



Flo Simpson

August 15, 1913 - August 27, 2011

Flo Simpson, 98, of Bourbonnais, died Saturday (Aug. 27, 2011) at the Miller Center in Kankakee. Visitation will be from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais, where funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday. Pastor William H. Callister will officiate.

Burial will be in Kankakee Memorial Gardens, Aroma Township. Memorials may be made to Zion Lutheran Church, Clifton, where she was a member; or to Prairieview Lutheran Home in Danforth.

She was born Aug. 15, 1913, in Scott City, Kan., the daughter of Joseph and Mary Lamb Lynch. Her husband, Joe Simpson, whom she married Sept. 30, 1939, in Iowa City, Iowa, died Oct. 3, 1991. She taught dance in Wichita, Kan. and Waterloo, Iowa, and owned her own studio in Kankakee. She had been the choreographer for "Fiddler on the Roof," "Camelot" and "Bye Bye Birdie" for Kankakee Eastridge High School. After retiring, she spent her remaining years serving the Lord by serving others, making quilts and layettes for Lutheran World Relief, and in Interfaith Sewing, making clothing for children in need.

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, Joe and Beverly Simpson, of Burr Ridge; one grandson, Joe M. Simpson, of Burr Ridge; and many special nieces and nephews in Momence, Manteno and Wichita, Kan.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

www.lutheransonline.com/zionclifton

www.prairieviewlutheran.com/

Cemetery Details

Kankakee Memorial Gardens

15 S. 3000 E. Rd.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 30. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Funeral Service

AUG 31. 11:00 AM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 932-1214
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Tribute Wall



“ Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Flo Simpson



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - August 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ I am a former dance student of Mrs. Simpson. I took tap, acrobat and ballet lessons back in the 50's and remember driving from Herscher into Kankakee after school with my mother. To this day I love to dance and can still "brush step ball step" to almost any song, only now I do that with my granddaughter who takes lessons. Just last month I took out an old picture of myself in my first dance recital costume. Then I took the costume, which I still have, and had my granddaughter put it on. I now have a picture of both of us at age 6 wearing the bright lime green and hot pink outfit. Mrs. Simpson played a very important role in my life giving me courage to perform in front of strangers and showing me that anything was possible if you wanted it bad enough and practiced hard enough. I remember also a picture she had of herself standing in a doorway or next to a building with her leg straight up. It was as though she was doing the splits while standing. What an amazing woman.

Marianne Wilson - August 30, 2011 at 02:07 PM

LB

“ Mrs. Simpson's doll room was always such a treasure. I know that she loved showing me all of those dolls as much as I loved hugging them and loving them. She saw every doll as a potential happy memory, even those she found in less than perfect condition and spent the time to clean up, comb their hair just right, and dress to perfection in clothes she made herself.

She also taught us gymnastics in our living room, and as I got older, basics of dance in her living room. Her pride when I told her that I was taking dance classes once we had moved from Bourbonnais and was able to show her a few moves I had learned meant the world to me.

I feel very fortunate to have grown up with strong female role models and was sad today to hear one of them is now gone. Flo Simpson was an amazing woman and I'm blessed to have known her.

Lauren Banis

Lauren Banis - August 29, 2011 at 10:00 PM

JF

“ I've known Flo Simpson for most of my adult life. When Flo retired from her dance studio, she and her husband moved across the street from my family. And as the years past we grew closer and closer. Flo was like a second mother to me.

She spent many hours a day crocheting & knitting items for babies & sewing clothes for small children that needed them. Also making quilts at her church every week with her church friends for people in other countries. She always wanted to help people in need. I'll always remember Flo in her rocking chair making baby sweaters or sewing clothes in her doll room. She was never idle and never wanted to waste anytime.

Anytime there was a ballroom dancing program on TV, we would watch it together. Dancing was her joy. I've seen every picture she had of her dance students & newspaper articles about them. Also pictures of Flo from a very young age in dance poses.

Flo was a wonderful friend and truly an inspiration for me. She loved her family and they were her top priority. She will be truly missed.

Jan Foster

Jan Foster - August 29, 2011 at 06:14 PM

AH

“ I don't suppose a newspaper column can possibly convey the inspiration that Mrs. Simpson was to so many of us girls (and our mothers!). Visiting her Doll Room was one of the great joys of my childhood, and we tried to subtly rush in, always eager to see what was new. She taught us gymnastics in our livingroom. Laura Singer, Valerie Foltz, my sister Lauren Banis, and I are forever bonded by memories of those sessions and her generosity of spirit. Her boundless energy was an inspiration in to adulthood! My daughters often emerge wearing capes which she crocheted for my sister and me for Easter one year. Of course they had matching satchels and hats. I will continue to see that doll room in my mind's eye, and Mrs. Simpson will always be one of the great inspiring women of my youth. Andrea (Banis) Howell

Andrea (Banis) Howell - August 29, 2011 at 12:20 PM

CM

Flo Simpson was the perfect idea of a caring loving giving person. She always gave more than she took for sure. I spect several months a few years ago with her and was awed by her dedication to helping others and her crotcheting of the baby sweaters. She touched so many lives in so many ways and will be greatly missed. God Speed dear Flo!

Cindy McCasky

Cindy McCasky - August 30, 2011 at 06:26 PM