



## Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart

March 8, 1923 - June 30, 2019

Fleurette Marie "Bopeep" McMillin Benckart, 96, Bloomington, died June 30, 2019 after a brief illness at home. She was a kind, caring woman and as her name implied, she was unique. You will likely never meet another Bopeep. Born March 8, 1923, she was the daughter of Maud Marie Miers and Alvin N. "Bo" McMillin the legendary Indiana University football coach.

She attended St. Charles Elementary, Nazareth Academy and graduated from Indiana University, where she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma and the IU Theater & Drama troupe. She had a strong speaking voice and enjoyed plays and performances all her life.

After college graduation she was hired by TWA as one of the first airline hostesses and was dubbed "Bopeep of the Skies" by the local press.

She married William E. "Bill" Benckart on June 11, 1946 in Bloomington. Following his naval service, Bill & Bopeep returned to Bedford, IN to raise a family where he worked for Central Foundry and Indiana Limestone. The family moved to Bloomington in 1954 when Bill went to work for, and later purchased, Moon Freight Lines. She believed she was the oldest living member of the Bloomington Country Club. When she was nearly 80 she played 100 rounds of golf in a single summer.

She attended St. John the Apostle & St. Charles Catholic Churches and was a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumni Association, Bloomington Psi Otes, Navajo, Unique and several other women's clubs. She thought her obituary should say she was "clubbed to death".

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law Sara and Jeffrey Weil of Boulder, CO; daughter Amy Benckart and daughter-in-law Cynthia Stone of Bloomington; son and daughter-in-law Ted and Judith Benckart of Bloomington; daughter Nancy Benckart Ohlmann of Omaha, NE; grandchildren, Kathryn Weil Coker (Tug), Brandon Weil (Uli), Kelsy Benckart (Bo), Logan Benckart, Ryne Benckart and three great-grandchildren, Siddalee Benckart, Bo Coker and Quinn Coker as well as Becky Johnson her beloved friend and helper over the past five years.

She is also survived by her brothers Nugent McMillin of Wellfleet, MA; Michael McMillin of Newport, RI; and her sister Jane McMillin Bubier of Annapolis, MD. She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, a brother, Jere McMillin and her stepmother, Kathryn Gillihan McMillin.

The family is grateful to the wonderful women who watched over her at home the past several months.

Funeral Services will be at 11:00 a.m. Monday, July 8, 2019 at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 2222 East 3rd, Bloomington, with Father Thomas Kovatch officiating, and a luncheon follows the service.

Burial will be at Valhalla Memory Gardens.

Friends may call at Allen Funeral Home, 4155 S. Old State Rd 37, Bloomington from 4 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, July 7, with Rosary Service at 6:45 p.m.

Memorial contributions to honor Bopeep can be made to The IU Foundation for the "Bo McMillin Scholarship", IU Varsity Club, Memorial Stadium, 1001 E. 17th, Bloomington, IN 47408 or to Running Strong for American Indian Youth at <http://indianyouth.org/>

# Cemetery Details

## Valhalla Memory Gardens

310 North Johnson Ave.  
Bloomington, IN 47401

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 7. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory  
4155 S. Old State Road 37  
Bloomington, IN 47401  
(812) 824-5905  
<http://www.allencares.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

St Charles Borromeo Church  
2222 E 3rd St  
Bloomington, IN 47401-5385  
(812) 336-6846

# Tribute Wall

JN

“ *Bopeep was such an endearing nick name for a coach's daughter, who represented her father's legacy well throughout her life. A special memory I have of this father-daughter relationship is when I read a book to my young son about the history of the NFL. We were both happy to read about Coach Bo and his family in one of the chapters.*

*Most of our memories of her are as a wife, Mrs. Benckart, mother and community member, who generously and joyfully contributed love in all these roles. It has been a blessing for us to know you --- Amy and Cynthia, to coach Ted in high school and to have a friendship all these years.*

*May you have peace, comfort and all those beautiful memories for 96 years of a life well-lived.*

*Sent with love,  
Coach Wayne and Jan Nichols*

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**Janet Nichols** - July 21, 2019 at 08:54 PM

JD

“ *Truly a gracious and delightful lady. I am honored to have known her and I will miss her coming into the shop to get her hair done. She always liked looking at my jewelry and asking if I had anything new. She was the best!*

*Joyce Dwulet*

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**joyce dwulet** - July 10, 2019 at 12:50 AM

VL

“ *To Bo Peep's Children and other family*

*I was so sorry to hear that your sweet mother had passed away. She was president of the Kappa House Board when I lived there, so I saw her distinctive dark hair and ready smile fairly often then. And as an elementary student at that marvelous U School in the Education Building, I remember you glamorous high schoolers, Sally and Amy! Remember the Dean of Women? She was so strict and stern! And didn't one of you rush me at the Kappa House? I think so, though I will admit that my memory about these matters from 50 or 60 years ago might not be entirely accurate! And Nancy, there you were with me at Deaf Oral School!*

*I know our mothers enjoyed one another's company in Kappa Alums and Psi Otes. We were lucky to share the company of these remarkable women whose example taught us so much.*

*My sincerest sympathy for your loss  
Vivian Wilder Lorch  
1302 Riddle Road  
New Albany, IN 47150*

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**Vivian Lorch** - July 07, 2019 at 06:10 PM

PR

“ *Pat and Ruth purchased the European Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.*



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**Pat and Ruth** - July 06, 2019 at 10:04 AM



“ *Healing Tears - All White* was purchased for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.



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July 05, 2019 at 08:02 PM



“ *Fields of Europe* was purchased for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.



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July 05, 2019 at 02:50 PM



“ *Simply Lily* was purchased for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.

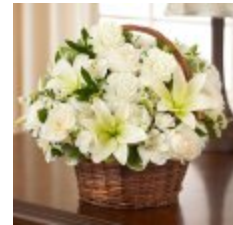


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July 05, 2019 at 11:09 AM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All White* was purchased for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.



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July 05, 2019 at 06:16 AM

MK

“ *What a lovely woman your mom was, Amy! I so enjoyed our country club lunch and visit. She had a way of making everyone feel special. I'm so sorry for you loss.*

*Mary Kay*

Mary Kay Kress - July 04, 2019 at 05:30 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.*



July 04, 2019 at 11:58 AM

KK

“ *Kathy Martin Klugman purchased the Red & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.*



Kathy Martin Klugman - July 03, 2019 at 07:04 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.*



July 03, 2019 at 06:23 PM



“ *Bountiful European Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.*



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July 03, 2019 at 12:17 PM



“ *Amy and Cindy. With deep sorrow Teri and offer our condolences and hugs in the passing of Bopeep. What a wonderful and interesting life she had. May your grief be brief and all the wonderful memories of your mom be plentiful and everlasting. Pam and Teri from Indy.*

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**Pam Petruzzi** - July 02, 2019 at 11:25 PM



“ *Red & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.*



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July 02, 2019 at 10:10 PM



“ *Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of Fleurette "Bopeep" Benckart.*



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July 02, 2019 at 06:59 PM

LK

“ *What a remarkable life! I love her humor in saying her obit should say she was clubbed to death. As it is, the passing Cindy describes is very peaceful. Thank you for your care of this dear woman in her last months and congratulations on an eldercare job well done.*

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**Laura Kao** - July 02, 2019 at 05:37 PM