



Joan Anne Purdy

JAN 23, 1956 - MAY 17, 2025



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Joan Anne Purdy, 69, of Waupaca, WI—formerly of Woodstock, IL—passed away peacefully at home on May 17, 2025, surrounded by her loving family after a courageous battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig’s Disease).

To know Joan was to love Joan. She had a magnetic presence, a gift for conversation, and an infectious laugh. Her warmth, humor, and boundless devotion to her family and community were hallmarks of a life well lived and deeply cherished.

Born in Indianapolis, IN on January 23, 1956, Joan was the beloved daughter of Jean A. (Johnson) and John L. Oberrieder. She grew up in Deerfield, IL and graduated from Deerfield High School. Joan went on to attend Drake University, where she met the love of her life, Dr. Robin Keith Purdy, Sr. Their love story began in 1975 through their shared involvement with the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, where Joan was named a Little Sister. They married on December 16, 1978 while Robin was attending medical school.

Joan and Robin made their home in Woodstock, IL, where they raised four children and together operated Woodstock Family Practice Center. Joan’s greatest gift was her dedication to motherhood. She poured her heart into raising her children and was actively involved in their schools and extracurricular activities. She also enjoyed gardening, entertaining, cooking, and had a special love for her dogs.

A lifelong Episcopalian, Joan was a faithful member of St. Ann’s in Woodstock and later of St. Mark’s in Waupaca. Her faith was central to her life. She served both churches through altar guild and vestry work and held leadership roles as both junior and senior warden, giving generously of her time and spirit.

In 2017, Joan and Robin moved full-time to their lake home on Round Lake in Waupaca, where they found joy in lakeside living. Joan especially loved being on the water, floating with family and



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friends, and spent many cherished evenings cruising the lake on their pontoon boat, affectionately named “The Living Room.”

Her friendships were many and lifelong; she made friends wherever she went and kept them close to her heart. A founding member of the Carmany Park Girls, Joan was affectionately known to neighbors as “The Sheriff.” She had a presence that was impossible to miss and a way of making everyone feel like family.

Beyond being a devoted wife and a fiercely loving mother, Joan was a proud and doting Nana to her eight grandchildren: Jack, Cal, Townes, Eleanor, Geneva, George, Clark, and Beau.

Joan is survived by her beloved husband, Robin; her children Robin Keith Jr. (Brittney) of Denver, Elizabeth Anne (Luke) Faulkner of Chicago, Hilary Louise (Michael) Orlowski of St. Louis, and Laura Ruth (Andrew) McCready of Madison; her grandchildren; her brothers John (Marsha) Oberrieder and Jay (Cathy Yarbrough) Oberrieder; her mother-in-law, Wanda Purdy; her brothers-in-law Todd (Kristina) Purdy and Dan Nichols; her many nieces and nephews; and her countless treasured friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her father-in-law, Dallas Purdy; her sister-in-law, Terri Nichols; and Sarah McCullagh, a family friend who was like a daughter to Joan.

Joan's legacy of love, strength, and joy lives on in the many lives she touched. She will be deeply missed and never forgotten.

The Purdy family extends their deepest gratitude to the many compassionate providers and caregivers who supported Joan throughout her illness. Special thanks go to the ALS Association, ThedaCare at Home, and Home Instead for their exceptional care, guidance, and kindness. Their support made an immeasurable difference in Joan's journey.

Visitation will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 24, 2025 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, located at 415 S Main Street in Waupaca. A service will immediately follow at 11:00 a.m. The Holly Funeral Home of Waupaca is assisting the family with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that donations be made in Joan's memory to the ALS Association or St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Waupaca.




Events


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Memorial Gathering


 **Saturday**, May 24, 2025


 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT

 **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**
415 South Main Street, Waupaca WI 54981


Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, May 24, 2025

 11:00 AM CT

 **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**
415 South Main Street, Waupaca WI 54981

Cemetery Details

 **Barton Cemetery**
N3095 County Road Q, Waupaca WI 54981



Tribute Wall

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Sarah Buckland lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Sarah Buckland lit a candle in memory of Joan Purdy

May 24 at 5:50 AM



Sarah Scott Buckland posted:

Joan and I grew up together, she lived in Clavinia and I lived on Hackberry Road just down the street from her. I have fond memories of our times shared and will always treasure those days. Bless you Joan and thank you for being my friend. Thoughts and prayers to her family. Sarah Scott Buckland

May 23 at 5:35 PM



Sarah Scott Buckland lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Sarah Scott Buckland lit a candle in memory of Joan Purdy

May 23 at 5:29 PM



Chris Harper posted:

Robin and family, and brothers John and Jay: I feel honored to have had Joan as a friend while growing up in Deerfield, Illinois. We had many fun times and adventures in high school, at church (St. Gregory's Episcopal), in Girl Scouts and on our softball team. I remember her great talent for playing the piano and also her ever present upbeat personality. My prayers are with you as you grieve and celebrate her life. "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16 NKJV) Chris Harper, Duluth, MN

May 23 at 4:11 PM



Love, Ki & Laura sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Purdy family.

May 23 at 12:07 PM





Tribute Wall

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Land'S End sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Purdy family.



May 22 at 8:02 PM



Herb Pitzman posted:

On behalf of my wife Jackie, our daughter Jamie and myself, our sincere condolences to Dr. Purdy and his family. We had the pleasure of knowing Joan and Rob during there years in Woodstock. Joan will be greatly missed by many and our thoughts and prayers for the Purdy family. Herb & Jackie Pitzman Woodstock, IL

May 22 at 1:00 PM



The Faulkner Families sent a Heavenly Grace Spray to the Purdy family.



May 22 at 10:28 AM



The Faulkner Families planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.



May 22 at 10:28 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Purdy family.



May 22 at 9:44 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.



May 22 at 9:44 AM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Basket of Memories to the Purdy family.

May 22 at 9:43 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.

May 22 at 9:43 AM



Anonymous sent a sympathy card to the Purdy family.

May 22 at 8:49 AM



Bill S. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.

May 21 at 6:06 PM



The Dimarco Family sent a Joyful Memory to the Purdy family.

May 21 at 4:27 PM



The Dimarco Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.

May 21 at 4:27 PM





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Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the Purdy family.



May 21 at 11:50 AM



Stephanie Azcuna Pacana posted:

We are truly saddened to hear of Joan's passing. She was a lovely lady, always gracious and kind to us during our time in Woodstock. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you, Dr. Purdy, your family, and to everyone she has touched, as I'm sure there are many. God bless you all. -Stephanie, Cesar, Pura, and Daphne Azcuna

May 21 at 7:17 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.



May 21 at 7:11 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Purdy family.



May 21 at 4:34 AM



Bruce And Valerie Ceranske sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Purdy family.



May 21 at 2:32 AM



Randal J Wakitsch posted:

Prayers for and love to Rob and family! Wish we could be there on Saturday. Randy Wakitsch and Julie Ann Monroe

May 21 at 1:32 AM



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Love To All - Ken, Lori, And Anna Jensen sent a Crystal Cross Bouquet to the Purdy family.

May 20 at 5:17 PM



Love To All - Ken, Lori, And Anna Jensen planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.

May 20 at 5:17 PM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Purdy family.

May 20 at 12:19 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.

May 20 at 12:19 PM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Purdy family.

May 20 at 7:32 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.

May 20 at 7:32 AM





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Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.

May 20 at 6:36 AM



Love Jeanette & Families sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Purdy family.

May 20 at 5:26 AM



Love Jeanette & Families planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Joan.

May 20 at 5:26 AM



Anonymous sent a Sweet Sincerity to the Purdy family.

May 19 at 11:19 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Joan by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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