



Bonnie Sue Heidinger

November 14, 1944 - January 1, 2025

IN MEMORY OF:

Bonnie Sue Heidinger

Serving Location:

CRAIN PLEASANT GROVE-MURDALE FUNERAL HOME

31 Memorial Drive, Murphysboro, Illinois

Bonnie Sue Heidinger, aged 80, passed away on January 1, 2025, in Carbondale, IL, with her husband and daughter nearby.

Born on November 14, 1944, Bonnie was a cherished member of the Carbondale and Southern Illinois community, known for her amiable personality and significant contributions as an educator. She was a lifelong resident of southern Illinois and a committed wife to her husband Roy for 61 years.

Bonnie's academic journey began at Cypress Elementary in Cypress, IL and continued at Vienna High School in Vienna, IL. She worked for legislator Paul Powell before furthering her education at Southern Illinois University, earning a Bachelor's degree in 1969 and a Master's degree in 1970. She began her

illustrious teaching career at Cairo High School and Shawnee Junior College, then dedicating most of her professional life to teaching English and American History at Anna-Jonesboro High School in Anna, IL. Bonnie's passion for education was evident in her 30+ years at the school and her annual presentations at Southern Illinois University's regional history fair, where she was notably recognized for her contributions.

Bonnie's commitment to community service was profound. She held leadership positions in numerous organizations, including the Union County Historical Society, authoring numerous articles on historical area homes, and the Carbondale Branch of the NAACP, where she served as Assistant Secretary. A staunch supporter of advancing women's rights and education, she was an early advocate of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), a lifetime member of the Association of University Women (AAUW), serving as Chapter President, and a member of Delta Kappa Gamma for over 40 years. Bonnie also contributed to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library as a member of the high school advisory committee.

Her personal interests included walking around Campus Lake with her daughter or friends, birdwatching with her husband, listening to NPR with morning coffee, reading, hosting family Thanksgiving dinners, and traveling. She was active in several local book clubs, and traveled both nationally and internationally, alone and with friends and family, more recently visiting Cuba with husband Roy.

Bonnie is survived by her husband, Roy Heidinger; daughter, Sonia Heidinger; sisters, Wilma (and Raymond) Hartline (Dongola, IL) and Mary Lou Haffly (Dongola, IL); and sister-in-law, Carol (and Brian) Hunt (St Louis, MO).

She was preceded in death by her mother, Eunice Kelly, father, Delbert Osman, and brothers-in-law, George Heidinger and Donald Haffly.

Services to celebrate Bonnie's life will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 6:00 PM with eulogies and remembrances from family and friends with visitation being held from 4:00 PM until the time of service all at Crain Pleasant Grove – Murdale Funeral Home.

Interment will take place at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to SIU Women's Basketball or the McLeod Summer Playhouse, honoring Bonnie's passion for supporting local initiatives. Bonnie's legacy as a dedicated educator, community leader and family member will be deeply missed and forever cherished by all who knew her.

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Grove Memorial Park

31 Memorial Dr.
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-1145
crain@crainsonline.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 8. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (cst)

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home - Old 13
31 Memorial Dr.
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-2500
crain@crainsonline.com

Funeral Service

JAN 8. 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM (cst)

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home - Old 13
31 Memorial Dr.
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-2500
crain@crainsonline.com

Tribute Wall

WF

“ *WILMA&Family Mary and family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Bonnie Sue Heidinger.*



WILMA&Family Mary and family - January 07, 2025 at 05:11 PM

JY

“ *My wife Donna and I have so many memories of wonderful times with this wonderful lady. We first met the Heidingers in 1970. We consider Bonnie and her husband Roy among our very best friends. We remember Bonnie's parties over the years and the 50th wedding anniversary at Giant City Lodge. Just a few years ago we had several dinners with Bonnie and Roy in Carbondale with our mutual friends Ben and Ann Marie Shepherd and Juh and Lin Chen. We will never forget you Bonnie.*
John and Donna Yopp

John and donna Yopp - January 07, 2025 at 11:58 AM

MF

“ *She was truly supportive of young women & I was honored to be one of them. I will always be grateful to her!*

Mickey Finch - January 07, 2025 at 11:54 AM

SW

“ *I had her as a teacher all 4 years at A-J. She was a very good teacher. So sorry to hear of her passing but now she can celebrate a life of accomplishments and memories. Rest in peace.*

Susan Ury Webel - January 07, 2025 at 11:17 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bonnie Sue Heidinger.*



January 07, 2025 at 10:16 AM



“ *Sorry for your loss*



Dale Huggins - January 07, 2025 at 05:57 AM



“ *Paula A. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Bonnie Sue Heidinger.*



Paula A. - January 06, 2025 at 04:16 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Bonnie Sue Heidinger.*



January 06, 2025 at 02:51 PM

JR

“ Thank you for all you did for us at AJ and it was a privilege to be one of your studies. Loved traveling with you my Freshman year to Italy and Greece yet sad that you had to depart from the trip due to your mother's passing whom I loved as a child growing up in Dongola. You impacted us to be better and to stand up for ourselves and our rights. Class of 1998 is better because we had you! Thank you for your wisdom and love. Fly High and see you in paradise someday. ✨🙌💙🇺🇸🎵🙌✨

Jennifer Ray-Lyerla - January 02, 2025 at 07:39 PM