



Marilyn May Miller

July 30, 1930 - July 2, 2022

Marilyn May Miller, age 91, of Papineau passed away Saturday, July 2, 2022 at Alexion Brothers Hospice in Elk Grove. Marilyn was born July 30, 1930 in Papineau, the daughter of Walter & Edna May (Frogge) Ruebensam.

Marilyn was a lifetime member of the Immanuel United Church of Christ in Papineau. The love of music flowed through her family. Marilyn played the organ at the church for at least 75 years.

After receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree with a double major in English and Speech from Northwestern University in Evanston, she then married Harley on June 21, 1952. They lived in Cheyenne, WY for two years. They returned to Papineau for the remainder of their 67 years of marriage.

Mrs. Miller taught Speech and English for 23 years at St. Anne Community High School. Once she retired from teaching, she continued farming with Harley. Her job was running the combine until she was 83 years old.

Marilyn and Harley enjoyed showing the American Saddlebred Horse with their three daughters for years covering six states. She was an avid reader and enjoyed knitting. Besides dancing with her husband, Marilyn enjoyed visiting with family and friends. Her enthusiasm for life and sparkling personality will be missed.

She was a member of the American Cancer Society, Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority, Iroquois County Republican Women, and she was on the Board of the Iroquois County Historical Society Old Courthouse Museum.

Surviving are one daughter and two sons-in-law, Carol & Gene Lillge of

Crystal River, FL and Wayne Cox of Charleston; nine grandchildren, Kristy (Matt) Stary, Jack (Christine) Carlton, Marcy Reeder, Mike Carlton, Ross Lillge, Jayna (Gabe) Menser, Rachel (Danny) Schwartz, Kendra Smyser (Zeb Jones), and Hilary (Michael) Donley; thirteen great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, Harley Miller, who preceded her in death on October 23, 2019, Marilyn was preceded in death by two daughters and one son-in-law, Emma & Ray Carlton and Jane Cox. Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial visitation will be held from 11:00 a.m. until the time of the 1 p.m. memorial service on Saturday, July 9, 2022 at the Immanuel United Church of Christ in Papineau. Rev. Craig Forwalter will officiate the service. Inurnment will be held at a later date at Kankakee Memorial Gardens in Aroma Park Township. Memorials may be made to the Immanuel United Church of Christ. Arrangements by Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. Please sign her guestbook at www.clancygernon.com.

Cemetery Details

Kankakee Memorial Gardens

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

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JUL 9. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Immanuel United Church of Christ
108 W. Papineau St.
Papineau, IL
:(815) 428-7273

Memorial Service

JUL 9. 1:00 PM (CT)

Immanuel United Church of Christ
108 W. Papineau St.
Papineau, IL
:(815) 428-7273

Tribute Wall

MJ

“ Marilyn was my English teacher in 1958. She challenged me and the whole class to always be our best. She encouraged me to stand up for my beliefs even if I were the only one standing. That has served me well throughout the years since. We shared having both grown up in Papineau. St Anne High School was fortunate to have such an outstanding teacher.

Mary Ann (Henneike)Jimenez

Mary Ann Jimenez - August 03, 2023 at 10:22 AM

YE

“ Mrs. Miller was my English/Speech teacher at St. Anne HS in St. Anne, Illinois in 1962-63. She was firm, yet encouraging. 1965 was my graduating class; she was our class sponsor. I looked forward to seeing her at our Class reunions every ten years or so. As the years slipped by she became my favorite teacher. For one speech class I memorized and recited 80 lines of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam. The entire class was amazed, me included. Her congratulations meant a lot to me. She recognized a budding brilliance and spoke her discovery in such a way I believed in me from then on. Thank you Mrs Marilyn Miller. You touched me.

Sincerely,

Yusuf Ali El, aka Joe Herndon Mitchell

yusuf ali el - December 19, 2022 at 05:49 AM

AR

“ you are in our prayers from the Murrell family

Amonez Louise Rover(Murrell) - July 08, 2022 at 10:02 PM

AP

“ Mrs. Miller was a challenging English teacher who I came to appreciate for the standards she set for teaching and learning. Her example guided me in my career. I wish there were more teachers like her.

Ardella Perry-Osler - July 08, 2022 at 05:48 PM

DO

“ Marilyn was the inspiration for so many things in my life from her love of theater, dancing, and adventure. She was the link between many of our St. Anne graduates and I know all of us were honored by her friendship and mentoring. And she made us understand the importance of diagramming sentences!

Dianna Orf - July 08, 2022 at 12:28 PM

MA

“ Marilyn was such a loving friend to me. She and I worked together for the American Cancer Society - going to meetings in Chicago and etc. and I also cut her hair and occasionally Harley's. They were such spirited people - always willing to help everyone.....They are now together enjoying heavenly life.

*Marilyn and Tom Busick
Sheldon, Illinois*

Marillyn - July 07, 2022 at 02:39 PM

CK

“ The Miller's were a second family to me. Carol has been my best friend for 60 years
Marilyn was always so kind and very supportive to me. I'll miss her. I loved her and am praying for Carol and the rest of Marilyn's family. Sending my prayers and love ❤️🙏❤️

cathy Kelsey - July 07, 2022 at 02:47 AM



“ *My English teacher and the person who motivated my interest in journalism. We would often see and greet each other over a five decade period- I will always think of her when I recall my years at St. Ann High School as her kindness was a special blessing.*

James Taylor - July 06, 2022 at 07:13 PM

KJ

“ *She was one of the kindest and most genuine people I've ever known. She touched many lives and will be greatly missed.*

Karen Jennings - July 06, 2022 at 05:28 PM

CM

“ *I will always remember her as a good friend as well as my favorite English teacher in high school. My sympathy to her family.*

Cheryl Mancuso - July 06, 2022 at 01:26 PM

CB

“ *I loved Mrs. Miller and had her for several classes at St. Anne HS. She always made you strive to be your best. My deepest sympathy to Carol and the rest of her family. She was truly one of a kind.*

Caroline Chayer Boudreau - July 06, 2022 at 12:01 PM

GD

“ *She truly was an Angel here on earth, She & Harley were two of my favorite people. Loved the many days of sitting, talking, and sharing stories. Marilyn was always there to lend a hand or an ear whichever you needed. We can only imagine the reunion in Heaven right now.*

Gina DeYoung - July 06, 2022 at 11:30 AM