



## Jeannie (Halagiere) Heuer

January 5, 1949 - May 16, 2014

Jeannie E. (Halagiere) Heuer passed away May 16, 2014, at Bloomington Hospital holding the hand of Alan, her beloved husband.

She was born on Jan. 5, 1949 as one of twins (Jane Elaine and Jean Eileen).

She earned an M.A. in English in 1984. She then taught English at Southeast Missouri State University, there met and married the love of her life, Alan Heuer. They moved to Bloomington from Missouri in 1991 following her wish to become "Auntie Jeannie" to her nieces and nephews, which she did in exemplary, honest and deeply loving fashion.

She spent the next 20 years teaching Grammar and Literature at Ivy Tech in Bloomington to her many students whose education she was devoted to. Her students said of her: "Wonderful teacher,...Great stories.... Funny...Very strict in her English and expectations and ALWAYS willing to help".

Jean Heuer was Ivy Tech Bloomington's longest serving English faculty member, and during her more than 20 years of service at Ivy

Tech taught well over 1000 students English composition and literature. Her legacy at Ivy Tech includes development of a short story class, which remains Ivy Tech Bloomington's most popular literature class. Jean was well loved by Ivy Tech students, faculty, and staff for her positive attitude, her kindness, and her intellectual clarity.

Jean was one of Ivy Tech's most treasured instructors from 1991 until her retirement this month. She consistently taught her English classes with enthusiasm, passion and compassion. She treated her students as individuals, serving as a role model for their choosing a field where they could "make a difference", as she did in every class with every student.

She loved to bake her own recipe of homemade bread, work in her 40-pot kitchen garden (Alan is continuing the planting as Jeannie planned) and make homemade pesto from her herbs, tend her overwintering geraniums and ferns, read lots and lots of literature (Books were her other great love), study the Gospels with her friend Ann and sister Jane, enjoy regular "haunts" with her Ivy Tech "buddy" of twenty years Jan, and canoe the lake (another favorite is Greene-Sullivan's Airline Lake) and walk at Yellow Wood Park's pine forest with her husband. She and Alan also spent many delightful times at McCormicks Creek sitting at Echo Canyon in folding chairs listening to the falling water and children, reading, of course, and occasionally dozing to sleep in that beautiful setting.

She supported her sometimes eccentric husband's fascinations with "Little Trains", as she very lovingly called his model railroading hobby, and even tolerated with misgivings but typical

grace his other fascination with scuba diving. She was loved by all of Alan's friends as she was her own.

She retired from Ivy Tech just five days ago. She was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Lenore Halagiere, and, just two months ago, by her beloved brother, Larry Halagiere.

She is survived by her husband, Alan Heuer, her twin, Jane Martin (Patrick) of Bloomington; Jane's three children who she helped raise (She was "Auntie Jeannie"), Abbey Martin (Joe), Jean Martin Mensz (Jan), Wesley Martin; and sister, Carolyn Lench (Robert), niece Arianne Lench Scott (Michael, son Liam); niece Heather Billings (Brian, children Isabella, Lainey, Alex); nephew Josh Halagiere (Rene, children Gavin, Lydia).

Her quiet strength and dignity, boundless compassion and unending love will live on.

Visitation will be at Allen Funeral Home (4155 S. Old State Road 37) from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Tuesday May 20. A short Mass for Jeannie will be performed at Trinity Episcopal, at Noon, Wednesday May 21.

Friends can send condolences to [www.allenfuneralhome.org](http://www.allenfuneralhome.org)

# Tribute Wall

GB

“ Dear Alan & family,

*We were so shocked and saddened to hear the news of Jeannie's passing. We truly loved her and will never forget the fun times we spent together with you guys. I loved her laugh, compassion, and enthusiasm for nature. She was a great friend and like a sister in many ways. You both made a great couple. Our prayers and love is with you.*

*Your friends,*

*Gary & Teresa*

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**Gary & Teresa Benassi** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

BA

“ *My condolences Alan and family. You have lost Jeannie. I am so very sorry. I met Jeannie, and you, Alan, in the 80's, when you and Bill worked together at P & G. Jeannie was a darling! I loved her the very moment I met her. We had so much fun together. I always looked forward to being with her the next time.*

*With Sincere Sympathy,*

*Barb Johnson*

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**Barb Johnson** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

RO

“ Alan,

*We are saddened by the news of the Bean's death. Wish you well!*

*We will be back in the states for my brother's Memorial service next week.*

*Best wishes*

*Ron and Kathy*

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**Ronald Smith** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

DA

“ Alan, I was shocked and saddened when I saw Jean's name in the obituary section of the newspaper. I am so sorry I didn't keep more in touch with you guys after you left Stone Belt. It's sad, but life gets hectic, etc. and before you know it, some things have slipped way down on the priority list. I always enjoyed the times spent at your home visiting you and Jean (or should I say "Ean?" To others reading this, that's an inside joke.)

*I always thought you two complemented each other so well, like two sides of a coin. She was obviously the head because you were definitely the tail (you old horse's arse, you.)*

*We all lose when a person of such exemplary spirit leaves us. Jean's family loses the most, I think. I wish I could have worked in a visit to the funeral home, but already had plans made.*

*Be strong, old friend. Take care and God bless.*

*"An" (same inside joke applies)*

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**Dan Dowden** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

JA

“ I am so sorry to hear of Jeannie's passing. She was such a sweet and wonderful person. My prayers are with you while you adjust to the absence of a true ray of sunshine. God bless you.

-Jack

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**Jack Clark** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

JK

“ Jane, so sorry to hear about the loss of your sister, Jeannie. I remember how much you loved her and how protective of her you were in your younger years. Our community was lucky to have her as an Educator and I'm sure she was instrumental in influencing the lives of many young people. I know how much my son looks up to all his aunts and uncles and I'm sure your children will miss Jeannie dearly. We are making a donation to the Bloomington Hospital Foundation in Jeannie's name. Our Best wishes go out to you and your family.

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**John and Kathy Rabold** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

DD

“ Alan,  
I am so sorry for your loss. I will miss her terribly. She was such a kind soul. I did alot of work for her here in the AAS at Ivy Tech, revising syllabi, class handouts, etc.  
She always told me I was the best and could read her mind :)  
However, it was she that was the best! She was always appreciative and never had a bad word to say... about anyone or anything. I was just talking with her in here last wednesday. We hugged and I wished her well on her retirement, telling her I will miss her. She said "oh don't be sad.. I can still come visit periodically and bring you a peanut butter sandwich, can't I?"..lol I said "you better!"  
I will miss her sense of humor most of all :(  
She was a WONDERFUL, CARING person!

*Please know that my thoughts & prayers are with you and all of the family during this trying time.*

*Dee Dean, Ivy Tech Admin. Asst.*

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**Dee Dean** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

MA

“ Our hearts are very sadden by the loss. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

*Your friends,  
Mark, Kim, Cris, Ali Brooks*

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**Mark Brooks** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

EL

“ My heart aches for Jeannie's loved ones. Forgive my leaving this message though I didn't know her personally, but the account of her life, so valuable and worthy, struck a deep chord. I lost my beloved husband five years ago, and I can attest that "quiet strength and dignity, boundless compassion and unending love" do live on.

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**Eliza Steelwater** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

TO

“ Alan,

*I can't tell you how sorry I was to learn of Jean's passing. I first met her in the fall semester of 2001, after being laid off at GE earlier that June. I have to tell you that of the 100+ credit hours achieved, the three I earned in Jean's class were the most enjoyable of my college career. She had a kind and nurturing heart that I will miss greatly, along with our occasional chats. My thoughts and prayers are with you and yours in this difficult time.*

*With Sympathy,  
Tom Wilson*

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**Tom Wilson** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

MM

“ Jean was an amazing woman! She was one of a kind and will be greatly missed. Jean was the most pleasant instructor and friend at Ivy Tech. She was so genuine and kind to me and I will never forget her! She used to give me cards just because and I will always keep them close to me. Jean is one of those people you wish was invincible and that everyone was just like her. I will always have fond memories of her every time I reflect on her cards or enjoy a cup of Bengal Spice tea (It was one of our shared favorites). I am honored to have been able to call her my friend for the past five years.

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**Matthias & Mariah Geraci** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

BE

“ Jean was one of the best instructors I had. She was also a great friend!

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**Beth Pless** - October 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM