



## Belva Joan Matthews

May 27, 1939 - March 14, 2019

Princeton – Belva Joan Matthews, 79, passed away at Heartland Health Care Center, Henry, IL on Thursday, March 14, 2019.

Belva was born on May 27, 1939 to the late Basil and Elsie (Curtis) Fountain in Canton, NY. She was a graduate of Knox Memorial High School in Russell, NY Class of 1956. She married the late Howard C. Matthews on August 27, 1964 at the Methodist Church in Herman, NY. She was a supervisor at the St. Lawrence County Meals on Wheels. Belva also worked at the Princeton Mushroom Factory in the Café as well as managing several restaurants for the owner of the café. She worked at the Care Inn Nursing Home, where she became a certified dietitian. She also worked at Perry Memorial Hospital and ran the kitchen as the dietitian before retiring. After retirement you could find her at Logan Junior High or Princeton High School as the café manager until 2011. She spent her retirement as a Gold Coat at Perry Memorial and volunteered at the Clark House assisting in the kitchen.

She was a member of the Princeton Seventh Day Adventist Church in Princeton, IL and served as Treasurer for a time as well as Sabbath School Superintendent. She was a member of the Moose Lodge, the Bureau County Fair Board and The Grange. She loved to cook and go mushroom hunting. She enjoyed camping at Rawlson Lake and a good road trip. Often telling her children and grandchildren, “lets get in the car and just go.” She loved to do puzzles, play cards and word finder. She was an avid crocheter, knitter and embroider. Belva enjoyed watching Wheel of Fortune and most any game show. She was a devout Christian and studied from her bible on a daily basis. Most of all she loved to spend time with her family and take care of them.

Belva is survived by two children, Gary (Tammy Chamberlain) Matthews and Emily (Russell) Fredrickson; six grandchildren, Jenny Matthews, Nicole Matthews, Erin (Kevin) Schultz, Kelley (Bruce) Cox, James Bohms, Charles Bohms and Austin Fredrickson; nine great grandchildren, Zach, Reece, Lexi, Suzanna, Matthew, Allyson, Wyatt, Jade and Caleb; two brothers, Sonny Fountain and Arnold Fountain.

She is preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Howard Matthews (2010); five brothers, Skeek Fountain, Floyd Fountain, Junior Fountain, Peanut Fountain, Lawrence Fountain; two sisters, Betty Beachard and Genieva Wood.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Princeton Seventh Day Adventist Church.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 24, 2019 at Norberg Memorial Home, Princeton, IL.

Services will be held at Norberg Memorial Home, Princeton, IL on Sunday, March 24, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. officiated by Pastor Frendell Reyes. A graveside service will be held in New York at a later date and time.

Online condolences may be left at [www.norbergfh.com](http://www.norbergfh.com)

Arrangements by Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. Princeton, IL.

# Comments

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“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the Fountain family. your cousin. Blanche Peden.

**Blanche Peden** - April 02, 2019 at 11:03 AM

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“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to Belva's family at their time of sorrow.

Stan & Susanne (Bessette) Smith  
Canton, NY

**Susanne Smith** - March 29, 2019 at 07:21 AM

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“ So sad to here the news of Aunt Joan passing, we send our deepest respects and sympathies to Emily, Gary, and to all her family. Let us know here in NY when her burial will be so we can join with you, maybe catch up and share stories. May you find comfort in the time of family gathering together.

Gary and Christine Gilson

**Gary Gilson** - March 22, 2019 at 09:57 AM

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“ Dear Emily, Russ and Family,  
We were sorry to hear that Joan is no longer with us. Because we all have strong faith, especially her, we know she will be welcomed with open arms in heaven. Her picture is lovely and we remember her just like that. Peace to you all. Love, Beverly & Bruce

**Beverly Ann Murray** - March 22, 2019 at 09:40 AM

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“ So sorry for your loss, she will be truly missed.



**Linda Allen** - March 20, 2019 at 12:36 PM

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“ Shocked to hear Joan had passed away. I have a lot of good memories of Her over the many years I have known her. She was a lot of fun .Howard and Joan stood up for Lee and I when we got married. She was always there for me when I was feeling down. Hope to meet her again in a better land, where there will be no more sickness and death. My sympathy goes to Emily, Gary, and all her family. May God be with you all. Kathleen Dorff

**Kathleen Dorff** - March 20, 2019 at 11:22 AM