



Alia Anna Montgomery

September 24, 1927 - February 23, 2026

Alia Anna Montgomery, 98, of Petersburg, IL, died Monday, February 23, 2026, in Pittsfield, IL. Alia was born on September 24, 1927, in Petersburg, IL, to her parents, Walter F. Sewell and Marie Catherine (Jurgens) Sewell. She married Raymond H. Montgomery at the Central United Presbyterian Church on June 15, 1947. Alia was preceded in death by Raymond on March 26, 2022, and her daughters, Catherine Jean Montgomery Urish in 2001, and Juliann Canady in 2008, and her sister, Dorothy Sewell King in 2025.

Alia graduated from Harris High School in 1945 and attended Illinois College, where she was a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Literary Society, until 1946. She was an active member of her community: The New Salem Lincoln League, Petersburg Woman's Club, First Citizen of Petersburg, The Historical Society, and helped to found the PORTA Music Boosters. She also started the candy stripers at Sunny Acres and babysat for several families.

Alia was an avid reader and read over a thousand books, mostly from The Petersburg Library. She enjoyed cooking, gardening, sewing, and bird watching.

Left to cherish Alia's memory is her beloved family: children, William Sewell Montgomery, Paul (Marilyn) Montgomery, and Nanette Bess; 10 grandchildren, Katie (Craig) Heisner, Christopher (Leslie) Urish, Adam

Canady, Cory (Kate Blissett) Canady, Grace Canady, Alyssa Canady, Jamie (Trent) Castleberry, Kristen (Brian) Garrett, Brant (Randi) Bess and Catherine Ella (Matt Price) Montgomery; and 7 great-grandchildren, with 2 on the way.

A funeral service will be held for Alia on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at 11am at Central Presbyterian Church in Petersburg, IL, with Pastor Ryan Edgecombe to officiate. The family will receive friends at the church from 9:30am until service time. Memorials may be made to Central Presbyterian Church, Cathy's Scholarship through the PORTA Foundation, or the charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.hurleyfh.com. Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Rose Hill Cemetery

Petersburg, IL 62675

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 7. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Central Presbyterian Church of Petersburg
210 W. Douglas
Petersburg, IL 62675

Service

MAR 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

Central Presbyterian Church of Petersburg
210 W. Douglas
Petersburg, IL 62675

Tribute Wall



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Alia Anna Montgomery.

March 11 at 10:37 AM



“ Our condolences to the family. Alia was an awesome lady and now reunited with Ray. They were wonderful neighbors and will be missed.

Joe and Barbara - March 06 at 12:11 PM



“ Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alia Anna Montgomery.



March 04 at 06:17 AM



“ Sorry for the loss of this lady. She will be missed

Janice Swartz - February 26 at 11:17 AM

DP

“ *Deborah Price lit a candle in memory of Alia Anna Montgomery*



Deborah Price - February 26 at 09:34 AM

DP

“ *I'm so very sorry for your loss. Knew most of the Montgomery's my whole life....Cathy was a kind friend. Rest in Peace Mrs. Montgomery....*

Deborah Price - February 26 at 09:33 AM

LH

“ *Larry And Mary Hundt sent a virtual gift in memory of Alia Anna Montgomery*



Larry and Mary Hundt - February 26 at 08:03 AM

MC

“ *Condolences to the family. May God give you strength to deal with this sorrowful time.*

Mike Carter - February 25 at 09:34 PM

JJ

“ *So sorry for your loss. Sending love and prayers to your family.*

Janis Kay Monroe Jones - February 25 at 08:09 PM