



## Evalyn J. Wohlford

July 16, 1929 - December 24, 2015

Evalyn J. Wohlford, age 86, of Huntington, died at 12:55 a.m. Thursday (December 24, 2015) at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne.

Visitation will be held from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Monday (December 28, 2015) at Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, Indiana. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday (December 29, 2015) at College Park United Brethren Church, 1945 College Avenue, Huntington, Indiana, with Pastors Gary Dilley and Steve Stull officiating. Burial will be in Gardens of Memory in Huntington County.

Preferred memorials are to Parkview Regional Medical Center Hospice, in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, Indiana, 46750.

Evalyn was born on July 16, 1929 in Huntington, the daughter of Audry and Ferne Jane (Wiles) Hammel. She graduated from Huntington High School in 1947. She attended the University of St. Louis School of Music. She married Charles Lee Wohlford on August 13, 1950 in Huntington, and he preceded her in death on September 22, 2000. Evalyn retired as a music teacher from the Huntington County Community School Corporation in 1991. She also was an adjunct professor at Huntington College, where she received her Master's degree in Music. She taught piano from her home for over 50 years and

played for the local Messiah production for 30 years. She was a longtime member of the East State Street Church of God in Huntington, where she accompanied on the piano for seven decades, and most recently attended College Park United Brethren Church in Huntington. She also was a member of the Retired Teachers Association. Evalyn expressed her love of music through playing and teaching piano, and she loved her family.

Survivors include a son - Eric L. (Marianne) Wohlford of Columbus, Indiana; a daughter - Sharon L. (Daniel) Sharp of Columbus; seven grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and brothers - Harold Hammel, Mark Hammel, Richard Hammel, and Jerald Hammel.

# Cemetery Details

## Gardens of Memory

11201 S. Marion Road 35  
Marion, IN 46952

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 28. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary  
35 West Park Drive  
Huntington, IN 46750  
(260) 356-1710  
wecare@baileylove.com  
<https://www.baileylove.com>

## Service

DEC 29. 10:00 AM (ET)

College Park Church  
1945 College Ave.  
Huntington, IN

# Tribute Wall

BL

“ Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Evalyn J. Wohlford



Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary - December 27, 2015 at 04:15 PM

SD

What a wonderful life. Her favorite song *To God be the Glory....She is coming home.*

Susie Dieringer - December 28, 2015 at 09:04 AM

BK

“ It's been 10 years since the passing of Evalyn. I'm leaving this more for myself. I met to leave a thought 10 years ago, but never got around to it. Evalyn was so much more than a piano teacher to me. I knew she loved and cared for me greatly. She was always a respectable lady and an example of Christ's love. There were many Monday afternoons where I wouldn't even touch a key. Evalyn would sit on the bench next to me and listen to whatever dilemma I was apparently going through at the time. She became my mentor and showed me what it means to love. Now 10 years later, I'm having a baby girl. We plan to name her after Evalyn. I can't think of a better example of love and grace. She was a remarkable lady.

Ben Knecht - March 12, 2025 at 02:22 PM

CJ

“ Great Lady! I have never forgotten "Don't Count Your Chickens Before They Hatch" and think of her class every time I hear or think of that song. Craig Johnson

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**Craig Johnson** - January 08, 2016 at 07:08 PM

DR

“ When Evalyn and I were both teaching at Central School, our rooms were next to each other. We had many fun and interesting conversations. She was loved and admired by all. I send my deepest sympathy. Marilou Wardrop

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**diana reed** - January 05, 2016 at 09:32 AM



“ Our hearts are breaking for the entire family of this wonderfully kind & generous woman. She love & accepted each & every one of us without reservation. That meant more than she ever knew. She touch our hearts like no one else could. She will be missed greatly by all of us, & so many more. Hugs for all... Lloyd & Nora Jean Green, Richard, Katherina & Jonathan Mills

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**Nora Niswonger-Green** - December 28, 2015 at 05:04 PM

PB

“ Evalyn was such an amazing piano teacher for our son, Steven. Truly a friend and mentor, always encouraging and supportive, she made a lasting impact on all of her students. We were honored to know her for many years, and always appreciated the grace and generosity with which she shared her musical gifts.

~Chaney and Pat Bergdall

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**Patricia Bergdall** - December 28, 2015 at 04:13 PM

NH

“ Sincerest sympathies to Evalyns family. She was a very dear lady with a contagious smile. Prayers for the comfort that only Christ can give. Natalie Hall

Natalie Hall - December 28, 2015 at 11:00 AM

NH

“ Natalie Hall lit a candle in memory of Evalyn J. Wohlford



Natalie Hall - December 28, 2015 at 10:58 AM

SD

“ Susie Dieringer lit a candle in memory of Evalyn J. Wohlford



Susie Dieringer - December 28, 2015 at 09:05 AM

SD

“ Evalyn was a wonderful lovely lady. She played piano at East State Street Church of God many years, was a very patient lady as she played for the choir, and many Cantatas, and services. She was always smiling even when we made mistakes, she was a great friend to everyone, and a wonderful mother and grandmother. She will be greatly missed but never forgotten. We love you Evalyn. Susie and Dan Dieringer.

Susie Dieringer - December 28, 2015 at 08:45 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Evalyn J. Wohlford.*



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December 28, 2015 at 05:16 AM



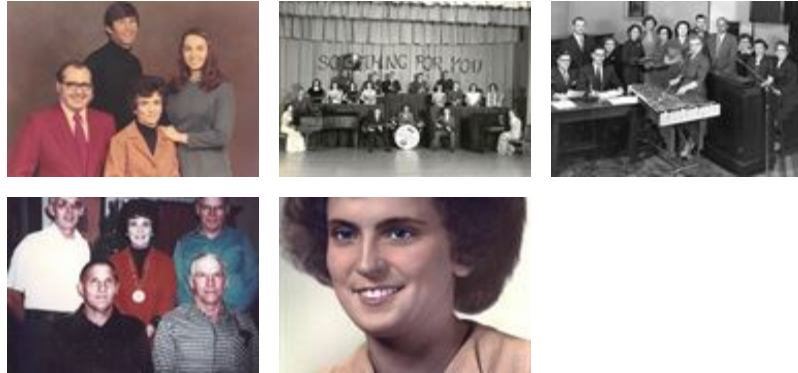
“ *Evalyn will be deeply missed. She was my wonderful piano teacher for many years, but taught me so much more than just how to play the piano. She taught me how to love, seen from her deep love of Chuck and also from the care she took of all her students. I wasn't the greatest piano player. It caused lots of anxiety to play, but she made it easy to play for her and never made me feel less than because of it. I mostly remember our talks. I think I needed her talks more than piano lessons. I felt cared for, loved and listened to. Often one is only given attention if they are really good at something. Evalyn wasn't like this. She cared more about the person than the skill. That is a huge lesson I learned from her. I loved being in her home, watching Jeopardy with Chuck, hearing him figure out the answers to his crossword puzzles and hearing all about the work he did for the Forks. I loved hearing her stories about her family and her faith and belief in Jesus Christ. Although I will miss her smile, happiness and hugs each time I saw her, I am so happy she is now reunited with her Chuck and her Jesus and am grateful she greatly impacted my life. I love you, Evalyn.*

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**Jenny Elliott** - December 27, 2015 at 09:34 PM



“ 24 files added to the album Life Tributes



Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary - December 27, 2015 at 04:05 PM



“ Kat Shideler lit a candle in memory of Evalyn J. Wohlford



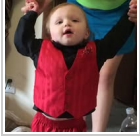
Kat Shideler - December 27, 2015 at 09:34 AM



“ Great Aunt Evalyn we miss you and love you. Thank you for always being a light in the dark for so many. R.I.H.



Monica Morehead - December 27, 2015 at 05:06 AM



“ *She was a wonderful woman she was always there for me as a young adult trying to find my way through life she will be missed dearly*



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**Sarah Reed Kohler** - December 27, 2015 at 03:22 AM



“ *She was one of my favorite teachers! She was a classy lady who always put a smile on your face & a song in your heart. I am sorry for your loss*

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**Kris Wiley** - December 27, 2015 at 02:37 AM



“ *One of the best teachers I have ever had, what a lovely compassionate lady. So sorry for your loss.*

*A past student, Michelle Criss*



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**Michelle Criss** - December 26, 2015 at 11:27 PM



“ *I have many fond memories of Mrs. Wohlford as our music teacher at Andrews Elementary School, especially the Christmas musical programs. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.*

*Terresa Wade Sabanski*

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**Terresa Sabanski** - December 26, 2015 at 10:41 PM

PW


*Best teacher ever!!! Best neighbor ever!!! I know she's enjoying time with her Lord!!! Love & prayers to her family!!!*

**Patti Waldfogel** - December 27, 2015 at 03:46 PM

DH

*“ Remember the many piano lessons taken from her, Her love for her Lord an the church was evident in her life. Than you for being an inspiration to me and many others. Donna Hammel,*

**Donna Hammel** - December 26, 2015 at 09:47 PM

 Dawn Blubaugh

*“ Thanks for the memories Mrs. Wohlford. RIP*

**Dawn Blubaugh** - December 26, 2015 at 09:46 PM

GH

*“ A very nice lady. Was my neighbor while growing up. Got to talk with here several years back in Marion mall shopping. We had a good laugh at how bad I was at playing piano. Glad I got to see her.*

**gina ulmer hueston** - December 26, 2015 at 08:58 PM

SW

*“ Sending prayers for the family - She will now be playing music with all of God's other musical angels.*



**Sally Wohlford** - December 26, 2015 at 08:06 PM

JJ

“ Sharon, Eric and family:  
You have our deepest sympathy, your mother was a special person  
and will be dearly missed.  
Richard Sarah Keplinger  
Janet Jones

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**Janet Jones** - December 26, 2015 at 07:56 PM

KW

“ I loved Mrs Wohlford dearly. Sweetest teacher ever. A life well  
lived...

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**Kevin Weaver** - December 26, 2015 at 06:57 PM

EB

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



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**Erica Bair** - December 26, 2015 at 05:50 PM



“ Tammy Millington lit a candle in memory of  
Evalyn J. Wohlford



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**Tammy Millington** - December 26, 2015 at 05:13 PM

 Laura Stearns

“ *Evalyn was my piano teacher for many years. I remember her patience and kindness with me every Monday after school, as I didn't always enjoy practicing during the week. My piano books were filled with her beautiful penmanship. I never understood how she could write so perfectly. She was a wonderful lady and will be missed.*

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**Laura Stearns** - December 26, 2015 at 04:08 PM

LK

“ *What a special lady! And ALWAYS a "lady"!! She touched so many with her love of music and inspired many a student to keep on working. Evalyn was a sweetheart as a piano teacher and knew how to encourage many of my children. She always made me feel that my kids were the best. I loved our heart to heart talks and hearing about the love of her life, Chuck, and her being lead each day by her best friend, Jesus! What a joy to know she is with them both now!!*

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**Linda Knecht** - December 26, 2015 at 03:56 PM

BH

“ *What a beautiful , loving woman. She went above and beyond the call of her teachers contract to help anyone who asked for her help. She loved her family with her all and found joy within all her students she taught....you will be sadly missed by all and please tell Uncle Chuck we love him . With love , sadness and respect , the Hutton Family*

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**Brenda Wohlford Hutton** - December 26, 2015 at 02:51 PM

CH

“ *Evalyn was sadly never my piano teacher, but the teacher to every child in my family younger than myself. I did watch them all learn to love music and this tiny giant of a woman. After I came home to Huntington again to settle with my little family, I enjoyed visiting with her and partaking of her wisdom and encouragement. I felt the struggle of a husband in school, little ones to take care of and being honest to myself and honoring my talent as a musician. She always had the perfect words for me and gave me the faith I needed in Christ and in myself that He would make my life what it was to be, even though the struggles would remain. I believed her and still believe her. I will never forget our phone conversations on so many winter mornings over the past years. I love you Evalyn and I am so happy to know you are finally with your Chuck!* ”

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**Christy** - December 26, 2015 at 02:45 PM

 Lisa Powell-Sabinske

“ *Mrs. Wohlford was my music teacher during elementary school. I have such amazing memories of music class. As an adult I really appreciate how much she did.* ”



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**Lisa Powell-Sabinske** - December 26, 2015 at 02:34 PM



“ *Kimberly Cutshall lit a candle in memory of Evalyn J. Wohlford* ”



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**Kimberly Cutshall** - December 26, 2015 at 01:58 PM

JE

“ Mrs. Woul ford was a wonderful teacher. I have many fond memories of her as my music teacher at Andrews Elementary. She always greeted students with a smile. My thoughts and prayers go to her family during this time of loss. A wonderful person she was.

Jenny Eckert - December 26, 2015 at 12:58 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Evalyn J. Wohlford.



December 26, 2015 at 12:51 PM

JK

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Jon Aaron Knecht - December 26, 2015 at 12:23 PM

JK

“ A typical Monday afternoon in my younger years: Sitting at Evalyn's kitchen table frantically filling out my music theory book (which should have been finished several days before), being distracted by a silent Mr. Wohlford working a crossword puzzle, while everyone listened to piano sounds drifting in from the next room. This was my quiet time. In a few minutes it would be my turn to sit at the piano. I never really felt completely prepared for it, but I'd always give it my best shot. She was always pleased with any progress, but she seemed to always know how much (or how little) I had practiced the previous week. Music was very serious to her and she expected results. Her instruction was always focused and sometimes repetitive, often reminding me of the same things week after week until I got it right. Her writing on my sheets of music bear testament to that! But maybe more importantly, she really cared about how I was doing as a person and never treated me as "just another student".

*Evalyn was one of the kindest and most caring souls I have ever known. Her love of music and her love of God permeated every aspect of her life. That love radiated outward to everyone who knew her, including me. I feel extremely fortunate to have known her, to be even a small part of her life, and to see God move through her. Jesus was her foundation, her hope, her strength, and she was not afraid to tell you about it. What an awesome example to me, and to us all!*

*Jon "Aaron" Knecht*

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**Jon Aaron Knecht** - December 26, 2015 at 12:02 PM



“ I've known Mrs. Wohlford since I was 6 years old and met with her every Monday for piano lessons for the next 12 years. She was a wonderful piano teacher and women. I feel the need to always keep up with piano playing for her and think about my experiences with her often. She was a great role model of someone who loves the Lord and a person of great faith. She had a wonderful relationship with Chuck which is something that I strive for in my own marriage. I know she and Chuck are with each other now. Speaking for the whole Knecht family, we love Evalyn.

David Knecht - December 26, 2015 at 11:56 AM

DA

“ I think I have known Evalyn most of my life and my memories are grand! I loved her sweet, gentle spirit. Listening to her play the piano at East State Street was always a blessing. She also played for the choir and I have so many fun memories of that!! She later in life, taught my Isaac to play the piano. I will cherish these memories forever. As sad as I am that she has left her earthly home, I'm rejoicing that she is with her Lord and Savior and once again is with her beloved Chuck!!! Until we meet again.....

Deanna (Hoch) Albertson - December 26, 2015 at 08:47 AM

E(

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Erica Bair (Granddaughter) - December 25, 2015 at 05:00 PM



“ *Evalyn was our son Darian's piano teacher. She has always been one of his favorite people, and inspired him to continue with piano, even after we moved from the area and he had to find a new teacher. None were ever the same, and our lives were so enriched by knowing her.*  
*Sorenson Family*

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**Jill Sorenson** - December 25, 2015 at 03:53 PM

RS

“ *Deepest sympathy to Eric, Sharon and families. Evelyn was a special person as was Chuck. We will miss them both. Nelson and Rosemary Schoeff*

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**Rosemary Schoeff** - December 25, 2015 at 03:41 PM

LF

“ *so sorry for you and family*  
*all my love mom fravel*



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**LINDA FRAVEL** - December 24, 2015 at 09:35 PM

SR

“ My daughter Hannah wrote this earlier in the week for a scholarship. It truly is how we feel about Evalyn. We will miss her so! The Ringo Family

*Essay by Hannah Ringo in Huntington, IN  
Keys*

*Her fingers fly on the keys, speaking volumes as her ancient wrinkly fingers find the notes. The tones rise and fall with every twist of the wrist. She doesn't know I stand in her doorway holding my breath, waiting for the final notes to sing. Her hands lift from the keys as if in water, gracefully landing in her lap. I exhale and she turns, startled. She beckons for me to switch her places. I sit and stare at the keys, wondering if I will ever make sounds like she can on the instrument. When she's ready, I place my fingers delicately on the ivory keys. I hear what it should sound like, how she would make it sound. Inhaling, I play the first note. It sings. Never like hers, but close. She listens intently to the music flowing from the inner workings of the instrument. As I finish, she smiles and praises the sound. We work until the time is up, her frail body starting to shake as her medication wears thin. I help her up and wrap my arms around her. Her gentle pressure squeezes my heart. I turn to walk away but look back to the woman sitting on the bench, stroking the keys.*

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**Susan Ringo** - December 24, 2015 at 04:28 PM

JA

*We have sweet memories of Evalyn from years ago. Such a gentle woman of God. What a celebration she is enjoying in heaven now. Love, Larry and Jamie Locke*

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**Jamie** - December 26, 2015 at 11:30 AM

SK

*I did not personally know her. I never heard her play. But what you have written stays in my heart today. I too, play a piano, my fingers growing stiff. In reading how she played I only wish i could she had stayed. I would have so enjoyed hearing the beauty in her fingers and how the sound of her heart still lingers. My only wish today is "Dear God, I hope I'm remember the same way".*

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**Sue Kelsey** - December 27, 2015 at 10:05 AM