



Mary Ann Degen

August 1, 1928 - March 9, 2017

Mary Ann Degen, 88 of Grand Island died Thursday, March 09, 2017 at CHI Health St. Francis.

Celebration of life service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Pauls Lutheran Church. Reverend William Pavuk will officiate. Private family burial of ashes will be at a later date in the Grand Island Cemetery. There will be no visitation.

Mrs. Degen was born August 1, 1928 at Surprise, NE the daughter of Arthur and Rose (Matousek) Wondercheck.

She was raised on a family farm and graduated from Fullerton High School. On June 3, 1951 she was united in marriage to William J. Degen, Sr. in Grand Island. They made Grand Island their home. Mary Ann worked for Northwestern Bell. She and Bill owned and operated the Golden Point Drive Inn from 1961-76. They then opened Burger King on 2nd Street, adding a location on Webb Road in 1982 and in 1994 the Burger King on South Locust.

Her memberships and enjoyments included St. Pauls Lutheran Church, serving on church circles; garden clubs and card clubs. She loved traveling. Her greatest gift was her family and loved spending time with grandkids.

Survivors include her son and daughter-in-law, Bill, Jr. and Kathie Degen and

daughter and son-in-law, Nancy and Pat Lonergan both of Grand Island; grandchildren, Brian and Lisa Degen, Christopher and Katie Lonergan, Jenna and Mike Duncan, Josh Lonergan, Mallory Lonergan and Austin Degen; great-grandchildren, Rylei and Jack Degen, Noah, Gretchen and Simon Lonergan and Will and Lainie Duncan; brothers, Joe and Hanne Wondercheck of Apple Valley, MN and Ray and Bev Wondercheck of San Diego, CA and sisters, Doris Bise of Washington and Nadine Sindelar of Norfolk, NE.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill Degen, Sr. on August 9, 2005; her parents; brothers, Art, Leonard, John, Ernie and Wood Wondercheck and sisters, Arlene Jung and Mildred Jennings.

Memorials are suggested to the William and Mary Ann Degen Scholarship Fund through the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation or St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

MAR 13. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Pauls Lutheran Church
1515 South Harrison Street
Grand Island, NE 68801

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Ann Degen*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *Mary Ann was a good friend with my mom (Jo Wetzel) and she also was in the garden club that I joined recently. What a sweet, beautiful woman!*

My prayers and thoughts are with you! Jackie Bigley

Jackie Bigley - March 13, 2017 at 10:32 PM



“ *Words cannot express the sadness I feel for your loss. I was truly shocked to hear she had passed away. Mary Ann was a very special person and was thought a lot of by our family.. May she be at peace with your dad now and forever. My prayers go to you all during this extremely sad time.*

Deb [Hanssen] Thuernagle

Deb Thuernagle - March 13, 2017 at 09:29 AM