



## Celia Fern Black

September 4, 1919 - May 23, 2019

Celia Fern McCollister was born to Milton and Alta Frink McCollister on September 4, 1919 on a farm near Goehner, Nebraska in Seward County. Celia was the youngest of six children. The McCollister family moved from Goehner to Central City in 1920. Celia attended Central City schools and was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church.

Celia and Willard Black were married on July 27, 1937 in Englewood, Colorado. Willard and Celia were married 66 years. The couple lived in Central City where Willard worked for Walter McHargue's "Market Center," in McCook, NE. and Ravenna, NE where Willard was employed by Safeway stores and then they moved to the Dr. Fred Fouts farm north of Central City. In 1946 he and his brother Merlin formed a Black Brothers partnership in farming and livestock; they were together for 40 years. Celia and Willard's life centered around their family of three children, Fairview Methodist Church and their neighborhood. Celia became a full time farmwife and she was also very active in the community. She was President of the Methodist Women, sang in the church choir, taught Sunday school and for many years helped the youth MYF put on numerous summer talent shows and ice cream socials. She was President of Central City Litzenberg Hospital Auxiliary. She gave Book Reviews and programs in 25 towns in and around Central City. She wrote a column titled "Black Board" for the Central City newspaper and later a column titled "Merrick Manor Profiles" while living at the assisted living facility. She was a member of Fairview Homemakers extension club for 50 years, a

member of the YWCA and Friends of the Library. Celia was an avid reader from childhood and into her 90's. She and Willard belonged to a six couple card club for 40 years; they enjoyed the bus travels they took with their Sunday school class on many occasions. They also traveled to 28 states on their own. Celia loved the time spent with her children and was always a loving and caring Wife, Grandma and Great Grandma.

Survivors include two daughters, Linda (Dick) Monson of Loveland, Colorado, Jolene (Dan) Kopf, of Lexington, Nebraska and a daughter-in-law Donna Black Jacupke of Newstrawn, Kansas, seven grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren and twelve great great grandchildren.

Her parents, her husband Willard, a son Dale Black, and son-in-law Bob Vokoun, one brother Dale McCollister, four sisters, four brother-in-law's, Ruby and Frank Chrisp, Grayce and Harold Cudney, Enid and Cliff Currey and Bob and Hazel Lockner all preceded her in death.

# Cemetery Details

## Central City Cemetery

Central City, NE 68826

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 28. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Fairview United Methodist Church  
2398 13th Road  
Central City, NE 68826

## Funeral Service

MAY 28. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Fairview United Methodist Church  
2398 13th Road  
Central City, NE 68826

# Tribute Wall

TF

“ Our most sincere condolences in the loss of your beautiful mother. We have fond memories of Fairview skits at the annual camp outs and her (along with your dads) friendship with Jays parents, Elwin and Lucile Ferris.

Tammie & Jay Ferris

Tammie Ferris - May 28, 2019 at 01:11 PM



“ Thoughts & Prayers was purchased for the family of Celia Fern Black.



May 28, 2019 at 10:57 AM

SB

“ Celia was such a dear, vivacious lady, always sharing her talents and enthusiasm with others. She coached me on my talent performance for the state Jr. Miss pageant in 1971, helping me to get 2nd runner-up. Celia was a wonderful inspiration to me throughout her life! 💜

Sara Hudgens Burczy - May 26, 2019 at 11:43 AM

SB

My mother, Lucy Hudgens, adored Celia too!

Sara Hudgens Burczy - May 26, 2019 at 11:46 AM

JM

“ So many memories of my time with Celia while growing up with her daughter, Linda. Memories are so full of love and laughter. She will be truly missed by all.

*Joanie (Kyes) Moyer*

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**Joan A Moyer** - May 25, 2019 at 04:50 PM

BC

“ My first "real" job was at the CC R-N, beginning in 1975 and one of my favorite memories was when Celia would deliver the week's "Black Bored". She was full of life and so very kind to a kid who thought she knew what she was doing!! I bet I can still recognize her distinctive handwriting. My sincere sympathy! -- Barb Church

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**Barb Church** - May 25, 2019 at 01:43 PM



“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Celia Fern Black.



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May 25, 2019 at 01:34 PM

DS

“ Our thoughts are with you all during this time. You Mom brought back many memories of Central City with her column in the paper. I know you will cherish the wonderful times your family has enjoyed. With sympathy. Donna and Oren Skiles

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**Donna &Oren Skiles** - May 25, 2019 at 10:04 AM

DE

“ I will always have fond memories of Celia as a wonderful Sunday school Teacher and as MYF director with our silly skits. She diffidently influenced my life as a fun wonderful role model. One of my favorite memories was when I put her down as a reference to get a new job in Tennessee working for the nuclear facility. I think she was very surprised to have a big black car drive into the farm with 2 FBI agents to interview her about me. They wanted to know what I was like in 2nd grade? They wanted to know if I was a good kid or into trouble a lot. I guess she gave me a good report because I got a very high FBI security clearance and got the job. I guess having the FBI show up made a pretty big stir in our little Fairview community.

*Sending my love to the family from Palm Springs CA, via visiting Costa Rica at the moment. Here taking care of a dear friend with cancer.*

*With love,  
Dea Ferris Early*

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**Dea Ferris Early** - May 24, 2019 at 08:18 PM