



Marilea Koch

April 17, 1930 - January 25, 2024

Marilea was born April 17, 1930, to Edward and Elizabeth Ann Paddison in Sesser, Illinois. She grew up in Sesser, graduated from Goode Barren Township High School, and attended Southern Illinois University, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree. After several years of teaching high school English in Polo, Lincoln, and Hinsdale, IL, she attended and earned a Master of Arts degree from Northeast Missouri State University.

After she moved to Salem, IL Marilea taught extension classes at Kaskaskia College, and then later worked for the Salem Chamber of Commerce. She also served on the Bryan Bennett Library Board and was an active member of Grace United Methodist Church.

Marilea valued education and has even endowed a scholarship in her parents' names at SIU in Carbondale, IL. The Ed and Ann Paddison Scholarship enables Southern Illinois students who live south of I-70 to have access to higher education just as she did in the late 1940's.

Marilea enjoyed traveling and visited most areas of the continental USA. She visited parts of Europe as well. She was an avid reader. Even as she began to lose her eyesight, she discovered audio books, and took advantage of the Illinois State Library lending system to have books at hand from daily listening to autobiographies, historical fiction, and a variety of literature. Marilea not only taught creative writing but engaged in it herself by finding ways to insert amusing anecdotes into newsletters and personal Christmas letters.

Marilea is survived by her cousins Carolyn (Richard) Stubblefield of Mt.

Vernon, IL, Mary Jane Alagna of O'Fallon, MO, and Norman (Sally) Dodds of Alpharetta, GA. She is also survived by her trusted friend Lael Snyder, who provided loving support as Marilea's eyesight began to fail, transported her to countless medical appointments and showed compassionate concern and care throughout her illness.

Marilea was preceded in death by her parents, her former husband Bill Koch, several relatives and close friends. Marilea made her home at Bob White apartments, then at the Manor in Salem Woods and as of late in Twin Willows Nursing Home. After a short illness, she passed from this life shortly before midnight on January 25, 2024.

Visitation for Marilea will be at the Sutherland-Rankin Funeral Home in Salem from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Thursday, February 1, 2024. Funeral Services will be at 11:00 a.m. at the Sutherland-Rankin Funeral Home, with her minister Rev. Christine Cunningham officiating. Burial will be in the family plot in Maple Hill Cemetery in Sesser, Illinois on Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 1:30 PM with Rev. Jim Slone officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Maple Hill Cemetery Trust Fund and will be accepted at the Sutherland-Rankin Funeral Home 310 North Broadway/ P.O. Box 97 Salem, Illinois 62881, (618)548-1234, who is honored to be of service to Marilea's Family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com and the Sutherland Funeral Homes Facebook page.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Sutherland - Rankin Funeral Home
310 N Broadway Ave
Salem, IL 62881
(618) 548-1234
srfh2019@gmail.com
<http://www.rankinfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

FEB 1. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM.

Sutherland - Rankin Funeral Home

Graveside Service

FEB 1. 1:30 PM - 1:45 PM (CT)

Maple Hill Cemetery
16766 North Park Street
Sesser, IL 62884

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marilea Koch.*



January 31, 2024 at 04:14 PM



“ *Norm and Sally planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marilea Koch.*

Norm and Sally - January 31, 2024 at 01:40 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marilea Koch.*



January 31, 2024 at 01:40 PM



“ *~ Carol Kracht's family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marilea Koch.*

~ Carol Kracht's family - January 30, 2024 at 02:22 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marilea Koch.



January 30, 2024 at 02:22 PM



“ Marvin Sapp and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marilea Koch.

Marvin Sapp and Family - January 29, 2024 at 05:45 PM



“ Marvin Sapp and Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Marilea Koch.



Marvin Sapp and Family - January 29, 2024 at 05:45 PM



“ Marilea and I became friends when I was living in Salem from 1986-1999. We met at Bryan Bennett Library. Along with another friend, Janet Sharpe, we enjoyed many excursions during those years which usually included shopping and lunch as well as some interesting place to visit. After I moved to Maine, we stayed in touch by writing letters until her eyesight made that too difficult for her. Then, we resorted to the phone. I last spoke with her when she was in the hospital in December. In 2005, Marilea and I traveled together to Britain - a most memorable trip. She was a good and dear friend. I will miss her. Daphne Meyer, South Portland, Maine

Daphne Meyer - January 28, 2024 at 03:56 PM