

BARBARA ARLENE KELLEY

Barbara Arlene Gripes Kelley, 87, of Callahan, passed away March 10, 2020. Barbara lived a full life, leaving us with beautiful memories, active family and enough love to span decades for generations. She would have been 88 years young on her next birthday, but that was never a priority to her. She was born November 18, 1932 in Cambridge, Nebraska to Arlie and Dorothy Gripe and younger sister Jean.

Barbara and Jim lived in Callahan for 23 plus years. She was involved in working the polls during elections and the NE FL Fair (where she won blue ribbons on her knitted blankets and afghans). She was treasurer of TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) and then KOPS (Keeping Off Pounds Sensibly) 20 plus years after reaching her goal weight.

Barbara retired as floor manager at JC Penney; and bookkeeper at Mac Paper Company. She and Jim enjoyed Square Dancing and Round Dancing with the Dixie Chain Gang, and were also active members of the Jumping Jacks RV Camping Club. They RV'd through most states in the Continental US. Barbara will be greatly missed. Her family and friends cherish her memory.

She was married to her husband of 69 years James Kenneth Kelley; her children Michael (Janice), Robert (Vicki) and Tommi (Jimmy) Harrell; 11 grandchildren Ryan, Kristin, LeRay, Jeanette, Kayla, Travis, Trey, Zack, Gena, Angela and Shelline; and 11 great-grandchildren Brock (Brionna), Erin, Emily, Lela, Jace, Bryson, Catherine, Rayn, Naomi, Chelsa and Hope; and one great-great grandchild Annallie.

It was her decision to be a donor to the UF Medical Program where she will help to educate medical students as they study anatomy. Afterwards, her body will be cremated and her ashes will be entombed at the Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed at www.callahanfh.com.