

**Mary Ella Wilke,**  
**81**

**Feb. 9, 1937 - June 20, 2018**

**PORTSMOUTH** – Mary Ella Wilke, daughter of Leo and Louise (Schmitz) Pauley, was born February 9, 1937 in Panama. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. She graduated high school from St. Mary's Catholic School in Panama, with the class of 1955.

On July 27, 1957, Mary Ella "Mitz" was united in marriage to Gary Wilke at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. To this union seven children were born: David, Larry, Tom, Charlene, Dennis, Roger, and Mark.

Mitz was a wonderful mother to her children and to everyone she knew. She would clip pictures and articles from the local newspapers to share with the ones she loved. She was also an excellent seamstress.

Mitz was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Portsmouth where she sang in the choir. She also helped plan songs for mass.

Mitz died on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 at University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE, attaining the age of 81 years, four months, and 11 days. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son Larry Wilke, siblings Lucille Wendt, Bernadine Hayes, Janice Waltz, Walter Pauley, Thelma Pauley, and Jerry Pauley.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years Gary Wilke of Portsmouth; children David Wilke of Council Bluffs; Tom Wilke of Council Bluffs; Charlene and her husband Chuck Darrell of Elk Horn; Dennis Wilke and his wife Pam of Council Bluffs; Roger Wilke of Westboro, MO; Mark Wilke and his wife Lisa of Council Bluffs; seven grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; brothers Alfred Pauley and his wife Dolores of Panama; Kenny Pauley and his wife Eileen of Panama; many nieces and nephews; other family members and friends.

An 11 AM Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Rev. David Smith S.J. on Monday, June 25, 2018 at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima in Portsmouth. Devin Gardner, Markie Wilke, Talyn Wilke, Tylor Wilke, and Joseph Wilke served as honorary casket bearers. Inurnment will take place at a later date at St. Mary's Cemetery in Portsmouth.

Pauley Jones Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



**Pauley Jones**  
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION

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