



Marjorie Elizabeth Eastwick Crosby

September 27, 1931 - December 29, 2020

Marjorie Eastwick Crosby, MSN was born September 27, 1931 in New York, NY to Elizabeth Eastwick and the Rev. Milton Eastwick. She was married for 65 years to Dr. John Fulling Crosby, Ph.D., of Bloomington, IN.

She is also survived by brother Warren Eastwick of Ludlow, VT, sons Richard A. Crosby of Rushville, IN, Andrew R. (Catherine Zimmer) Crosby of Henrico, VA, Scott D. (Janine Clymin) Crosby of Seattle, WA, grandchildren Vicki Crosby, Ashley Tackett, Nick Crosby, Maya and Julie Crosby and great-grandchildren Kel, Kianna, and Lani Crosby.

Marjorie graduated in 1954 from New York City Hospital at Cornell University and was among the first wave of bachelor's degree level registered nurses in the country. Also, in 1954 -- at her parents' home in New Jersey -- she met, and soon fell in love, with John. She married John in 1955 and partnered with him in his Presbyterian ministry, moving to Battle Creek, MI to serve with John in his role of founding minister for the First Presbyterian Church there, and later to the First Presbyterian Church of Baldwinsville, NY. While living in Baldwinsville, NY in the late 1960s Marjorie returned to obstetrical nursing, supporting the family while John studied for a new career as a professor. This reinvigorated her professional commitment to comprehensive women's healthcare. In 1976, Marjorie obtained her MSN in midwifery at Fort Knox, KY. She helped establish The Birthing Center in Lexington, KY. Marjorie was also committed to nursing education, serving as a faculty member and instructor of nursing at Eastern Kentucky University's School of Nursing.

Marjorie and John traveled the country in an RV over the course of many years. They retired to Brewster, MA and later Bloomington, IN, where she worked in a nursing support capacity, as well as a volunteer for Planned Parenthood well into her 70s. Marjorie was a passionate supporter of and volunteer for both the Democratic Party and Planned Parenthood of Bloomington Health Center. She enjoyed playing piano and was a talented organist and singer. She loved family gatherings, especially the Holiday season, and often playing bridge with her friends at Bell Trace in Bloomington.

Should you choose to give a memorial gift, her family asks that it be to a charity of your choice, Planned Parenthood of Bloomington, IN or a local hospice organization. She will be missed by all, especially John who remains living in Bloomington.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Road 37 is handling the arrangements and online condolences, photos, and memories may be shared with family and friends at <http://www.allencares.com>

Comments



“ Anndela Mcdonald sent a virtual gift in memory of Marjorie Elizabeth Eastwick Crosby



Anndela Mcdonald - May 12 at 07:02 AM



“ As manager of the local Red Lobster restaurant in Bloomington through 2019, It was always a pleasure to visit with John and Marj who were regular guests there. I remember Marj for both her quick wit and ability to tactfully (but politely) state her mind. The similarities between John and Marj and my parents were many and I think that's what always made their visits to the restaurant special to me. John, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Rest in peace, Marj.

Paul Lutz

Paul Lutz - January 06 at 10:37 AM



“ As Marj's younger brother, I came to be very proud of her distinguished accomplishments. As I followed her throughout elementary school, the teachers were always hoping they were going to get another student as bright as my sister Marj. But that never happened. :-)

At dinner time, she'd come looking for me so I could come in to eat with the family, and then I went back out to play while she and our mother cleaned up from the evening meal.

One of my favorite memories occurred on a summer vacation to Ocean City. Marj and I went to the butcher shop and got a couple of fish heads and went off crabbing. We took with us brown paper bags and we were lucky enough to capture 4 or 5 live crabs. When we got home, we were so proud of ourselves that I carried the paper bags into the house. The bottoms had gotten wet, and the bottoms fell out of the bags. All the crabs were now running around the kitchen! I always smile when I think of that little outing.

I was always proud of her accomplishments and hoped that some day I would be able to tell her how proud I was that she was my sister. I'm sure she's in a very peaceful place and she has left a lot of loving memories behind her.

I would also like to thank my brother-in-law, John, who provided such wonderful, loving care throughout their marriage. My thoughts and prayers go out to John, Rick, Andy, Scott, and everyone else who knew and loved her.

--- Warren Eastwick

Warren Eastwick - January 04 at 08:50 PM



“ Submitted by Vicki Lynn Crosby

My grandmother Marj was the nurse midwife who delivered me! She was a special person and I have written this for her:

A hot cup of tea to relax, maybe mint tea to cleanse my mind.
A hot wash rag across my face, and her is the memory I will never erase.
The gentle slop to my pointy nose, my broad shoulders that show great strength,
All these locks of dark wavy hair around my gentle neck, my blue eyes that demand
Great respect. Warm cleansing tears flow and fall to the sink, hot mint tea a healing
drink. ..i sit with my head in my heads and can't help but think, how many parts of me
are her and how she is gone.. I take this time to sit and grieve , I must be strong.
Because these parts she gave to me I some how passed on, my daughter looks at
me with such a familiar face.the tears they flow strong and my memories race.
Bayberry bend and Christmas cookies, my first cabbage patch kid, I am really
thankful, she taught me how to live. My once upon a time is far from it's end.. my
happy ending awaits and it is not a fairy tale in the land of pretend. I sit and feel my
heart beat in my chest, I swear I feel a hole were she used to fit. She taught me self
control and I am looking for it. Then I see my smile, and that funny lil bend in my
nose and remember she is part of me, a family legacy . Never a fading memory , to
you Marjorie Eastwick Crosby.

Vicki Lynn Crosby

Vicki Lynn Crosby - January 04 at 04:59 PM



“ When I think of Marjorie, I smile. She and John became regular guests of mine at
Red Lobster, and over the years we've celebrated birthdays and anniversaries and
I've enjoyed meeting family members. I am sure Marjorie has been met at the gates
of Heaven and asked to join their choir. I am so sorry, John and family, for your loss.
When I think of Marjorie, I will always smile

Sue Servis - January 03 at 10:17 PM



“ My mother was all of the good things in life -- kind, loving, caring to all people, charitable, positive thinking, fun, engaging, and committed to making the world better. She was an amazing midwife, helping over 400 women deliver babies, with one of those babies being my now 41-year old daughter Vicki. She was always quick to make friends and my bet is that she knew nearly every resident of Bell Trace in Bloomington. Her spirit and independence were blended into the warmth and stability of a strong family and her 65-year marriage to my dad. So many of the little things I do, and so much of what I do out of habit (for example, always say "please" and always say "thank you") are ingrained lessons owed to her gentle teachings. I will especially miss the long breakfast talks we had until as recently as one year ago -- we both loved that time of day and the idea of doing something to make a difference for others. She will always be with me in spirit :)

Richard A Crosby - January 03 at 04:58 PM



“ I remember going to the beach on cape cod with Marj, I have many fond memories of that place. Making cookies with her around the holiday season and having breakfast with her at Cracker Barrel. She will be missed by many!



Ashley Crosby Tackett - January 03 at 11:04 AM



“ Derest Ashley,

The food was great..especially the delicious steak... Y0u were so thoughtful and I really needed the food.

I will try to keep in touch...

john crosby - January 04 at 09:47 AM



“ Mrs. Crosby was my instructor in nursing school many years ago in the early 70's. She was intimidating but at the same time she was warm and approachable. Her personality was calm and level headed at all times. She was an excellent educator and a great woman.

Karen Jessee - January 03 at 10:28 AM