



Joan Valerie Muir

June 18, 1930 - January 30, 2019

Born Valerie Joan Vance on June 18, 1930 to Maxine (Travis) and Johnny Vance of Greeley, Colorado, Joan rearranged her name to Joan V. Vance at a young age and it stayed for the rest of her life. The family moved to Rawlins, Wyoming where Joan grew up and resided until she was married. Joan loved talking about Rawlins, and wonderful family times camping, fishing and horseback riding--and even told stories of rattle snake hunting. Joan spent time at her mother's beauty salon and at one time thought she would be a hair dresser. Joan attended Rawlins High School and played saxophone in the marching band. Later, she transferred to St. Scholastica Academy, a Catholic High School for girls in Springfield, Colorado. St. Scholastica was run by the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago; and though not Catholic when she entered the academy, she was when she graduated and remained a woman of deep Faith throughout her life. Joan attended Adams State College in Colorado with a major in Nursing.

Joan met Bob Muir on a blind date in 1948. Bob was from Omaha, Nebraska, working summers for the Union Pacific Railroad in Rawlins. They were married May 19, 1951 and immediately moved to Baltimore, Maryland because Bob had been drafted into the Army during the Korean War. When Bob was sent overseas, Joan returned to Rawlins and became a bookkeeper at the local bank. After Bob's discharge the couple settled in Omaha where Joan continued working as a bookkeeper at Northside Bank until their first child was born in 1956.

Joan and Bob had two daughters, Sherry born in 1956 and Vicky born in 1957. Joan became a Homemaker and so much more. She joined the Mount View Elementary School Mother's Chorus when the girls were in grade school and continued singing in choirs as a 2nd Alto until a few months before her death, singing with St. Patrick's Church choir in Elkhorn for over 30 years. Joan was the first woman to obtain a motorcycle driver's license in Omaha. She was a member of the Rangers Motorcycle Club of Omaha and enjoyed riding, attending events and showing bikes with Bob and the girls at Midwest Auto Shows. She was Bob's right hand in building their two homes. She loved sewing, quilting and making photo albums. At St. Patrick's Church in Elkhorn, in addition to choir, Joan was a longtime member of the Women's Club, volunteered on the weekly bulletin, helped with the church directory, was on the funeral committee and prayer chain, and enjoyed attending bible study. Her grandchildren and great granddaughter gave her much joy. Sherry married Bob Hellmuth in 1985, and Joan's first granddaughter Lauren Margaret was born in 1987. In 1995, her second granddaughter Lindsey Anna was born. Then in 2013 Lauren married Adam Orton and in 2017, Lauren gave birth to Joan's namesake, a great granddaughter named Olivia Joan Orton.

Joan's greatest love was for the Lord, for her husband, family and friends. May she rest forever in God's Peace.

Joan V. Muir, 88, of Bennington, NE, died 1/30/19. Survived by loving husband of 67 years Bob of Bennington, daughters Sherry & husband Bob Hellmuth of Dekalb, IL, Vicky Muir of Bennington, granddaughters Lauren & husband Adam Orton, and Lindsey Hellmuth, great granddaughter Olivia Joan Orton.

Funeral Mass 10:30 AM Wednesday (2/6) at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Elkhorn. Interment Forest Lawn Cemetery in Omaha. Visitation from 4:30 to 7 PM Tuesday at the funeral home in Elkhorn with a Wake service at 7 PM. In

lieu of flowers, memorials to the St. Patrick's School Tuition Fund or the charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Memorial Park-Omaha

7909 Mormon Bridge Rd.
Omaha, NE 68152

Previous Events

Wake

FEB **5**. 7:00 PM (CT)

Reichmuth Funeral Home - Omaha / Elkhorn
21901 W. Maple Rd.
P.O. Box 711
Elkhorn, NE 68022
402-289-2222
services@reichmuthfuneralhomes.com
<https://www.reichmuthfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

FEB **6**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
20400 W. Maple Rd.
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Tribute Wall



“ *Joan Valerie Muir*

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ *My condolences to Bob and Family. I was your next door neighbor on Redman (later Hartman) Avenue (the big house to the West). You were always so kind to me when I was growing up there. However, I was deathly afraid of your 3-legged dog. If I remember correctly, his name was Dutch. I remember that little quonset hut that you lived in and then I watched as you and Bob built that beautiful brick house while you lived in the basement. We last visited you in May of 2015. You invited us to your house in Bennington and you showed us around and took us to that cool basement garage with the Mercurys. I certainly remember the days on Redman Avenue when the weather got nice and it was motorcycle time. Joan was certainly a beautiful, friendly lady...and Bob was the perfect husband and man. Rest in peace, Joan.*

Dan Convery - February 09, 2020 at 05:11 AM

JP

“ To the Muir family --
I'd like to extend my sympathies. Vicky was my best friend when I was growing up in Omaha. I have fond memories of walking up the hill to the Muir house, and I spent lots of hours there. I remember Joan being welcoming and friendly. I can actually picture some of the rooms in your house, including the basement.

Vicky, I remember you had a Chatty Cathy doll that I was quite taken with. I think we danced the "pony" to Davy Jones singing "Laugh When You Go to a Party" (from the Monkees) at your house. We were a mismatched pair, to look at us, you so tall and me so short. But our friendship was solid. And you were our star first-base-woman on the Patriettes softball team. Lots of very fond memories of those days. Your nickname was "Goober" and mine was "Juderbug." Remember "Beans?" And Judy Henderson? And our coach Shirley Wiese? We had some wonderful times together.

*I'm thinking of you and wishing you peace.
Your old friend,
Judy (Gilmore) Peel*

Judy Peel - February 07, 2019 at 11:54 AM

JB

“ *mmmmmm*

Joan Barnett - February 04, 2019 at 09:24 PM

JB

“ *mmmmm*

Joan Barnett - February 04, 2019 at 09:20 PM

WE

“ *Sorry for your loss.*

With sympathy and friendship,

Dee Lindsay (Dick-OPPD)

WILLIAM ESTEY - February 04, 2019 at 03:32 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Joan Valerie Muir.*



February 04, 2019 at 03:11 PM