



Joann Mary VanBuskirk

February 14, 1937 - May 27, 2020

. Joann Mary VanBuskirk, age 83, of Hedrick, passed away on Wednesday, May 27, 2020, at the Ottumwa Regional Health Center. She was born on Sunday, February 14, 1937, in Cantril, Iowa, the daughter of James H. and Elizabeth (Mellott) Engle. She attended the Bondurant High School and graduated with the class of 1957. After High School Joann joined Iowa State Bank in Des Moines and worked there for several years. On April 18, 1962, she was united in marriage to Rex VanBuskirk at Lancaster, Missouri, Rex died in 1986. Following their marriage, they moved to Oskaloosa and Joann went to work at the "Old" Continental Overall Factory. She later took a job as a Nurse's Aide and LPN at the Mahaska County Hospital in Oskaloosa. In 1987, she took the position of manager at Hedrick Housing. She retired from there in 2007. She was a member of the Hedrick-Martinsburg United Methodist Church. She loved dirt track racing especially cheering for her family on the track. She enjoyed going for walks and watching and feeding the birds. She looked forward to the hummingbirds coming back to her feeder every spring. Most of all she delighted in spending time with her family.

Her family includes her children, Sandra Amsdam of Indianola, Nancy Bertrand of Des Moines, William "Bill" (Janet) VanBuskirk of Hedrick, Scott (Christy) VanBuskirk of Hedrick, Michael (Bonnie) VanBuskirk of Packwood, Terry (Sherri) VanBuskirk of Titusville, Florida; a daughter in law, Robbie VanBuskirk; fourteen grandchildren; twenty great grandchildren; a sister Gertrude Phillips of Oskaloosa; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband, Joann was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Charles "Skip" VanBuskirk; two sisters, Donna Jean Engle and Geraldine Gilbert; a brother, James Engle; and a special friend, Eugene "Jeep" Vogel. A graveside service for Joann will be held on Sunday, May 31, 2020 at 1:30 P.M. in the Brooks Cemetery near Hedrick, Iowa, with Reverend Bill Hornback officiating. There will be a private family visitation. According to the rules put in place by the Iowa Department of Public Health, proper social distancing and reasonable personal protective equipment is advised for attending a religious public event. The Fremont Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements. Memorials may be made to Hedrick Housing.

Cemetery Details

Brooks Cemetery

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAY 31. 1:30 PM (CT)

Brooks Cemetery

Tribute Wall



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Joann Mary VanBuskirk.*



May 29, 2020 at 03:13 PM



“ *Justin Hopkins purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Joann Mary VanBuskirk.*



Justin Hopkins - May 29, 2020 at 12:47 PM



“ *It was always a blessing and joy to spend time with Joanne as she was one of the most loving, positive, fun, strong, persevering women I know. Thinking of her now brings happiness to my heart amidst the tears, happy to have known and loved her, sad because her beautiful soul will be missed by so many. She laughed despite pain, loved despite loss, persevered despite unbelievable challenges and taught me so much about how to live a really good life. Still working on it. I would say Rest In Peace, my sweet friend, but it just doesn't fit her. I know she's not resting, it wasn't her way, she's doing something and I know she's laughing with her beautiful smile and loving the company she's in, just as she always did here. Love you forever, see you again. ❤️ Jenny Murphy (Jeep's niece)*

Jenny Murphy - May 28, 2020 at 10:50 PM

MS

“ I am deeply saddened by this news. She always treated me like I belonged in your family. My condolences to all of her family.
Mark Scott

Mark Scott - May 28, 2020 at 10:18 PM

BW

“ She was always the life of the breakfast table every morning I came to work she would flag me down! She loved with every bit of her heart and had the caregivers of prairie hills wrapped around her finger. Often after morning pass I would go visit her, talk about my kids (she loved seeing them grow), my life and most importantly school. Her desire for me to finish was so incredible! She remembered every test I had, if I passed or failed and what to do better for next time! My condolences are with her family in this difficult time! I will always remember her as my “grandma” of Prairie Hills!

Brook Wyatt - May 28, 2020 at 09:45 PM

JM

“ I will always remember her smile. It could light up a room! Joyce Malast

Joyce E Malast - May 28, 2020 at 08:49 PM

MB

“ Mike & Joyce Malast , David & Tracy Chupp & Boys purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Joann Mary VanBuskirk.



Mike & Joyce Malast , David & Tracy Chupp & Boys - May 28, 2020 at 08:48 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joann Mary VanBuskirk.*



May 28, 2020 at 08:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joann Mary VanBuskirk.*



May 28, 2020 at 07:48 PM