



Marjorie D. Berry

January 19, 1922 - December 25, 2015

Marjorie (Jensen) Berry, 93, of Bourbonnais, passed away on Friday (Dec. 25, 2015) after enjoying a very long, full and generous life.

She was born Marjorie Jensen on Jan. 19, 1922, in Momence, the daughter of James and Sina (Hyrup) Jensen. Her parents preceded her in death. She was very proud of her Danish heritage.

Mrs. Berry was a lifelong resident of Kankakee County. She began her career in 1942 at the City National Bank of Kankakee, and remained there until she retired in 1987. During those 45 years, she progressed from an entry-level bookkeeper to the position of corporate vice president and auditor. For more than 50 years, she had been a member of the Bradley Wesley United Methodist Church.

Marjorie Berry will be remembered most by family and friends for her devotion to her family, friends, church and numerous community service organizations. Marge Berry delivered Meals on Wheels for 35 years (7,000 hours), and had the distinction of serving the very first Meals on Wheels dinner in 1974 and the very last dinner in 2009. In addition, she spent every free minute of her time for eight years as a founding member and treasurer of the Kankakee Westview Spurs Club. (The Spurs voluntarily transformed a rock field behind the current Kankakee High School into one of the premiere multi-sport

complexes in the State of Illinois.) Marge volunteered her time and served as a main ticket seller for all Kankakee Westview High School athletic events from 1968-1977. Also, Marge was a long time member and past President of the Zonta Club of Kankakee as well as a member of the Kankakee Elks Country Club. Marjorie Berry was named the Riverside Hospital Volunteer of the Year in 2009 and an Outstanding Volunteer of Kankakee County in 2015.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Bennie A. Berry; her sister, Iris (Jensen) Griggs; and her brother, James L. Jensen.

Surviving are her sister, Ruth (Jensen) Buck, of Bourbonnais, as well as numerous cousins, nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews, great-great-nieces and nephews; and her many friends.

Visitation will be 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais; and 9 Thursday until the 10 a.m. services at Bradley Wesley United Methodist Church, followed by interment in Mount Airy Cemetery in Momence.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Airy Cemetery

Momence, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **30**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

DEC **31**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Wesley United Methodist Church
500 N. Cleveland
Bradley, IL 60915
(815) 933-7932
<http://www.bradleywesley.org/>

Funeral Service

DEC **31**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Wesley United Methodist Church
500 N. Cleveland
Bradley, IL 60915
(815) 933-7932
<http://www.bradleywesley.org/>

Tribute Wall

KI

“ Kimberly lit a candle in memory of Marjorie D. Berry



kimberly - January 31, 2016 at 12:45 PM

RH

“ What a beautiful Christian women! She loved us and supported us and blessed us from the time we walked in the door of Wesley Church, and even after we left, she helped us do our first Christmas open house at our next church in Decatur. She never doubted her place in God's heart, and so she was free to welcome others into the sunlight of God's love. She was the embodiment of extravagant hospitality, always hoping that, at the moment of her death, she would be throwing her last nickel over her shoulder. I wish we could have been there to see it. God's love never had a better witness.

Rev. Stan Haxton and Rev. Mary Louise Haxton

Rev. Stan Haxton - December 31, 2015 at 03:42 PM

BE

“ Marge you are what I think of when I first walk into church, because you were the first person to greet us when we walked into Wesley! I loved the way you always had a smile and compliment for me and my kids. Thank you for giving that warmth comfort feeling to people. I know you are feeling GODs love and Hugs now. Peace to you

Beth - December 31, 2015 at 03:12 PM

VN

“ *My sympathy to Marge's family! She was a wonderful, giving person. At one time there was interaction between the Wesleyan Service Guild at Asbury United Methodist Church (where I am a member) and Wesley United Methodist Church and this is where we shared fellowship together.*

Virginia Nyhuis

Virginia Nyhuis - December 30, 2015 at 09:31 PM

MO

“ *Mona lit a candle in memory of Marjorie D. Berry*



Mona - December 30, 2015 at 01:24 PM

DC

“ *Marj my Zonta sister and friend. I will always admire her giving soul. She was Zonta's Christmas Salvation Army Bell Ringer, she coordinated all of us jingle bells. I recently ran into Marj at Bickford Place while doing my job. She called out to me "Hey Lady what are you doing here?" I went over and gave her a big hug. It made my day and put a smile on my face for the rest of the day. Marj keep them smiling up in Heaven.*

Your Zonta Sister

Debbie Caise

Debbie Caise - December 30, 2015 at 11:48 AM

DK

“ Donna Karr lit a candle in memory of Marjorie D. Berry



Donna Karr - December 29, 2015 at 09:55 PM



“ She was an amazing lady and a great role model for us kids in Sunday School. She will be missed.



Sam Preston - December 29, 2015 at 06:10 PM

OB

“ Oleene Bieber lit a candle in memory of Marjorie D. Berry



Oleene Bieber - December 29, 2015 at 11:52 AM

MS

“ I found my cousin Marge many ways across when I was searching my family in America. Though we didn't know us by person, she was so helpful to me and always so very kind!

I never would have find my Granduncle (my Grandma's brother) if Marge wouldn't give her help to me. She told me so much about our family, she was a really treasure keeper and teller!

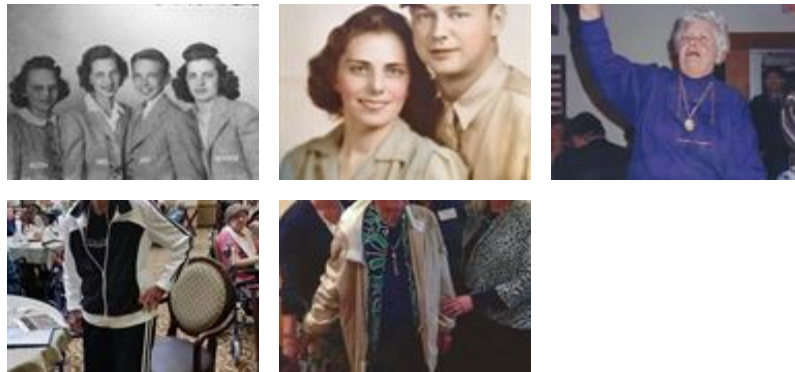
I am so very thankful for that all, and Marge will ever be in my heart.

Ruhe in Frieden - Rest in Peace, dear Marge.

Monika Schenk - December 29, 2015 at 11:26 AM



“ 88 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - December 29, 2015 at 08:49 AM

PH

“ *Paula Hyrup lit a candle in memory of Marjorie D. Berry*



Paula Hyrup - December 28, 2015 at 07:02 PM

AS

“ *Andrew Smith lit a candle in memory of Marjorie D. Berry*



Andrew Smith - December 28, 2015 at 05:08 PM

DS

“Where to begin... I first knew of Marge when she helped with the Kayhawk's Booster Club. I say I knew of her because we hadn't been formally introduced - but I knew who she was! I'm sure I bought a truckload of popcorn from her during the various games I attended. She loved Westview!

Then, in 1973 I started working in the Trust Department of City National Bank. I always wondered why everyone was so frightened of Auditor Marge Berry because, although gruff, she wasn't someone I was every afraid of at all! She may have treated me more kindly since I was a former Westview student, and a Methodist, but I don't think so. I think she enjoyed the attention that being gruff got her as she'd say to me, "I just don't know why people are so scared!" At one point I even worked in her department for a while and got to know her even better. My mother made us matching old fashioned tennis outfits for some occasion. On another, my mother made Marge her famous Carrie Nation outfit. She carried a Bible and a hatchet for that one! She loved CNB!

In 1988 I became a Zontian and was thrilled that Marge was a Sister Zontian. She was not just a Zontian to the bone, she walked the walk! She was active to the very end and was our 'Head Ding-a-ling', her name not ours, organizing our two nights of ringing bells for The Salvation Army. Her service included being our President two separate times - 1980 to 1982 and 1985 to 1986. For a club this active, that's phenomenal! She loved Zonta!

We shared a denomination also, being United Methodists, and she helped me out by auditing our books a couple of times. All she ever wanted for payment was to be invited to one of our potlucks. We shared our faith in a couple of talks and, even here, her twinkling eyes and her wit came through. She loved God!

In one of the times she was in the hospital, I called her to see how she was doing. This particular phone conversation was when she went into the hospital from her condo because she wasn't eating

properly. She said, in her booming voice, "Listen here, in 30 years this is going to happen to you too since you don't cook!" She always had me laughing - I like to think she loved me a little bit too!

I can't begin to express my sympathy but it is deep and true. I will miss my friend so very much but her wit, her humor, her zest for life, her faith in God and the love she had for oh so many will be the legacy that I carry with me. Rest in peace dear Marge, you will never be forgotten!

Dorci Schoolman

Dorci Schoolman - December 27, 2015 at 09:40 PM

AS

Dorci - What a beautiful tribute. Thank you for sharing your wonderful memories. Aunt Marge did indeed love you.

Ann Schramm - December 28, 2015 at 09:19 AM

JV

I was so sorry to hear of Marge's passing. What an inspiration she was to so many people. Marge was a loyal friend to my parents and to me. She was there supporting and holding us up when each of my parents were ill and then was with us in their deaths. When I think about Marge, I think of her witty humor, her proud independence, her countless volunteer activities, her numerous friends, her bright spirit, and how she would light up any room she entered. We will miss talking to her on the phone, seeing her when we got to Illinois for a visit, receiving her creative and funny computer-made greeting cards, and just knowing she was such a positive force in this world. I looked to Marge with such respect and love. Although we weren't related, I considered her to be like my favorite aunt, and felt honored to be in her circle of friends. We extend our sympathy to dear Ruth and everyone in the family, all of whom she dearly loved. Love, Joan and Alan Vogel

Joan Vogel - December 28, 2015 at 05:42 PM

SS

“ *Sandy Schweigert lit a candle in memory of Marjorie D. Berry*



Sandy Schweigert - December 27, 2015 at 08:26 PM