



Joy Zimmerman

June 30, 1932 - September 7, 2017

Joy Marlene Zimmerman, 85, of San Jose, IL passed away September 7, 2017 Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital in Lincoln, IL. She was born on June 30, 1932 the daughter of William and Lethia (Holder) Surgeon in Hardin, IL. She married Robert L. Zimmerman on August 14, 1952 in Hardin, IL (Calhoun County). He preceded her in death on April 27, 2003.

Joy is survived by one son, Robert William "Bill" Zimmerman, four grandchildren, Lydia and Sam, Derrick Davis and Mary Piper Reeves. She is also survived by one niece, Marty (Matt) Knight, and a nephew, Lindy Aderton. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Jill Marlene, two sisters, Dixie Miller and Sharon Surgeon. Joy leaves behind numerous friends and former students, many of whom she was still in touch with.

Joy graduated from Blackburn University with an Associates Degree and then later received her Bachelors Degree from Illinois State University and did graduate work at Western Illinois University with degrees in Health and Physical Education. She began her teaching career at Hopedale, IL in 1954 and established their first Physical Education Program. She continued teaching in the San Jose Unit District and later retired from Illini Central School District, following the District's consolidation. She served as a tutor and substitute teacher in the years following her retirement.

Joy was chosen by the North Central Association of Schools as an evaluator for Physical Education Programs at other surrounding schools. Joy was the State of Illinois chosen delegate to the United Nations representing

Leadership on Recreational Activities in New York City and the Committee for Lifetime Sports for the Aging, Washington D.C. Joy was an active member of the Illinois Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation, serving as Vice President of Secondary Schools, was a member of the Executive Board, was Western District President, and Chairman of the State Conventions and Committees thereafter. She served in legislative areas as Task Forces and Ad-Hoc Committees under three State Supt. of Schools and the A-160 project with Dr. Bakalis. She was a member of the Lifetime Sports Foundation, giving seminars as a speaker, and a UNESCO delegate for Physical Achievement, county and district board member of American Red Cross, charter member of the Peoria Journal Star Women's Advisory Board, and was an elected official of Village Board in San Jose for 26 years until resigning for health reasons as Village Clerk. Joy served on Abraham Lincoln Hospital Board and committees for 25 years. She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star and County and Girls Scout Council and Camp Coordinator. Joy considered one of her best accomplishments of service was participation on Task Forces, Legislative Committees during the implementing and passage of the Title IX (Title 9) which was when girls sports became recognized after working so many years for equality for the girls' teams.

Joy was a member of the San Jose United Methodist Church. She was a Sunday School Teacher for the High School Students. She and her husband, Bob, served as Youth Leaders.

A funeral service will be held for Joy on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 6:30 PM at the San Jose United Methodist Church. Visitation will be held from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM also at the church. Matt Simer will officiate. Cremation rites will be accorded after the service. Burial will take place at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to San Jose United Methodist Church or Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.hurleyfh.com

Hurley Funeral Home in Mason City, IL is assisting the family with arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **12.** 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

San Jose United Methodist Church
600 South 1st Street
San Jose, IL 62682
(309) 247-3232

Funeral

SEP **12.** 6:30 PM (CT)

San Jose United Methodist Church
600 South 1st Street
San Jose, IL 62682
(309) 247-3232

Tribute Wall



“ Joy Zimmerman

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ Our mom was very ill but we desperately wanted to see the Disney Tigger Movie... Joy offered to take us... I still love that movie... I also remember having an orange sherbet sundae at either Baskin Robbins or Howard Johnsons... This was a bright spot in a very sad time in my life... Thanks Joy...

Wes Webb - November 03, 2017 at 12:27 AM



“ Pam Jones Ready lit a candle in memory of Joy Zimmerman



Pam Jones Ready - September 11, 2017 at 11:31 PM

TJ

“ Joy was my first cousin. Her mother, Letha, was the older sister of my mother, Mary Alice. Sad to say, I never really knew her well. She was four years ahead of me, and went off to school, married Bob, and had her life far away from where I was. Most of our lives we never saw each other. But I have a lot of happy memories of visiting the family in Hardin when we all were kids. I was closer to Dixie and Sharon, and would play with them. Joy was enough older that she usually treated us like kids, of course. But still she was fun, pretty much a tease; and I always liked her.

Later, in the last period of our life we started meeting at family funeral, and then had a few gatherings of the "Holder kids" in Alton. Those were good times with a lot of memories and interesting family stories to tell. The more I learned about her the more I recognized her special personality and her giftedness. Wish I had known her more.

There were four Holder girls and there were twelve of us grandkids. Now there are six of us. "My Dad used to say "Life is short," I never thought so--everything seemed to take so long. But he was right. It's over before you get to know your cousins. But I expect to see her in heaven, and that's forever! We're going to have some long talks.

Cousin Tom Jones

Thomas Jones - September 11, 2017 at 07:18 PM

GG

“ My sympathies are with you at the time of Joy's death. Reverend Gene A Guthrie

Gene Guthrie - September 10, 2017 at 08:24 PM

BL

“ Beverly Leesman lit a candle in memory of Joy Zimmerman



Beverly Leesman - September 09, 2017 at 07:18 PM

LB

“ Lindy Aderton and his birth mother Cheryl Barrett purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Joy Zimmerman.



Lindy Aderton and his birth mother Cheryl Barrett -
September 09, 2017 at 02:40 PM



“ I remember, for one, Joy's Health class when we were in Jr. High. Oh my goodness, some of the demonstrations she would give us, LoL... you had to be there! She always cared about her 'girls' and we were all her girls. She always tried to get the best out of us and we were better for it. She loved us then, and after she retired, she loved us still, you could tell just by talking to her. She has always been an icon of San Jose and she will be greatly missed. We love you Joy and send all our prayers and sympathy to your family.

TyLinda Blackstock - September 08, 2017 at 11:31 PM

AR

“ I was Joys' dental hygienist. I always enjoyed when she was in the office for her teeth cleaning.
I would always admire her rings that she was wearing and she always told me well if you want you can wear one while you work on me. I would laugh and say well they wouldn't do well under my gloves and she said this is true.
She was always a joy to visit with while she was in the office I will miss those visits .

Ann Knott Ramer - September 08, 2017 at 10:31 PM

LP

“ Joy,

You will be missed. Your smile and friendly manner made me feel so welcome when I came to live in San Jose 23 yrs. ago. I also thank you for babysitting Breanna a few times. From one teacher to another, I thank you for your ability to make a difference in the lives of so many.

Leann Price

Leann Price - September 08, 2017 at 09:24 PM

MN

“ Thanks for being the wonderful person you was. San Jose will miss every part of you. Love you and will miss you when I have parties.

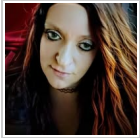
Myra nehmelman - September 08, 2017 at 06:48 PM



“ *Tracy Tomlin-Horn lit a candle in memory of Joy Zimmerman*



Tracy Tomlin-Horn - September 08, 2017 at 06:27 PM



“ *Joy was a wonderful woman she was my p.e. teacher and a great mentor to me and my sister josie rip joy*

Brandy Hunt Reed - September 08, 2017 at 05:23 PM