



## Bessie Naomi Thrasher

January 24, 1928 - September 27, 2021

Bessie Naomi (Nilson) Thrasher, 93, of Harrodsburg, passed away on September 27, 2021. She was born on January 24, 1928, to Milt and Pearl (Sipes) Nilson. While a teen, she spent some summers in Bloomington working various jobs while staying with relatives. After graduating from Clearsprings High School in Jackson County, she stayed in Bloomington while working full-time. A favorite memory from her time working in an office at Indiana University was when President Herman B. Wells greeted her and her friend Barbara Chestnut (Weddle) as they were walking across campus while returning from lunch.

Bessie is survived by her children: Linda (John) Harper, Jane Canter, Nancy (Bill) Sheehy, Carol (Larry) Tolliver, Susan (Pat) Parker, and Roby (Judy) Thrasher; 10 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; and her beautiful cat Batman. Also surviving are her sister Eva Dale (Nilson) Fleetwood and sisters-in-law Janice Fidler and Vivian Thrasher.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband Robert Wyatt Thrasher and a grandchild, Mark Thrasher.

The family will have a private service.

In addition to being a devoted wife and mother, she was a farmer, a curious

reader, and a public servant who served as Clear Creek Township trustee.

Bessie is lovingly remembered for her wonderful cooking and ambitious vegetable gardens. Blackberry and raspberry pies and jellies, yeast rolls, broccoli cheese soup, and beef vegetable soup were just a few of her favorites. From her garden, she canned dozens of jars of green beans and tomatoes. And when she finally had a chest freezer, she and the family froze and enjoyed sweet corn all winter long. She will be greatly missed by family and her many friends.

Memorial donations may be made to WildCare, Inc., 198 North Hartstrait Road, Bloomington, IN 47404 (<http://wildcareinc.org>) Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 S. Old State Road 37, Bloomington have been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at [www.allencares.com](http://www.allencares.com)

# Tribute Wall

JH

“ *Bessie was welcoming and generous. Her garden was large and bountiful. I always admired her ability to raise such a large family. She introduced me to the writing of Tillie Olsen and Rachael Peeden. I loved her love of her family, her cats and her chickens. I feel lucky to have known her and I will cherish my memories of her. She was a comfort to me.*

*Joan Hershey*

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**Joan Hershey** - October 10, 2021 at 03:41 PM

CT

*To Joan and Family,  
On behalf of the family, we appreciate your condolences. It was beautifully written and means so much to us. Thank you.*

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**Carol Tolliver** - October 12, 2021 at 06:17 AM

RP

“ *We feel privileged to have known Bessie. She was a delightful person and a gentle soul. Our thoughts go out to her family, who took such good care of her in her later years. Regan and Ron Plecher*

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**Regan and Ron Plecher** - October 01, 2021 at 11:17 AM

CT

*I'll behalf of the family thank you so much for your kind comments. We did receive your beautiful card with a hummingbird a few weeks ago and mom really enjoyed it. She will be missed greatly.*

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**Carol Tolliver** - October 02, 2021 at 09:28 AM

RT

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**Rachel Thrasher** - October 01, 2021 at 09:36 AM

RP

“ So sorry to hear of Bessie’s passing. Always enjoyed seeing her around Harrodsburg and chatting with her. I appreciate her service to to the community. Sending condolences to the Family.

*Roger Perry*

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**Roger Perry** - September 30, 2021 at 07:40 AM

CT

*On behalf of the family, thank you for your kind comments. Carol (Thrasher) Tolliver*

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**Carol Tolliver** - September 30, 2021 at 04:26 PM