



## Jill Suzanne Pearce Bell

July 8, 1951 - December 8, 2017

Jill died at home on December 8, 2017 after losing a 7 month battle with cancer.

She was born July 8, 1951 in Fairfield, Illinois, the daughter of Willard and June Lotz Pearce, both of whom preceded her in death.

On January 20, 1990, she married Bruce Bell, who survives her. She is also survived by her daughters Elizabeth Pearce Bell and Allison Marie Bell and by son Bradley Glen (Courtney) Bell and grandsons Thalo and Rolan.

Also surviving are brothers Scott and Dr. Willard C. (Debby) Pearce Jr., nephews Willard C. Pearce III, Benjamin M. and Christopher A. Pearce. Also surviving are many close friends, admirers of her personal character, and the many students she taught and coached during her 38 years of continuous service to Anna-Jonesboro Community High School.

Jill, guided by her mentor and life-long friend Shirley Davis, were mothers of A-J's women's athletic program competing in the Illinois High School Athletic Association. As head coach, Jill's volleyball team advanced to IHSA Super Sectional competition, defeated by the eventual state champion. Her 1985 track team won conference, and her relay teams were regulars at IHSA Finals. Her impact continued. She was a supporting guide for daughter Elizabeth's sterling academic and athletic accomplishments.

An avid bird lover, she was a recorder of avian life for Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

No traditional funeral services will be held. Her remains were cremated and

will be interred in Fairfield Maple Hill Cemetery at a time to be determined. Her life was successfully filled giving support, friendship, and love. Anyone inclined to honor her memory might consider those she has bequeathed a sum: In her Anna community, Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, Stinson Memorial Library, and the Anna Blue Dolphin Swim Team. In her Fairfield home town, the City Pool, United Methodist Church, Library, Hospital, and the Wayne County Historical Society. Of course any charity or organization close to your heart would meet her approval.

Jill is already a missing part in many lives.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jill Suzanne Pearce Bell*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *To Mr Bell and family,  
I am so sorry to hear of Jill's passing. She was my favorite teacher ever. She will be missed by many because she was such a kind giving person. May God's peace be with you all during this trying time.*

*Valerie (Bunch) Bevil*

**Valerie Bevil** - December 15, 2017 at 12:04 PM



“ *Jill's light shines in all of us. I loved my final dance with Jill at the Ivas John Band show at Alto Vinyards during eclipse weekend. She is a treasure and will always exist inside is.*

**Sue Gindlesparger** - December 12, 2017 at 09:45 AM



“ *Bruce and Elizabeth,  
I am not sure if you remember me but my son, Ryan, swam with Elizabeth at Saluki Swim Team. I send my condolences regarding your mother's passing. What a wonderful lady she was! She was supportive of all swimmers and an inspiration for all of us.*

*Nancy McDonald*

**Nancy McDonald** - December 11, 2017 at 03:07 PM

EI

“ Dear Elizabeth and Bruce,

*I was just thinking of Jill and the yummy chocolate sheet cake she used to always bring to our Saluki meets as we just hosted one this weekend. Jill was always smiling her beautiful smile when I saw her and was so proud of you Elizabeth. Praying for comfort for you both. We are so very sorry for your loss. Eileen, Rick, Kelsie and Kyle Walker.*



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**Eileen** - December 11, 2017 at 12:44 AM

SB

“ Bruce, Elizabeth, and the rest of your family that we are not acquainted with:

*Jill was a wonderful lady, and I am so happy I got to know her - first as our children's teacher, and then as a very supportive 4-H parent and friend.*

*Her memory and influence will live on, not only in each of you, but also in the lives of those with whom she interacted and influenced.*

*God bless you,*

*Sandy and Dwight Boaz*

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**Sandy Boaz** - December 10, 2017 at 04:00 PM

NK

“ Bruce--

*I am so sorry to read about the passing of Jill; I don't think I ever recall seeing her when she wasn't smiling. She loved her cats!*

*Nancy Kucera*

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**Nancy Kucera** - December 09, 2017 at 10:51 AM

KJ

“ *Very wonderful woman!*

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**Kristie Deroe Jones** - December 09, 2017 at 10:47 AM

KB

“ *Bruce I am saddened by the passing of Jill. My condolences to you and your family. Kevin Bires*

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**Kevin Bires** - December 09, 2017 at 10:29 AM

AN

“ *Alex and I are so sorry for your loss. We loved hanging out with Jill during all those Saluki Swim Club practices and meets. I appreciated and respected her advice. Our deepest, deepest condolences. Please accept an online hug. Angela and Alex. (Sorry if this posts twice)*

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**Angela** - December 09, 2017 at 10:00 AM

JU

“ *A wonderful Lady! Saddened by the news.*

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**justin** - December 08, 2017 at 09:04 PM

RG

*I dated Jill for a few months or maybe longer in high school, but we ended up being best friends in high school. We did not stay in touch much because her husband Bruce told me at the class reunion we had at Lynn's to never to contact her again. Out of respect for for Jill I did that for her. I will miss my friend so very much, she was a good one that should still be here for all of us.*

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**rob gardner** - December 12, 2017 at 11:52 AM