

Mary Fast

April 6, 1915 – August 6, 2006

Longtime ARBA member Mary Fast died this year at the Thorne Care Center in Hutchinson, KS at the age of 91. She was born April 6, 1915 in Cawker City, KS and married Gerald Fast in 1966. Mr. Fast was a retired ARBA Judge and KSRBA Member. He passed away in 1991.

Mary was a member of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Hutchinson, KS. She was active in the Senior Club and Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Even with severe arthritis in her hands, she managed to go to the church and fold bulletins for the weekly church services.

Mary's hobbies were many. One of her favorite was painting faces on porcelain dolls. She enjoyed sewing and gardening. (Mary donated many of her ribbons made into pillows or vests to raffles and door prizes at local shows.) She enjoyed driving places and was known for having a heavy foot!

Mary and Gerald's greatest love was rabbits. She was noted for her Dutch, Florida Whites, Holland Lops, and Mini Lops. It was often said that Gerald and Mary could put fur on a fence post. (This was heavily emphasized by Oren Reynolds, one of their greatest competitors of Florida Whites.)

As partners, Mary and Gerald helped many youth get started with top notch breeding stock at a reasonable price. Free instructions came always came with the sale. Mary had a true interest in the youth of Salt City Rabbit Club and the local 4-H clubs. She attended the weddings and graduations of these youth even after there were not actively raising rabbits.

Mary and Gerald were the foundation of the Salt City Rabbit Club for many years. Mary served as secretary/treasurer and made all feel welcome. Her winning smile will be missed by all that knew her. Memorials may be sent to the ARBA in memory of Mary Fast. Memorials receive will go to the youth activities of ARBA.