



Joanne Martin Jenkins

SEP 13, 1929 - JAN 26, 2016



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



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Joanne Martin Jenkins was born Friday, September 13, 1929 in Chicago, Illinois. She attended nursing school in Baltimore, where she met and fell in love with a Johns Hopkins student from Bartlett, Tennessee, George William “Buddy” Jenkins II. They married and moved to Knoxville, and then to Memphis. Joanne worked as a nurse at the Kennedy VA Hospital on Getwell, and then became nighttime emergency room supervisor at John Gaston Hospital, predecessor to The Med. She wrote the first policy and procedure manual for that emergency room. She saved many lives Easter Sunday night, 1960, by evacuating mothers and babies when the next door neighbor to John Gaston, Russwood Park, burned down. Once all of her children were in school, she enrolled in Memphis State University and earned her BSN. Later, she attended Memphis State Law School, and in 1983 received her JD degree. She worked as an attorney with the Hardison Law Firm and then the Wagerman Law Firm. Throughout all this time at various times, she was a Den Mother, Scoutmaster spouse, Girl Scout leader, Ombudsman for nursing home residents, and tutor for Sherwood Elementary students. Joanne was extremely active in the Church of the Holy Spirit, helping with the Loaves and Fishes Food Ministry, the Parish Social Ministry, the Bereavement Ministry, the Holly Shoppe, and the Fun Group. As a retiree she traveled to Haiti to help with the medical mission the church supports. Until her last few years, she served as a Lector at Sunday and daily Masses. Joanne was a special friend to Mother Teresa’s Shelter and the Sisters of Charity who staff the shelter. She prepared dinner for the shelter monthly for many years and in the summertime made lunch for the day campers, enlisting others of her family in that lunch preparation. Joanne’s husband, Dr. George Jenkins, predeceased her by 13 years. She missed him every day of those 13 years, though she did enjoy her large and growing family. She was eager to join her husband in Heaven. Joanne Jenkins passed away at Methodist Hospice Residence on Tuesday, January 26, 2016. All of her



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family called her, “Gammy”. Gammy leaves behind her sons, Dr. Bruce Jenkins (Katrina), Judge Bill Jenkins (Laura), and daughters, Annette Hayden (Dan), Kathy Merrick (Nigel), Carolyn Carter, and Debbie Russell; 15 grand children, Chris, Ryan, Courtney, Ellen, Conor, Deirdre, Wade, Eric, Brennan, Tim, Austin, Grant, Rachel, Wendy, and Amy; 6 great-grandchildren; Zoe, Izabelle, Campbell, Liam, Penny, and Adriana, and truly, countless friends. The family will receive friends from 5-8 pm with a Rosary to begin at 8 on Friday, January 29 at Memorial Park Funeral Home. A Funeral Mass will be at 3:00 pm on Saturday, January 30 at Church of the Holy Spirit. The family requests any memorials may be sent to Missionaries of Charity. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave. Memphis, TN 38119. “Celebrating Life... Behind the Stone Wall”



Tribute Wall

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FC

From The Leaders, Parents And Cubscouts posted:

From the Leaders, Parents and Cubscouts of Pack 75 purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joanne Martin Jenkins.

January 29 at 7:22 AM

DE

Deena posted:

I was Diane Bissell then.

January 29 at 6:32 AM

DE

Deena posted:

I loved her and your Dad. I worked for him for several years twice. I used to babysit the "older" kids when JoAnne had to pull an "all-nighter and The Doctor stayed at another hospital. They were such terrific giving people..They are part of my fondest memories! I could give you many examples of their the love the had for each other, the family and The Lord. They both dedicated themselves to healing, both physically as well as emotionally.Much love and prayers for comfort for the family and friends.

January 29 at 6:30 AM

LF

Love Wanda Johnson And Family posted:

Love Wanda Johnson and Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Joanne Martin Jenkins.

January 29 at 6:22 AM

PG

Pediatric Medical Group posted:

Pediatric Medical Group purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Joanne Martin Jenkins.

January 28 at 6:40 AM

BL

Bob And Teresa Looney posted:

Bob and Teresa Looney purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Joanne Martin Jenkins.

January 28 at 5:10 AM



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Andrea B. Bragg posted:

Andrea B. Bragg purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Joanne Jenkins.

January 27 at 10:26 AM



Mrs. D. Ward posted:

My sincere condolences. The death of a loved one can be very difficult, no matter how many their years. Pleased take comfort in God's wonderful promise of the resurrection. Jesus says this, at John 5:28-29. ' Do not be amazed at this for the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear His voice and come out....'. God always keeps His promises. (Titus 1:2, Psalms 83:18)

January 27 at 8:43 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Joanne by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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