

**MARIE COUDURES JOHNSTON****8/19/21-1/7/18**

Marie Coudures Johnston, a member of the Coudures pioneer farming family of Perris Valley, passed away peacefully on January 7 at the age of 96. Marie, the youngest of four children, was born in the Riverside area on August 19, 1921 and her family moved to Perris when she was only six months old, where she resided until her marriage in 1948.



Marie attended Perris schools and made time for sports, CSF, Girls League, and 4H while doing chores on the farm including turning hay and working in the bean fields. Upon graduation from Perris High School in 1939 Marie attended cosmetology school and did secretarial work at Camp Haan during WWII.

A definite highlight of Marie's life was a trip in 1947 with her parents to France to visit their birthplaces. Marie spoke fondly of driving the "big black Chrysler" to New York, where they and the Chrysler boarded a ship for France. They spent five marvelous months visiting with many relatives there.

In 1948 Marie married Charles Johnston, and they settled in Pomona where they raised two children, Katie and Chuck. They remained in Pomona until Katie gave birth to their only granddaughter, Mikela, and also required a kidney transplant. Marie and Charles spent many years in Bakersfield caring for Katie and Mikela, and continued to live there and raise Mikela after Katie passed away in 1997 from cancer.

During their retirement Marie and Charles did a lot of traveling, especially enjoying additional trips to France, England, Ireland, Canada, Hawaii, Alaska, as well as a cruise through the Panama Canal.

Marie is preceded in death by her husband, Charles Johnston, her parents John Coudures Sr. and Marie Lassa Coudures, her daughter Katherine Bernal, her brother John Coudures Jr, and her sisters Louise Martin and Denise McBride. She is survived by her son, Charles Johnston (Rose Thommen) of Chino Hills, her granddaughter Mikela Oberg (Bryan) of Bakersfield, and two great-grandchildren, Ethan and Rylee Oberg as well as many nieces and nephews.

Arrangements are entrusted to Miller-Jones Mortuary – Perris. The family will receive friends from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM on Friday, January 19, 2018 at Miller-Jones Mortuary – Perris, 1835 N. Perris Blvd., Perris, California. Funeral Mass to held at St. James the Less Catholic Church, 269 West 3rd Street, Perris, California, on January 19, 2018 at 12:00 PM. Committal service to follow at 1:30 PM at Perris Valley Cemetery, 915 N. Perris Blvd., Perris, California.