ELAINE CAROL TUTTLE

October 25, 1942 - October 22, 2026

Memorial Service

Quinter Methodist Church
Quinter, Kansas
Saturday, November 14, 2026 at 10:30 A.M.

Officiant

Pastor Joel Moyer

Pianist

Kathy Evans

Music Selections

"In The Garden"
"How Great Thou Art"
"Amazing Grace"

Interment

Baker Township Cemetery
Quinter, KS

Memorials To

Quinter Methodist Church

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In Loving Memory of



Elaine Carol Tuttle

October 25, 1942 — October 22, 2026

Elaine Briggs Murdock Tuttle, 83, passed away on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, just four days before her 84th birthday.

Elaine was born on October 25, 1942, in Villisca, Iowa, to Emory and Frieda (Zeihe) Briggs. In 1948, the family moved to South Dakota, where they lived on a rural farm until 1955. Growing up in a large family during difficult times, Elaine learned early the values of hard work, resourcefulness, and perseverance. Being resourceful and working hard were essential to the family, and Elaine carried those traits throughout her life. She attended a one-room schoolhouse for her first seven years of education, an experience that remained part of her memories of a modest but formative childhood.

As a young girl, Elaine and two of her siblings contracted polio. The experience was one of many challenges she would face throughout her life, helping shape the strength, resilience, and determination that became defining qualities of her character. In 1955, the family moved back to Villisca, Iowa.

Elaine devoted her early adult years to raising her two sons, David and Bryan. When the boys reached junior high school, she decided to continue her education, earning an associate degree in Medical Record Technology. She went on to build a long and rewarding career managing hospital medical records departments in Corning and Clarinda, Iowa, and Quinter, Kansas. Elaine took great pride in her work, valued the friendships she developed with coworkers, and approached her responsibilities with dedication and professionalism. Rural hospitals relied heavily on well-run medical records departments, and Elaine was a valued contributor to their day-to-day operations and success.

In 2002, Elaine was recruited to join Gove County Hospital and moved to Quinter, Kansas. There, she met farmer and rancher Robert “Bob” Tuttle, whom she married (September 2, 2007). Together they enjoyed a life rooted in family, friendship, and their community.

Elaine was a woman of remarkable inner strength and determination. She was fiercely independent and would be the first to tell you so. She believed deeply in standing up for what was right and was never afraid to speak her mind. Those who knew her understood that her convictions were strong, but so was her compassion. She was quick to stand up for family and friends and for what she believed was right and just. Through life’s many challenges, she always found time for the people she loved.

Elaine had a curious mind, creative hands, and an appreciation for life’s simple pleasures. She loved cooking and experimenting with new recipes, reading, photography, painting, gardening, and making crafts. An enthusiastic rockhound, she particularly enjoyed collecting and polishing rocks, finding beauty in treasures that others might have overlooked. And while she was never much of a drinker, she certainly knew how to appreciate a good cold beer or an occasional margarita. Challenge her to a game of cribbage, however, and you would meet the competitive Elaine who was always there, just beneath the smile of sweet “Auntie” Elaine. Elaine enjoyed the occasional trip to the casino and the excitement of a scratch-off lottery ticket. She was careful with her money, but never lost her appreciation for the thrill of a possible jackpot, even if it was only a few dollars.

Perhaps one of Elaine’s greatest gifts was her ability to listen. She was a trusted friend and confidante to many, someone who genuinely cared about the lives and concerns of others. Family and friends regularly sought her advice, and she did her best to help them work through whatever challenges life brought. Whether offering a sympathetic ear, sharing a thoughtful conversation, or simply being present when someone needed her, Elaine had a way of making people feel heard and valued. She also volunteered at her church and supported numerous charitable organizations.

Elaine was preceded in death by her parents, Emory and Frieda (Zeihe) Briggs; her first husband, Roger Murdock; her sisters, Alice Culver Bates and Dorothy Louise (Briggs) Williams; and her brothers, Max Raymond Briggs, Earl Norman Briggs, Dale Bernard Briggs, and Laverne Emory Briggs.

She is survived by her husband, Robert Tuttle of Quinter, Kansas; her sons, David (Diahnn) Murdock of Champlin, Minnesota, and Bryan (LeeAnn) Murdock of Wyoming, Minnesota; and her sisters, Ruth (Dick) Siefert of Lead Hill, Arkansas, and Reva (Jim) Oakes of Zearing, Iowa along with five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She is also survived by Robert’s children, Marla (Steve) Albin of Quinter, Kansas, Rodney (Marsha) Tuttle of Quinter, Kansas, and Jack (Julie) Tuttle of Salina, Kansas, along with six grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Elaine will be remembered for her strength, her generosity, her unwavering convictions, and the kindness she extended to those around her. Her life was not without hardship, but she met its challenges with determination and found joy in family, friendship, creativity, and the simple things that made each day special.

She leaves behind a lifetime of memories, a family she loved, and friendships that will continue to reflect the differences she made in the lives of others.

