family would like to thank all who came and visited with Marian while she was homebound, including family, friends, and Christmas carolers, with

special thanks to her caregiver (and honorary granddaughter), Stephanie Hoffman, who was there for her and praying with her every day and many middle of the nights.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Michael's Lutheran Church Cemetery Fund in Winchester, Texas, or to an animal shelter or charity of one's choice.

Cemetery Details

St. Michael's Lutheran Cemetery

700 Frio Street
Winchester, TX 78945

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB 3. 2:30 PM (CT)

St. Michael's Lutheran Church
700 Frio Street
Winchester, TX 78945