



Joan Catherine Rillo

December 16, 1934 - February 15, 2018

Joan C. Rillo, 83, of Bloomington passed away Thursday, February 15th at the Indiana University Health Bloomington Hospice House. She was born December 16, 1934 in Paterson, NJ, the only child of Robert and Catherine Daly Hawthorne.

Joan enjoyed her childhood in West Paterson, NJ, where she lived and went to elementary school, followed by 4 years at Passaic Valley High School in Little Falls, NJ, where she was active in a variety of sports and other activities. Further schooling was at Montclair State Teachers College (now Montclair State University) where she majored in biological sciences and graduated with a BA in the sciences in 1956. While teaching at Wayne Township, NJ for three years she pursued graduate school classes and earned an MA in 1959. During college and beyond, five summers were spent working at the New Jersey State School of Conservation in Stokes State Forest.

She married Thomas J. Rillo of Summit, NJ in July of 1957 and is survived by husband, Thomas, her three children and two grandchildren; Thomas (Dee) Rillo of Bloomington and grandson Nick of Portland, OR; Kevin (Julie) Rillo and granddaughter Kayla of Lake Zurich, Illinois and Kathy Rillo (Tim Gooldy) of Bloomington. She loved and enjoyed her family.

For most of her life Joan managed the household while pursuing outdoor garden projects, travel, and jogging was her favorite exercise. Knitting,

sewing, and reading were continual lifelong pleasures. She preferred outdoors to indoors and nature to housework. Joan also was employed by Indiana University and worked in the Grants Division. She was a Benedictine oblate of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in southern Indiana and a parishioner at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Bloomington. Joan and her husband were the first coordinators of Cursillo and planned uertreyas for the parishioners who were Bloomington cursillistas. Joan was deeply loved and made a lasting impact on many family members and friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church on Monday February 19, 2018 at 1:00PM with Fr. Michael Keucher presiding. Visitation will also be held at the church on Monday from 11:00AM until the time of the Mass at 1:00PM.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in honor of Joan Rillo to Saint Meinrad Archdiocese School of Theology, Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, IN (saintmeinrad.org) or Alzheimer's Association (alz.org)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 is handling the arrangements and online condolences, photos, and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com.

Cemetery Details

Valhalla Memory Gardens

310 North Johnson Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47401

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 19. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

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

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 19. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

RE

“ I have so much enjoyed interacting with Joan over the years especially down at Saint Meinrad Archabbey. Joan worked diligently on the oblate newsletter but always had time to chat. She was a lovely lady and fun to be with.

We are in Pensacola and are very sorry that we can not attend her memorial.

PAX

Ruth Engs

Ruth Engs - February 19, 2018 at 10:28 AM

BC

“ A lovely and vibrant lady, with a great sense of fun. We shared many horse-related adventures and misadventures in our day. They still make me laugh because they were shared with Joan, who made everything better.

~ Barbara Coffman

Barbara Coffman - February 18, 2018 at 06:19 PM



“ Simply Lily was purchased for the family of Joan Catherine Rillo.



February 17, 2018 at 04:09 PM

TG

“Joan was one of the finest people a person could be blessed to know. She was very caring and accepting of everyone she came in contact with regardless of who or what they were in life. She was extremely intelligent, sharp as a tack and an excellent teller of stories and tales (which she sometimes could really stretch out and give you all the fine details). She and Tom always made you feel welcome and comfortable and did so from the very beginning. It was truly an honor to have known her and had her in my life. I truly feel that she will be greatly missed by all of us. I loved her dearly and she was the best mother in law I could have ever asked for. Tim Gooldy

Tim Gooldy - February 17, 2018 at 12:07 PM

KR

“My mom was a wonderful woman. Firm but caring. And influential in her own way. She had a knack for not saying "no" but rather... "I'd be disappointed..." and with that little phrase kept me on the straight and narrow.

I am sure if you are viewing this, she touched you in some way as well. Please share as you see fit.

Kevin Rillo

Kevin Rillo - February 16, 2018 at 03:16 PM



Kevin, we are so sorry to hear the news! Your mom was very sweet! She is resting in God's kingdom. Prayers for you, your Dad and the rest of the Rillo families... David, Elizabeth, Emma & Erin

Elizabeth Moslander - February 16, 2018 at 10:53 PM

MC

Dear Kevin and family: Although I haven't seen Them in ages I often thought of your parents...How is Your Dad? I am so sorry for all of you,, sincerely with love. Marion

Marion Yannell Caporaso - February 17, 2018 at 01:17 PM

KM

Kev - Hang in there - we are sending prayers for you and your family. Much Love - the Patton's

KMP - February 17, 2018 at 01:36 PM

CH

So sorry to hear about Joan's passing! We enjoyed having her and Tom as neighbors on Georgetown Road! Your family is in our thoughts !

Bill, Carol, Allie, and Gabbie Hetrick

Carol Hetrick - February 23, 2018 at 11:49 PM