



## Carol Ann Pflasterer

November 27, 1937 - November 27, 2022

Carol Ann Pflasterer -- farmer's daughter, recipe collector, family genealogist, National Park enthusiast, and confidant -- passed away at home on her 85th birthday, Sunday Nov, 27, 2022, surrounded by family and friends. Carol was born in Hinsdale, IL on November 27, 1937, the daughter of Samuel and Laura (Anderson) Wilkins. She married Roger Orlan Pflasterer on August 5, 1966 at Central Christian Church in Kankakee, IL. They shared nearly 33 years together before he preceded her in death on January 22, 1999.

Carol was just a country girl at heart, but Roger's work took them beyond the family farm in Manteno, on County Line Road, to Arizona and Texas, before settling back in Manteno in 1994. Wherever they went, Carol seemed to find her way back to her family and friends and the small town that she cherished. Carol was part of the Class of '55, the first to graduate from the "new" Manteno High School. She was a life member of the Manteno Historical Society and a member and past officer of the Manteno Women's Club. She was a member of the Community Presbyterian Church, but was known to also attend services at other local churches, depending on which one had the best music and food!

Carol loved a good story, a good project and she naturally found ways to weave them together. She passed along her love of quilting sitting around the frame during the winter months and she collected quilts and quilting friends

throughout her life. She got caught up in the scrapbooking craze and told our family stories through the volumes of pictures and mementos collected throughout the years. The Wilkins genealogy had been well researched, so she focused on documenting the Pflasterer genealogy through church records and other documents, some requiring translation from German.

Springtime meant digging in the dirt, planting and gardening. Some of her best times were spent learning and teaching canning, especially bread and butter pickles, apricot jam and apple butter. After the pantry was stocked for eating and sharing, it would soon be time for cookies. When Roger's Christmas Cookie Factory came to an end, the Cookie Lady emerged a few years later with a passion to decorate cookies with new ingredients and techniques. Boxes of cookies were mailed across the country and plates were delivered around town. Many a co-worker, nephew, friend or postal worker looked forward to Carol's Christmas cookies each year.

Besides sharing jars of jam and plates of cookies, Carol loved to entertain friends and family. Whether an afternoon tea, a holiday dinner or a Mardi Gras party, she loved to try new recipes and introduce new foods whenever possible. This love of food and recipes led to the publishing of two family and friends cookbooks. Version 2.0 arrived just in time for Carol to mail a dozen copies, as well as share a few with visitors. This would be her final project.

Outside of the home, Carol worked many years as an executive assistant at Riverside Hospital, Texas Children's Hospital and the University of Chicago. Two of her career highlights were a stint as the first patient representative at Riverside and organizing a reception for Pulitzer Prize winners at the University of Chicago.

Surviving are four sons and four daughters-in-law, Scott Lyons and Meizhen Ru, Bob and Debbie Pflasterer, John and Karen Pflasterer, J.P. and Erin

Pflasterer; one daughter and one son-in-law, Lisa Lyons and Steve Goad; eight grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband, Roger, she was preceded in death by her parents, and one sister, Jeanne Campbell.

A visitation will be held at 10 a.m. with a funeral service following at 11 a.m. on Saturday Dec. 10, at Community Presbyterian Church, Manteno. The funeral service will be streamed on the church's Facebook page and will be posted later on their YouTube channel. Cremation rites will be accorded prior to the services and private inurnment will occur at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Manteno Historical Society or the National Park Foundation.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

DEC 10. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Community Presbyterian Church  
64 S Walnut St  
Manteno, IL 60950

## Memorial Service

DEC 10. 11:00 AM (CT)

Community Presbyterian Church  
64 S Walnut St  
Manteno, IL 60950

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ Dearest Carol...You were such a wonderful Knowledgeable & Spiritual guide through my Personal & Public life. I cherished so our conversations and strategies to overcome some challenges that I had been presented with. ALL of these items-events-individuals were met with Blessed, Positive, Lasting solutions. I valued our Deployment Prep Discussions pre/post my Travels ...Always Proud to Be an American & Serve the United States My/Our country. You showed the reverence to what Freedoms are and how Precious they are to Demonstrate them to others..Domestically & Internationally. I will truly miss the shining Light of Wisdom you were in my Life!!!! Jennifer B

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**Jennifer Brez** - October 23, 2023 at 12:26 PM

JN

“ My good friend, although we didn't speak often we enjoyed every minute of our conversations when they did happen. Our years of working together at Texas Children's Hospital and enjoying Roger's baked goods are special memories. A side trip to Manteno during a Chicago business trip, will always be a precious memory. Rest well my precious friend.

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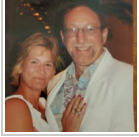
**Joanne Neely** - January 25, 2023 at 09:59 PM

JH

“ I just saw this in the paper. Condolences to all of Carol's family. We have such great memories of fun times with Carol. My favorite were all the get togethers out at 'the farm' every summer. Such great fun. Such a great friend. She will be missed

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**Jon Hinkleman** - December 17, 2022 at 03:04 PM



“ *Wow, what a Gem. Sorry for your loss.*

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**Ron Miller** - December 05, 2022 at 07:29 PM



“ *Carol was such an amazing individual. What a wonderful friend. I have spent countless hours at her kitchen table in deep conversation, while the two of solved the world's problems!....Well, okay, maybe just mine. She always assured me that if I ever needed an ear to listen or a shoulder to lean on, she was there. Especially after my own mother passed away, Carol became my safety net. She had a great sense of humor, a warm heart, an inquiring mind and a loving spirit. I enjoyed our meals together. It was an honor to try out her latest cookie recipe. My dear Mrs. P, I will miss you terribly. Love, Mrs. O*

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**Karen Oglesby** - December 05, 2022 at 11:11 AM



“ *Bryan & Joelene Hays lit a candle in memory of Carol Ann Pflasterer*



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**Bryan & Joelene Hays** - December 02, 2022 at 02:49 PM

MS

“ Carol was definitely a role model for me when I lived in Kankakee, Illinois. I admired her dedication to the Bradley-Bourbonnais band, her family, Roger, and her many friends. She hosted the best parties and made the most delicious cookies. Even after my professional path took me away from Kankakee, we stayed in touch. Roger and she attended my son Todd’s wedding in Akron Oh, and she was always sending me pictures of the evergreen tree she planted in their backyard which she received as the favor at the wedding. She was always there for my family and me. A great lady with a wonderful spirit. My condolences to her children and grandchildren.

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**Margo Snider** - December 01, 2022 at 02:36 PM

MA

“ Carol and I met at Texas Childrens. I was a young mom with a lot on my plate. My mom had passed away. She came along side me with love and friendship that helped me through a very hard time. I continued to turn to her for her pearls of wisdom through all these years. Carol made you feel like her most cherished friend. But I know she had a whole network of young women (not do young now!) all over the US who she loved. I'm going to miss her.  
Mary Anne Shuffler, Pearland, TX

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**mas7935@yahoo.com** - December 01, 2022 at 12:22 PM

AL

“ Carol was a good listener and a loyal and concerned citizen of Manteno. She loved her friends and enjoyed sharing her time and talents in the kitchen. Those of us who stopped by to visit were blessed to sit at her kitchen table to catch up on local events and small town politics while enjoying her “fresh from the oven” delicious treats. She loved to listen to my chatter about village board meetings and committee meetings while adding her perspective and her witty views of life in Manteno. Her caring concern was evident as she would tell me to “stop over anytime!” During a visit just 2 weeks ago, Carol’s eyes sparkled while her focus was making me feel welcome and sharing conversation. We both knew that her time was closing in but it didn’t stop her Joy in being a great listener and conversationalist, with a smile on her face. Thank you for your friendship, Carol! You will be missed!❤️

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**Annette LaMore** - December 01, 2022 at 07:55 AM



“ Carol was a wonderful loving aunt. She enjoyed her family and friends and was always ready to pitch in and help. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. We will miss her. We emailed her this fall when we were in Germany and she was eager to hear about our trip.

Love, Brenda and Matt Reidy

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**Brenda Reidy** - November 30, 2022 at 05:50 PM

DK

“ I met Carol at Manteno Women's Club about ten years ago. Smart, funny and always a twinkle in her eye. I've enjoyed a luncheon at her house. A plate of cookies and a cookbook. About two years ago we discovered when I moved to Illinois we rented a big brick home and moved on because it had been sold. Carol and her family moved in. I will miss her wit and laughter

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**Dee Kerouac** - November 30, 2022 at 01:53 PM