



Ann Bowles

January 6, 1935 - July 19, 2017

Ann Bowles was born January 6, 1935 to Robert and Ethel Schoonover in rural Easton, Illinois. Born in her great-grandmother's farmhouse, Ann became the first of four daughters to Robert and Ethel. The family lived in Peoria for a spell, then returned to the family farm. Ann attended Loucks Elementary in Peoria, then Red Oak Country school in rural Easton. She graduated from Easton High School, then University of Indianapolis (formerly Indiana Central College), where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Education.

While at the university, she met fellow student John Bowles, who would become her life-long love. They were married December 20, 1955, in Fairfield, CA while John served with the US Air Force. John and Ann then moved to Pearl City, IL where they both taught school. Just over a decade later they returned, three children in tow, to rural Easton, and farm life. John farmed, and Ann served as a teacher and teachers' aide throughout the central Illinois community, including Creve Couer, Havana, Easton, and Mason City. Both Ann and John loved life on the farm, growing crops as well as raising livestock, gardening and canning.

Ann was a member of Home Extension in both Stephenson and Mason County for many years, a member of United Methodist Women, and a member of the Mason City United Methodist Church.

She enjoyed music of most every genre, from opera to rock to Broadway, theatre, movies, reading, art, the Chicago Cubs and Bears, spending time with children, Elvis, and orange sherbet.

On Wednesday, July 19, 2017, on a beautiful sunny day, Ann died peacefully with her daughter and son-in-law by her side, in their home in San Diego, California. An Elvis Presley CD was, naturally, playing in the background.

Ann was preceded in death by both parents. Her loving husband John died in 2003.

Surviving Ann are her three children: John Leslie (Les), Scot, and Sally, Ann's three sisters: Janet (Schoonover), Patsy (Jones), and Martha (Scaff), two grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and four sisters-in-law.

A celebration of Ann's life will be held August 5, 2017, at the Mason City United Methodist Church. Visitation will be from 12:00pm till 12:30pm with service starting at 12:30pm.

Burial of John and Ann's ashes together at the Easton Cemetery will follow at 2:00pm.

In lieu of flowers, Ann had requested any memorials be made instead to smiletrain.org, her favorite children's charity, or any charity benefitting children.

The family wishes to thank Vitas Hospice for their in-home care assistance, both in Illinois and California.

Cemetery Details

Easton Cemetery

Easton, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 5. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Mason City United Methodist Church
100 E. Pine
Mason City, IL 62664
(217) 482-5551

Celebration of Life

AUG 5. 12:30 PM (CT)

Mason City United Methodist Church
100 E. Pine
Mason City, IL 62664
(217) 482-5551

Burial

AUG 5. 2:00 PM (CT)

Easton Cemetery
Easton, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Ann Bowles*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ann Bowles.*



August 04, 2017 at 01:55 PM



“ *Graceful Wreath was purchased for the family of Ann Bowles.*



August 01, 2017 at 05:36 PM



“ *Jeff Elam lit a candle in memory of Ann Bowles*



Jeff Elam - July 24, 2017 at 05:56 PM



“ *Garden of Memories was purchased for the family of Ann Bowles.*



July 22, 2017 at 11:21 PM



“ *Hello Les, It's been a long time that we've seen each other. I remember you stopping at our station in Havana. So sorry to read about your Mom passing. This tribute sounds like she was a wonderful person. We will keep your family in our prayers at this time. Please take care and hope that all is well with you.*

Ed and Diana Lind - July 21, 2017 at 10:44 PM