



Klaashia Jo Blanchard, age 46, of rural Lamar, passed away Wednesday, July 23, 2008, at Freeman Hospital West in Joplin.

Klaashia was born August 17, 1961, in Salinas, California, to Sterling and Micki (Hartsuiker) Martin. She moved with her family to Colorado where she started school, then to Lamar in 1968. After moving to the farm near Milford, Klaashia graduated as the Salutatorian of Golden City High School class of 1979. She earned degrees in Ag Science and Animal Science from MU in 1984 and a teaching degree from Missouri Southern in 1988. On March 26, 1988, at Golden City, she married Clifford Dale Blanchard and they farmed northwest of Lamar. In addition to being a homemaker and farm wife, Klaashia had worked for O'Sullivan Industries for eight years, was a substitute teacher at area schools, taught at Heartland in Nevada, and was a waitress at Denny's in Lamar.

Klaashia was active in her community as a Red Cross volunteer and 4-H leader. She was a member of First Christian Church of Lamar, where her devotion and strong conviction to the Lord positively influenced the many children she taught in Bible classes and the Overcomers Program. She has touched many lives through her service in mission trips and Youth Quake trips in the Rocky Mountains.

Survivors include her husband of 20 years, Clifford, two sons, Johnathan Blanchard and Samuel Blanchard, two daughters, Cassandra Blanchard and Miranda Blanchard, all of the home; her parents, Sterling & Micki Martin, Milford; maternal grandmother, Betty Jo Hartsuiker, Lamar; a brother and sister-in-law, Shannon & Andrea Martin, Spring Hill, Kansas; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Leisa & Lendon Blanchard and Shawna & Tom Ryan, all of Lamar; and a large extended family. Klaashia was preceded in death by a son, Dakota Lee and an infant daughter, Sarah Jo.

IN MEMORY OF
Klaashia Blanchard
August 17, 1961 ~ July 23, 2008

FUNERAL SERVICE
2:00 p.m. Saturday, July 26, 2008
First Christian Church

OFFICIATING

Rob Wilson
Mike Gage
Tribute
Sterling Martin
Klaashia's Children

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Prince Of Peace"
Congregational Hymn
"We Will Dance"
Mike Gage & Debbie McGuire, Vocalists
"The Wind Beneath My Wings"
Janice Rice, Pianist
Laura Bunton, Flute
"Just As I Am"
Congregational Hymn

PALLBEARERS
Bobby Fortner ~ Matthew Fortner
Matt Bunton ~ Mike Bunton
Nathan Blanchard ~ Ben Garfield
Derek Sweeney ~ Mark Clements

HONORARY PALLBEARERS
Michael Garfield ~ Johnathan Dabbs
Jordan Martin ~ Ethan Martin

AT REST
Martin Family Cemetery