



Mrs. E. Joan Schwartz

October 12, 1925 - May 20, 2013

E. Joan Schwartz, age 87, died Monday, May 20, 2013, surrounded by her loving family. She was born October 12, 1925, in Bluffton, Indiana, to William and Nora Biberstine. On July 9, 1944, she married Raymond R. Schwartz at Six Mile Church in Bluffton. He died in 1987. Her brother, Lloyd W. Biberstine, also preceded her in death.

Ms. Schwartz graduated from Defiance College, received her Master's degree from Indiana University, and did post-graduate doctoral work at Toledo University. Her teaching career started at Blue Creek Local for her first four years. She then served as a guidance counselor at Van Wert High School and Lincoln Junior High for a combined total of 28 years. She also taught adult education classes at Vantage Vocational School.

Ms. Schwartz was a past member of the Ohio School Counselors, Lima Area Counselors, Van Wert Mental Health Board, American Association of University Women, and Habitat for Humanity Board.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Van Wert, Ohio, where she had served as a deacon and an elder. She recently attended First United Presbyterian Church in Delphos.

A passionate reader since childhood when she learned to read from the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, she read everything from Civil War history to poetry. She especially liked to recite Longfellow's "Hiawatha." A music lover, she played the clarinet, piano, and keyboard. She decorated her home in an original oriental style. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who called her "G.J.," enjoyed her unique collection of frogs. Her favorite flower was the Iris, and she was crowned the "Iris Queen" at her 80th iris-themed birthday party. In addition to cheering for the Van Wert Cougars, she was an ardent supporter of college basketball: her alma mater, Indiana University, was her #1 college team. She was also a life-long New York Yankees' fan.

Survivors include four daughters: Sharyl (Terry) Odenweller of Delphos; Colleen Schwartz

of Hopewell, NJ; Dr. Rhonda (Dr. Charles Moretti) Schwartz of Grand Forks, ND; and Romaine (Clifford) Taylor of Tallahassee, FL; seven grandchildren: Joy (Jeff) Hays, Trisha (Greg) Klausing, Albert (Katherine) B. Kahn III, Luke (Juliann L.) S. Moretti, Dr. Joel Schwartz-Moretti, Katrina (Daniel) Bourque, and Nathaniel Stirn; and eight great-grandchildren: Jake, Lexie, and Leah Hays; Joshua, Tyler, and Ryan Klausing; Abigail and Gabriel Bourque; and sister-in-law Marcile Biberstine of Bluffton, IN.

Services will be at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 25, at Six Mile Church in Bluffton, IN. Pastor Bruce Holland will officiate. Burial will be at Six Mile cemetery. Friends may call at Thoma/Rich, Chaney, and Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton, IN, on Friday from 3-7 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Six Mile Church in Bluffton or the Activity Fund at Delphos Vancrest.

The family wishes to acknowledge the “extended family” of special caregivers at Delphos Vancrest Health Care Center who provided loving care and comfort for their Mother over the past few years.

Online condolences may be made at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

Six Mile Cemetery

4795 SE State Road 116
Bluffton, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 25. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Six Mile Church
4796 SE State Road 116
Bluffton, IN 46714

Service

MAY 25. 11:30 AM (ET)

Six Mile Church
4796 SE State Road 116
Bluffton, IN 46714

Tribute Wall



“ Mrs. E. Joan Schwartz

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM

LE

“ G.J was my great grandma. When I found out about her passing I felt my heart sink. She meant so much to me and was so kind. I loved her so much and I still do. I remember my grandma had a picture of my hugging her and I love that picture. I wish she was still here but every night I pray to her.

Leah - November 02, 2013 at 09:25 PM

SR

“ To Romaine Taylor,
Just read of the passing of your dear mother. I had missed her in church, but didn't know she was ill and in nursing home. I am sorry for you and your families loss. Always liked your mom, and she had always remembered me when she saw me. Prayers being sent to you and your family . Take care and god bless!
Love ya, Mainie,

Susan K. Ringwald
608 S. Washington .
Van Wert, Ohio 45891
419-238-3400

Susan K. Ringwald - May 24, 2013 at 05:36 PM

PO

“ Romaine and Family-- I am so sorry about your mother. May you feel the love, strength and warmth from you friends within you today and tomorrow as you take this journey. Be tough and strong and love each other and may this difficult time bring you closer together. Grieving must occur-okay to get feelings out-its healthy. My prayers and heart go out to you.

Peggy Owen - May 24, 2013 at 08:35 AM

MS

“ Mrs. Schwartz was my junior high guidance counselor in the late 80's at Lincoln Jr. High. What a warm, caring and patient lady! I remember feeling that she was a beacon in the rough, unkind waters of junior high. I enjoyed meeting with her when test scores were reviewed. My condolences to family and friends. She will be remembered and missed. Molly Spieles, Van Wert, Ohio

Molly Spieles - May 21, 2013 at 07:46 PM