



Joan Elaine Barton

April 27, 1935 - December 15, 2020

Joan Barton, 85, of Grand Island passed away Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at CHI Health-St. Francis in Grand Island.

Memorial service and celebration of Joan's life will be 11:00 a.m. Monday, December 21st, at All Faiths Funeral Home. Officiant is Reverend John Adams of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Interment will be at the Grand Island Cemetery at a later date.

The family will greet friends from 10-11 a.m. Monday prior to the service at All Faiths Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to St. Stephens Episcopal Church or to the family for future designation.

Joan Elaine (Runge) Barton was born April 27, 1935 in Omaha, Nebraska, the daughter of Herman and Lillian (Whitehill) Runge. She received her education in Omaha and graduated from Omaha North High School in 1953. She also attended Commercial Business College and the University of Omaha. On August 31, 1957 she married Sam Barton at St. John's Episcopal Church in Omaha, Nebraska. Joan and Sam first met at church camp. After their wedding they lived in Lincoln, Falls City, and then made their home in Grand Island.

Joan worked various jobs in Grand Island. Most notably she served as the bookkeeper and Helpline Director for the YWCA for 14 years. She, along with numerous volunteers, provided information, referrals and crisis intervention to those in need. Joan believed in volunteering her time and helping others. Joan especially enjoyed volunteering at CHI-St. Francis where she worked in the gift shop. She loved animals and had many pets over her lifetime. She and her husband Sam were involved in the pet therapy program at the skilled care unit of St. Francis and visited the unit weekly with their beloved shelties Butch and Abby. Faith was an important part of her life. She was a long-time member of Stephen's Episcopal Church where she taught Sunday School and served on the Altar Guild. Joan loved gardening and was happy to divide and share her flowers with friends and family, giving tips on how to help them grow. She loved her grandchildren and enjoyed attending their events.

She is survived by her husband Sam; her two daughters, Debbie (John) White and Susan (Scott) Hooker, all of Grand Island; five grandchildren, Andrea (Jason) McDonald of Aurora, Nebraska, Dan White, Meghan Hooker, Nick (Bailey) Hooker, and Tyler (Hannah)

Hooker of Grand Island; nine great-grandchildren, Taylor, Megan, Riley, and Jameson McDonald of Aurora, and Hadley, Brayden, Brooks, and RaeLynn Hooker, all of Grand Island; sisters-in-law, Mary Lou Meldrom and Jean Runge; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Norman; sister, Ruth; brother-in-law, Al Meldrom; and great-grandson, Jayden Samuel McDonald.

Events

DEC 21 **Gathering of friends and family** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

21

All Faiths Funeral Home

2929 S Locust St, Grand Island, NE, US, 68801

DEC 21 **Celebration of Life Service** 11:00AM

21

All Faiths Funeral Home

2929 S Locust St, Grand Island, NE, US, 68801

Comments



“ Debbie and Susie,
I am so sorry to hear about the passing of your mom. How hard so close to Christmas. Wish I could give you both big hugs. Know I am thinking of you both and keeping you in my prayers. I loved running into your mom, as she always never failed to call me "froggie". A wonderful reminder of swimming lessons and days at the Municipal swimming pool. Never failed to make me smile. Her legacy will be well lived on in the both of you. Again my deepest sympathy.
Love, Nancy Chavez

Nancy Chavez - December 21, 2020 at 09:37 AM



“ Susan and family ~ So sorry about your Mom. Remembering her from the YWCA. Such a wonderful woman - always a sweet smile and a warm hello! Thinking of all of your family during this Christmas season. Peace and Prayers. Sincerely, Jeanne Webb

Jeanne Webb - December 20, 2020 at 08:15 PM



“ Susan and Family ~ remembering your Mom from YWCA days. Such a sweet woman, always a smile and warm hello. Thinking of all of your family during this Christmas season. Prayers and Peace. Sincerely, Jeanne Webb

Jeanne Webb - December 20, 2020 at 08:09 PM



“ Sam, Debbie & Susan, and families,

Oh the memories you must have! Loved Joan and you too Sam, we had good times while you both volunteered at the hospital. Joan always shared stories about family, brought her great delight, a proud wife/mom & grandma! Oh, and of course the dogs :), Skilled Care patients loved those visits! Joan so enjoyed her gift shop volunteering also, and was very good at her role.

Before retiring (2016), I'll never forget Joan brought me a package of frozen cherries from their cherry tree....best cherry pie I ever made or had eaten, all about those cherries! And, if that wasn't enough, Joan lined up Sam, to give me a ride in their little red convertible on a beautiful sunny day, we sure had fun. Recalling these memories, makes me smile at this time when my heart is sad, to hear of Joan's death, what a beautiful woman!

Sure thinking of you and your families, prayers are with you at this time.

Sincerest sympathy & hugs,
Christy Sullivan
(Former hospital gift shop manager)

Christy Sullivan - December 20, 2020 at 08:28 AM



“ Debbie White sent a virtual gift in memory of Joan Elaine Barton



Debbie White - December 20, 2020 at 06:29 AM



“ Debbie White lit a candle in memory of Joan Elaine Barton



Debbie White - December 20, 2020 at 06:19 AM



“ Andrea McDonald lit a candle in memory of Joan Elaine Barton



Andrea McDonald - December 18, 2020 at 08:11 PM