



Joyce A Vezain

February 19, 1929 - November 1, 2021

Streator - Joyce Ann (Street) VeZain, 92, formerly of Princeton, IL, passed away on November 1, 2021, at Heritage Health in Streator, IL, with family present.

Joyce was born on February 19, 1929, in Chicago, IL, to the late Roscoe Street and the late Mary "Mae" (Reilly) Brush. She was a graduate of St. Xavier's Academy in Ottawa, IL, Class of 1946. She then went to Northern Illinois University and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, Class of 1950. She married the late William "Bill" Edward VeZain on July 15, 1950, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Ottawa, IL.

She was very active at St. Louis Catholic Church, serving as a lector and various other roles. She was also a member of the Retired Teachers Association, PTA, the Metro, as well as a member of several bridge groups in Princeton over the years. She began teaching in Ottawa and continued her career in Princeton. She loved teaching; it was something she was born to do, and she loved her students. She was known mostly as Mrs. VeZain, a title she was extremely proud of, not just because she was married to Bill, but also because she had the opportunity to teach and affect so many young lives. She retired from Princeton Elementary School District in 1994 and remained friends with many of her coworkers throughout the years.

Joyce enjoyed sewing, a skill she learned at an early age and then passed on to her daughters. She loved books, and though she didn't have a favorite, she just loved to read and get lost in the stories. She enjoyed playing cards with friends, family, and her bridge groups. She enjoyed knitting, crocheting, and spending time with her cat, (she always had a pet cat). Her best memories were time spent with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She loved telling stories, playing games, discussing books, and teaching others a new skill. She will be missed by many.

She is survived by her five children: daughters Linda (Edward) Volkman of Streator, IL, Denise Kitchen of Mackinaw, IL, DuAnne VeZain of Princeton, IL, Michelle (Michael) Atchison of Daphne, AL, and son Thomas VeZain of Woodridge, IL; four grandchildren: Michael (Ashley) Volkman, Patrick Volkman, Kathryn (Brandon) Bailes, and Brian (Allison) Volkman; and six great grandchildren: Marshall, Elliot, Penelope, Harvey, Kady, and Hazel.

Joyce is preceded in death by her husband Bill (2005), her father Roscoe and his wife Helen, her mother Mae and her husband Edgar, and her brothers Ronald, Robert, and Richard Brush.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Princeton Senior Center or Princeton Elementary Schools.

A visitation will be held Monday, November 8, 2021, at Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments in Princeton from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

A funeral Mass will be held Monday, November 8, 2021, at St. Louis Catholic Church in Princeton at 12:00 p.m. officiated by Monsignor J. Kruse. Graveside services to follow at Elm Lawn Cemetery in Princeton.

Online condolences may be left at www.norbergfh.com.

Arrangements by Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 8. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Norberg Memorial Home, Inc.
701 E. Thompson Street
Princeton, IL 61356

Mass

NOV 8. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Louis Catholic Church - Princeton
616 S Gosse Blvd
Princeton, IL 61356

Graveside Service

NOV 8. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Elm Lawn Memorial Park
N Knox St.
Princeton, IL 61356

Tribute Wall

SR

“ Always remember my mother neighbors, Joyce would go to the garden find an over grown cucumber , place it in mom garden , and just chuckle cause and mom would do pranks on each other all the time. Such a happy lady will miss that smile and twinkle in her eye.

sharon Read - November 06, 2021 at 06:41 PM

AP

“ My deepest sympathies. She was a very lovely person who will be missed.

You're all in my thoughts and prayers.



Anne Panzica - November 05, 2021 at 09:38 PM

RD

“ Mrs. VeZain was my first grade teacher during the 1975-76 school year. In her class, I truly developed my love for literature, and this is something I have passed on to my own six children over the past 21 years of homeschooling. I still remember a book that she read to us about a character named Veronica who lived on a farm, and I even recall the feel of the paper on which we drew a scene from the book and then wrote a description.

In the spring of 1977, my dad discovered a nest of baby rabbits as he was tilling up the soil for our ever-expanding garden. After doing all we could to care for them for a day or two, Mrs. VeZain came to the rescue. She provided them with a wonderful home until they were ready to enter the real world.

Mrs. VeZain's classroom was a warm, fun, and nurturing environment. I am so thankful that she was my first grade teacher, and I will always remember the joy she brought to each day.

*Becky (Blomquist) Duchene
Chesterfield, Missouri*

Rebecca Duchene - November 05, 2021 at 07:47 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Joyce A Vezain.



November 05, 2021 at 03:52 PM

DD

“ My sincere condolences to the entire family. Joyce was part of our "neighborhood family" growing up. We all shared in activities together, shared holidays together, shared in celebrations and in grieving, and formed a life-long bond that remains to this day. Joyce was a wonderful wife, mother, friend, and teacher. Her smile and laughter were infectious. She will be missed by all who knew her. Her legacy remains in her wonderful children whom she and Bill raised so well.

*With sympathy,
David Darling & Family*

David Darling - November 04, 2021 at 03:35 PM



“ Heavenly Light was purchased for the family of Joyce A Vezain.



November 04, 2021 at 03:15 PM

TK

“ I never had the opportunity to meet Joyce Vezain, but I have known her son Tom for over 20 years. My condolences to the Vezain family for your loss. I know Tom will miss her dearly, as Tom, from time-to-time, made mention of her influence on himself, during professional discussions. I know see where Tom got his bellowing laugh and presence, as I look at her smile. And I would imagine that she is the one who motivated Tom to enjoy Duck hunting. She will always be with you Tom.



Ty Kostan

Tyson Kostan - November 04, 2021 at 02:49 PM

SW

“ I've worked for years with Tom and regularly had the wonderful opportunity to hear multiple stories of his mom. She was a delightful woman and highly respected and loved. Praying for all of you during this time.

Sharon Waite

Sharon Waite - November 04, 2021 at 02:13 PM

MB

“ I remember the first time I met Joyce. It was the fall of 1971 when she drove her daughter down to college at Illinois State. We were roommates and Joyce would send us homemade chocolate chip cookie bars.

I was blessed to join the family on one of their many trips to the OuterBanks over the summer.

There I got to reunite with Joyce and one morning we got up very early to watch the sun rise over the Atlantic Ocean. It was remarkable

May her family feel warmth and comfort from those lives she touched.

Marylee Battaglia - November 04, 2021 at 01:36 PM