



Mary Ann Jess

March 4, 1942 - August 24, 2022

Mary Ann Jess, 80 of Kearney passed away Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at CHI Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Memorial services will be 11:00 a.m. Friday, September 2, 2022 at Kearney First United Methodist Church with Pastor Matt Fowler officiating. Inurnment will be held at a later date.

Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society or to Kearney First United Methodist Church. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

Mary Ann was born March 4, 1942 in Grand Island, Nebraska to Chester Everett "Chet" and Alberta (Mann) Stumpff. She attended Grand Island Senior High School, graduating with the class of 1960. Mary Ann continued her education at Kearney State College where she earned her bachelor's in education Degree in 1963. On June 23, 1963, she was united in marriage to Larry Jess in Grand Island, NE. Mary Ann taught 6th grade in Callaway, NE, and Palmer, NE, and taught special education in Crofton, NE, Bennet, NE, Medicine Lodge, KS, Sharon Springs, KS and David City, NE. During her career, Mary Ann was nominated for the Kansas Teacher of the Year.

She enjoyed playing bridge, reading, attending concerts and plays and traveling. Mary Ann was an excellent cook and she loved spending time with

her family and attending many of her grandchildren's events. She was a longtime member of the Kearney First United Methodist Church.

Mary Ann was preceded in death by her parents.

Left to cherish her memory are her husband, Larry Jess of Kearney; sons, Todd (Melissa) Jess of Elwood and Steven Jess of Council Grove, KS; daughter, Laura (Matthew) Mugler of Oklahoma City, OK; grandchildren, Austin (Brittany) Goodheart, Kearney Jess, Isaiah Jess, Tiannah Mugler and Evin Mugler; great grandson, Mason Goodheart; brother, Steven (Mary Jean) Stumpff of Lincoln, NE; as well as many extended family and friends.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
4500 Linden Drive
Kearney, NE 68847

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Ann Jess*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *So Sorry for your loss Larry*

gary and marlene sanders - September 04, 2022 at 11:30 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Mary Ann Jess.*



August 31, 2022 at 09:12 PM



“ *Larry and family, so sorry to hear of the loss of Mary Ann. Our sympathies*

Mary Bunger - August 31, 2022 at 10:17 AM



“ *Mary Ann was a wonderful friend! We played a lot of bridge together and I will miss that!!!*

Sharon Kizer - August 28, 2022 at 08:18 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mary Ann Jess.



August 26, 2022 at 08:40 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mary Ann Jess.



August 25, 2022 at 04:44 PM

CB

“ My wonderful cousin Mary Ann taught me to water ski on Johnson Lake when I was in 8th grade or thereabouts. She probably carried the scars on her shins for years from all the efforts it took. Uncle Chet got down on one knee and presented me with a box of chocolates. It should have gone to Mary Ann for her heroic efforts. So many wonderful memories through the years; getting reacquainted when we lived across the river in Sioux Falls and Yankton and the Jess family was in Crofton, NE. Their kids loved it when their Uncle Kurt served them what he called barbeque elephant meat (actually a beef roast) and it became a family joke. Mary Ann and Larry were some of the first to come when Kurt died. They acted as hosts and helped me in a number of ways. For years now, we've gone back and forth between Riverton WY and Kearney, visiting each other. When visiting us at our first cabin, I couldn't name most of the wildflowers she asked about. After they left, I received a bowl of silk wildflowers with a note saying, "I don't know what these are either." I treasure those memories and her grand sense of humor. She will be dearly missed by me and forever in my heart.

Cindy Browall - August 25, 2022 at 01:09 PM