



## Velma Lorraine Koehler

December 23, 1921 - March 15, 2017

Mrs. Velma Lorraine Koehler, age 95 of Fort Payne, passed away on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at her residence. Mrs. Koehler was born on December 23, 1921 in Harrisburg, Illinois to the late Roy & Essie McCord Hurst. Mrs. Koehler was retired from Clyde Savings & Loan and was of the Baptist faith.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m., Sunday, March 19, 2017 at the Wilson Funeral Home Chapel with burial following in the Crestwood Cemetery in Gadsden, Alabama. the family will receive friends on Sunday from 1 p.m. until the 2 p.m. hour of service.

Mrs. Koehler is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Donald & Lynn Koehler; daughter, Patricia "Patty" Koehler; Grandchildren, Christopher & LeighAnn Koehler and Kimberly & Andrew Dykes; Great-Grandchildren, Justin, Lillian and Lauren Koehler and Barrett and Beau Dykes; brother and sister-in-law, George & Myra Hurst; sister-in-law, Kathleen Hurst; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Alexander Koehler in 1985; son, Laurence Koehler; daughter, Sandra Koehler; brothers, Raymond, Ralph and Ronald Hurst; sisters, Thelma Hurst and Esther Walker.

Wilson Funeral Home & Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Crestwood Cemetery

2209 E Broad Street  
Gadsden, AL 35903

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 19. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Funeral Home  
3801 Gault Ave. N  
Fort Payne, AL 35967

## Funeral Service

MAR 19. 2:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Funeral Home Chapel  
3801 Gault Avenue North  
Fort Payne, AL 35967  
(256) 845-9150  
wilsonfuneralhome@bellsouth.net  
<http://www.wilsonfhinc.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Velma Lorraine Koehler*

January 12, 2023 at 10:45 AM



“ *I waited to write this, as I didn't think I could do so any sooner. Momma belonged to a generation whose character traits, and what they mean in our society are quickly becoming extinct. She never let hardships hold her back; so many times, she pushed through to overcome and to achieve. Throughout her life, she managed to always be a bright spot in a world that could so often, be bleak. The imprint which my parents left upon my life were their values, and for that, I will always be grateful. Its made me a better person and its one of the reasons I've grown into the person I am today.*

*There are so many things I could write about momma; in nearly everything I see, hear, smell, and touch, there are so many reminders, many of which she taught me to appreciate; all of this enriched my life.*

*During the past few years, I traveled a path with her; a journey of illness, injury, and the winding down of her life. Much of that journey was filled with uncertainty, yet there was hope. I wished for a little more time; however, the Lord, in His time, called her back, and I take consolation in knowing that her eternal soul now flourishes in God's paradise. She will be forever in my heart; a place where dreams and hopes live, and also, where they take refuge.*

*If I could say anything now to her, it would be, "Thank you for being there for all of us".*

*Whenever God chooses to call me back to Him, I know mom will be there for me, arms open, waiting. Until that time, know that you will be loved by me until eternity comes, and I pray that the Lord, every now and then, gives you a hug, and lets you know its from me.*

Patty - April 18, 2017 at 07:35 PM

EP

“ I met Velma when I bought the house next to her in Berwyn. I soon found out that the house was her mother Essie Hurst's house and that Velma had moved it to the lot for her. I knew then that Velma had tremendous love for her family. I also learned that her husband Alex Koehler was a long time Berwyn resident and that his six sisters were childhood friends and neighbors to my mother. Velma spoke of her children Lawrence, Sandy, Don, and Patty and her then young grandchildren Chris and Kim with so much love. Her great grandchildren now brought her so much happiness and were so loved by her. Velma was always happy, kind and doing. On many occasions her knowledge of so many subjects helped me out. She was loving and kind to my sons. Velma and Patty made them an unforgettable Christmas gingerbread house and numerous treats. I can hear and see Velma's happy voice and always smiling face when I think of her. She will be loved and missed for the rest of my life.

*Ellie Peters*

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**ellie peters** - April 09, 2017 at 09:56 AM

LK

“ I always think of Grandma's love for family history and memories. She was always making sure to take plenty of pictures when we came to visit, and she made sure we had pictures of the Hurst and Koehler ancestors. I have a box full of all the pictures and keepsakes she has sent throughout the years, that I will pass down to my children, her great grand children.

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**Leah Ann Koehler** - March 26, 2017 at 04:45 PM

“ Between 7th and 8th grade, Aunt Velma taught me to sew. I picked a difficult pattern and a very slippery green brocade. Neither the pattern nor material was suited for a beginning sewer, yet Aunt Velma never tried to dissuade me.

We started work on that dress at her kitchen table where she taught me how to lay out a pattern: pinning, marking, cutting. And then we took the pieces into her basement sewing workshop.

She worked with me on that dress for about two weeks, always patient, teaching me how to read pattern instructions, manipulate the material, and operate a sewing machine. Despite the challenges that could have turned the project into a disaster, Aunt Velma never let that happen. She was a patient guide by my side, enabling me to do the sewing and truly learn. On her own, Aunt Velma could have finished that dress in a few hours, but she recognized how important it was that I be the one to assemble and sew that dress.

When I wore my green brocade, empire waist, mutton-sleeved dress to the 8th grade dance that fall, I could not have been happier or prouder. I really LOVED that dress!

Thank you, Aunt Velma!

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Nancy Hurst Steineke - March 20, 2017 at 06:58 PM