



Joyce Bentz

April 27, 1931 - January 9, 2026

Joyce Bentz, age 94, of Kankakee, formerly of Anoka, MN and Bella Vista, AR, passed away Friday, January 9, 2026, in Kankakee.

She was born April 27, 1931, in Lenora, KS, the daughter of Noah & Florence Archer Frederick.

Joyce married Dr. Herman D. Bentz on July 3, 1953, in Denver, CO. In July of 2021, he preceded her in death after 68 years of marriage.

Joyce had been a nurse and homemaker.

She loved playing the piano. She was gifted at needlepointing and created many beautiful pieces including kneelers at Bella Vista – Highland United Methodist Church.

She enjoyed travelling throughout the world. Joyce was a talented baker and her family could never get enough of her “grandma rolls.”

Joyce was a devout member of Asbury United Methodist Church and was an active member of any church she attended over the years.

Surviving are five children, Pamela (Alan) Nottke of Bourbonnais, Steven (Dianne) Bentz of Coon Rapids, MN, David Bentz of Brooklyn Park, MN, Wendy Lantz of Fullerton, CA, and Janelle Southan of Elkins, AR; one daughter-in-law, Renita Bentz-Miller of CA; one sister, Marvalee Morris of Denver, CO; eighteen grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband, Joyce is preceded in death by her parents; one son, Matthew Bentz; two sons-in-law, Glenn “Chip” Lantz and Phillip Southan;

her twin sister, Jeanine Handjani; and her brother, Paul Frederick.

Cremation rites have been accorded.

A memorial visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. memorial service on Saturday, January 17, 2026, at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais.

Rev. Daniel Diss will officiate the ceremony.

Private family inurnment will be held in Grand Rapids, MN at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Uplifted Care.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JAN 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

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

Memorial Service

JAN 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

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