



Jean M McQuilkin

February 5, 2021

GUILFORD LAKE--Jean M. McQuilkin, 78, of Guilford Lake, Ohio, passed away on Friday, February 5, 2021, in Saint Augustine, Florida, after a short bout with cancer.

Jean was born in Columbiana County to Sara and James Sitler. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Kent State University and worked in the field of speech pathology, as an executive for health and family services, and as an adjunct professor at KSU-Salem. Jean was dedicated to the children and families she served. Jean's adventurous spirit and varied interests led to valued friendships across the country. She enjoyed gardening, outdoor markets, national parks, concerts and theater productions, RV and motorcycle trips, connecting friends with one another, introducing others to her favorite places, and time spent with friends and family. Her loved ones describe her as vibrant, inspirational, encouraging, supportive, and loving; she was a true friend, a cheerleader, and a bright light. A favorite story from her childhood is following her dad around the family greenhouse in a stream of lively chitter-chatter. Amused and slightly exasperated, her dad asked, "Why do you talk so much?" To which she brightly replied, "Because I have so many important things to say!"

Jean was preceded in death by her husband, James R. McQuilkin, DDS. Jean's family includes siblings Peggy (Jim, deceased) Russell and Jack (Dinah) Sitler and the Camp family; twin daughters Hallie Logan and Heather (Burton Perkins) Logan; children Anne (deceased) (Kris) Hassel, James (Billie) McQuilkin Jr., Brian McQuilkin, and Susan (Kevin) Waltz; and multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A private inurnment ceremony will be held at Bethesda Cemetery, Hanoverton, where her beloved husband rests. A celebration of life is being planned for summer.

In lieu of flowers for the bereaved, the family encourages friends to choose a local florist and send flowers to someone you appreciate in your life, as a way to honor Jean's encouragement of others, love of flowers, and her childhood spent in the family's greenhouse. Condolences may be mailed in care of Dinah Sitler, 109 Village Ct., Columbiana, OH 44408. Jean's obituary may be viewed and electronic condolences posted on the tributes page at www.StJohnsFamilyFuneralHome.com.

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - February 09 at 11:00 AM



“ Beautiful pictures, of a beautiful person. Jean was not only my sister in law, she was one of my dearest friends. She was always there for me, caring and kind from the first day that we met. She will be sadly missed by so many. Until we meet again, Love Marsha

Marsha McQuilkin - February 10 at 09:17 AM



“ Jean's friendship and love will always be cherished and treasured. She was such a wonderful friend, and we shared so many fun times and adventures! We kayaked at Guilford and picked berries from along the shore for breakfast. We'd spend the morning browsing and reading at Barnes & Nobles, then have a delicious lunch at some little cafe she had found. We went to Big Bad Voodoo Daddy concerts, to movies, and she joined a couple of geocaching trips. We went for walks and biked Greenway Trails. We looked for sea glass on Florida beaches and watched the waves play along the shore as we walked. We tried cross-country skiing and after numerous falls, decided we preferred cross-country hiking! We went on motorcycle excursions with our riding group, which almost always included a food-related destination. A group of us friends would get campsites close to each other at State Parks, sharing meals, drinks, and smores, laughing and talking into the night. She would share such witty, funny stories that had you crying cause you were laughing so hard!

Jean was a very kind, caring, compassionate person, always ready to help, listen, assist, advise, or just be there during difficult times. She'd stop by with chicken noodle soup or some small meal when I was sick, took me to physical therapy when I broke my ankle, was there for me when my mom passed away, would make supper during the workweek and invite me over, just so I wouldn't have to cook, and would call or stop by just to say hi. Jean would send little cards and notes - to encourage, support, share an insightful thought, or just to let you know she was thinking about you.

The most amazing thing about Jean is that she was like this with every person she called friends. Everyone who was a part of Jean's life has special times and moments they shared with her. She seemed to know what each person needed and was that for them. Her caring and loving nature were like the sun, rain, and soil to all of us in her friendship garden.

She is and will be greatly missed. My deepest sympathies to her family, whom she fiercely loved and held so very dear to her heart.

Ruth Floor



Ruth - February 17 at 02:43 PM



“ Jean was a wonderful mentor to me back when I started with Family and Children First back in the day! Besides being extremely intelligent and insightful, she also had a quick wit and a real understanding of people and how interpersonal relationships shape programs, policies and implementation of services. She was never too busy to help the "new kid", always listened, always cared, and always had something valuable to share.

Although we unfortunately did not stay in touch through the years, I remember her very fondly and have used the lessons she taught me to this day. Thank you Jean, and rest well after a life well lived!

Steve Ullom - February 16 at 05:58 AM



“ Jean was an amazing friend, always ready to try something fun and new, always there for me in my time of need. We laughed and we cried together- the best of friends. May you Rest In Peace my dear friend.

Mary Alice Cozza - February 15 at 12:52 PM



“ I knew Jean for many many years. She was a most intelligent, loving and warm person,
A friend to everyone. She will be miss by many. So very very sorry for your loss.
Barbara Stamp

Barbara Stamp - February 15 at 08:58 AM



“ Jean was a remarkable, caring woman - always willing to reach out to help and support others. She was a real mentor to me when I was first appointed as the director of job and family services in Columbiana County. Her many kindnesses, helpful suggestions and general support helped me grow into the job.
She had a love for life in all its many forms - and a zest for living her own as well as she could. Sincerest condolences to her loving family
Eileen Dray-Bardon

Eileen Dray-Bardon - February 14 at 05:16 PM



“ My condolences on the passing of Jean. During my career I interacted with Jean on numerous occasion. I found her to be knowledgeable and personable in our dealings. Her passing is a great loss to the human services field in Columbiana County.

Jerry Baker

Gerald L Baker - February 14 at 11:24 AM



“ My very deepest sympathy in your loss.
Phil Swope
Hernando, FL

Phil Swope - February 13 at 09:56 AM



“ For my beloved sister:

I am standing on the seashore.
A ship spreads her sails to the morning breeze and starts for the ocean.
I stand there watching till she fades on the horizon, and someone at my side says,
“She is gone.”
Gone where?
The loss of sight is only in me, not in her.
Just at that moment when someone says “She is gone”, there are others who are
watching her coming.
Other voices take up the glad shout.
“Here she comes!”
And this is dying.

Rest in peace, Jean

Love always,

Your “sissy”, Peg

This verse is from ‘Housecalls & Hitching Posts’, written by an Ohio Doctor to the Amish.

Peg Russell - February 10 at 07:02 PM



“ I will miss Aunt Jean’s wonderful laugh and her passion for living well. I will remember her making things beautiful, soaking up the sunshine, loving her kitty cats, finding peace in nature, and enjoying all the people who crossed her path. I loved listening to her tease my Dad and the laughter that ensued. She was a gift to our family. Fierce, loving, brave, and strong.

Kimberly Heestand - February 10 at 01:19 PM



“ I met Jean at Jekyll Island Campground 6 years ago when she came over to my campsite to see what I was painting. That chance encounter turned into a wonderful friendship. It was as if we had known each other forever. She was a special person, always there for her friends and family. She always wore that warm and welcoming smile! She was taken away too soon, but I take solace knowing we will see each other again some day.



Melissa Kirchgessner - February 10 at 06:41 AM



“ This is truly a shocking and sad. Jean will have a special place in my heart for the love and attention she showed my sister during her terminal illness. Then had to do the same for my father/her husband just 5 years later. She was a loving force for him and he was very happy she was his wife. She was a calming presence and a fiercely independent spirit. She will be missed.



Susan Waltz - February 09 at 09:55 PM



“ 14 files added to the album LifeTributes



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - February 09 at 11:01 AM



“ Her light shines through in her smile. Vaya con dios, Mrs. McGuilken.

Vickie Crockett - February 09 at 09:54 PM