

Obituary

Shirley "Darlene" Mitchell Folsom Reed passed away peacefully at home on September 30, 2026, surrounded by her loving family. A longtime resident of Stanley and Louisburg, Kansas, Darlene will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Darlene was born on July 4, 1938, in Kansas City, Kansas, to the late Albert and Flossie (Powers) Mitchell. One of 10 children, she spent part of her childhood in communities throughout southern Missouri and Oklahoma before returning to Kansas City, Kansas. In 1978, she moved to Stanley, Kansas, after accepting a position with Water District No. 2 of Johnson County, Kansas. She later moved to Louisburg, Kansas, in 1993, where she lived until moving in with her daughter in Stilwell, Kansas in 2024.

Darlene married her first husband, Charles Folsom Sr., on July 20, 1953. They shared 29 years of marriage before his death on May 5, 1983.

On December 21, 1987, Darlene married John Reed in Las Vegas, Nevada. They remained together until his death on July 22, 2016.

Darlene worked for Johnson County Water District No. 1 and Water District No. 2 after they merged together. Even in retirement, she remained active, working at Walmart in Stanley, Kansas, and driving a bus for the Louisburg School District. Bowling was one of her great joys, and she competed in many state and national tournaments. She also loved baking cakes, visiting casinos, and attending auctions in search of special collectibles.

Darlene's family offers heartfelt thanks to Maggie, Lai Lai, Nina, Diana, Brandon, and Polly of VITAS Hospice for the care and support they provided.

Darlene leaves behind a loving family who will cherish her memory: her sister, Dorothy Curtis; her daughter, Karen (Folsom) Parmely and husband Vic of Stilwell, Kansas; her son, Danny Folsom and wife Renee (Turner) of Independence, Missouri; and her daughter-in-law, Leslie Folsom of Stilwell, Kansas. She was a proud grandmother to Katie (Folsom) Huggins and husband Danny of Boonville, Missouri; Charles "Chuck" Folsom III of Stilwell, Kansas; Misty (Parmely) Gettino and husband Josh of Paola, Kansas; Justin Parmely and wife Misty of Gower, Missouri; Steven Parmely of Stilwell, Kansas; Alyssa Moore and husband Kyle of Belton, Missouri; Briana Quye of Independence, Missouri; and Gabriel Turner of Independence, Missouri. Her legacy also lives on through her 14 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Charles L. Folsom Sr. and John Reed; her children, Charles Folsom Jr., Larry Folsom, Tim Folsom, and Kenny Folsom; eight siblings, including her brothers Leo Mitchell and John Mitchell; and her grandson, Russell Folsom. Their memories remained an enduring part of her life and story.



In Memory Of

Darlene Folsom Reed

July 4, 1938 ~ September 30, 2026

Services In Care Of


Dengel & Son
Mortuary - Crematory





Mother's Hand

The Lord took Mother's hand today.
Said, come with me, I'll lead the way.

I have a special place for you,
now we must go there's much to do.

This fluffy cloud will be your bed,
this crown of stars is for your head,
this ray of sun will keep you warm,
my love is shelter from the storm.

So come beloved child with me.

The very best is yet to be.

~ Carol Quealy Johnson

Funeral Services

11:30 AM, October 9, 2026

Dengel & Son Mortuary

Louisburg, Kansas

Officiating

Pastor Brandon Smee

Chaplain Polly Stock

Recorded Music Selections

Seven Spanish Angels ~ Just Beyond the Moon
When I Get Where I'm Going

pallbearers

Austin Kinder ~ Nathan Huggins ~ Avery Shaw
Kevin Parmely ~ Gabe Turner ~ Steven Parmely

Honorary pallbearers

Larry Knoche ~ Chuck Folsom
Justin Parmely ~ Kyle Parmely

Interment

Pleasant Valley Cemetery

Overland Park, Kansas