



Hazel Jane Sandberg

March 15, 1923 - October 11, 2017

Hazel Jane (Hopkins) Sandberg of Bloomington died peacefully at Hospice House on October 11, 2017 following a long and happy life. Born March 15, 1923 to Roy Charles and Erlus L. (Smith) Hopkins of Huntingburg, Jane Sandberg was 94 years old.

Preceded in death by her parents, brother, Charles Jack Hopkins, and in 2015, her husband of 63 years, Eugene Edward Sandberg, Jane is survived by daughters, Susan and Sarah Sandberg of Bloomington and granddaughter Katy DeWitt (Tim) of Indianapolis.

Jane Sandberg began her teaching career at Indiana State Teachers College on the GI Bill following her enlistment in 1943 and honorable discharge in 1945 from the Navy WAVES during WWII. She met her English teacher husband in their Tests and Measurements class at Indiana State and they married on August 25, 1948. Eugene Sandberg was also a WWII veteran having served as a mechanic in the Army Air Force.

Jane was a woman with many talents including a beautiful singing voice and keen, swinging sense of rhythm. Raised in a musical family, she had fond memories of singing harmony with her father and brother and accompanying herself on the ukulele. She was a trained violinist who learned how to play the upright bass with the help of jazz musicians she encountered during her

military service. While in basic training at Hunter College in the Bronx with the WAVES, she was proud to be in a select platoon invited to sing with the New York Philharmonic in Carnegie Hall. For several years, Jane enjoyed singing with the Bloomington POPS Orchestra in the POPS Chorus with her daughter, Susan. Jane would often lead the choirs of many Methodist churches where she was an active member.

As an adventurous spirit and Girl Scout in her youth, Jane enjoyed leading Girl Scout troops in her community teaching skills in camping, swimming and civic participation. A prolific lifelong reader, Jane was a member of a long-standing book club enjoying lively discussions, companionship and great food that accompanied the chats on books and current events.

Following a series of health concerns, Jane wrote an extensive memoir in 2005 recounting colorful memories of her childhood growing up in the Great Depression, college life, military service, her long marriage and family life in small towns in Greene County including Bloomfield, and her happy 15 years as the Librarian at the Bloomfield Carnegie Public Library. She and her husband, Gene, retired together and moved to Bloomington in 1993.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory is handling the arrangements and online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com.

In honor of Jane Sandberg's life, her daughters encourage all to perform random acts of kindness, thank a teacher, and teach your children well.

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Susan and Sarah,

I was deeply saddened to learn of the death of your wonderful mother. I have been delivering Meals on Wheels for some four years, first to both Eugene and Jane and then to Jane following your Dad's death. When my biography of Lyndon Keith Caldwell was published by IU Press in 2014 they were lovely enough, unasked, to buy a copy! I often stopped over for a while with them to talk about the books they were reading and politics! Jane was always so cheerful and welcoming right up to my last visit in September. I shall miss her terribly.

My best to you both at this very sad time.

Wendy Read Wertz

Wendy Read Wertz - October 16, 2017 at 10:10 AM



Thank you, Wendy, Mom really did appreciate your visits and interesting chats.

Susan Sandberg - October 18, 2017 at 09:26 AM

RA

Sorry for being so late. I really appreciated your Mom and Dad in school and knowing them. Your Dad's class was my favorite in High School so many fond memories.

Seeing her pass has not been easy. For some reason, she had been in my prayers before her passing.

At our 45th Class Reunion on August 5th we had a table of pictures of those classmates that had passed. We also had a picture of your Dad.

I am sorry I did not get anything to you when he passed, so much going on.

The world has turned many times individually and collectively since those far off carefree days at Bloomfield School.

As the Motto for our 20th class reunion said: "Let the memories be happy ones."

God be with you both.

Roger Axe - November 14, 2017 at 12:41 PM

SM

“*Susan and Sarah, So sorry for your loss but what a blessing to have your mother to the age of 94. She was a very special lady that touched many lives. I smile when I think of the time I sang a solo at church under her direction. The song had a really high note that I could not reach. Mrs. Sandberg told me to not even try to reach the note, just open my mouth. I did:). It embarrassed me so that that was the last time I attempted to sing a solo. She and I had a chuckle about that:). I know she will be missed and my thoughts and prayers are with you. Sally Terrell Markam*

Sally Terrell Markam - October 16, 2017 at 08:47 AM



Musical memories of Mom are what I'll miss the most. Music was one of her true loves!

Susan Sandberg - October 18, 2017 at 09:27 AM