



Kathy S. Swindell

September 9, 1949 - June 5, 2025

IN MEMORY OF:

Kathy S. Swindell

Serving Location:

CRAIN PLEASANT GROVE-MURDALE FUNERAL HOME

31 Memorial Drive, Murphysboro, Illinois

Kathleen Sue Swindell passed away peacefully at home on June 5, 2025 at the age of 75.

She was born September 9, 1949 in Milford, Illinois, the daughter of Russell and Ruth (Decker) Bury. She Married Joe Swindell on February 14, 1983. They celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary on February 14, 2025.

Kathy grew up in Milford, Illinois, and then moved to Wellington, Illinois when her mother remarried after her father passed away. Her new father was a wonderful man, Harry Leverenz of Wellington. Kathy attended High School in Wellington, and then went on to college to get a degree in education. Kathy taught grade school in Milford until 1979 when she moved to Carbondale, Illinois. She went to SIU in Carbondale and earned her Masters and then

Doctorate degree. She taught high school for seven years in Tamaroa, Illinois, and then started working at SIU in international education. Kathy became the coordinator of SIU's Japan campus until retirement in 2006. Kathy was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Carbondale where she and Joe have been members longer than they can remember.

Kathy is preceded in death by her Mother, Step father Harry, and three older brothers, Lee Bury, Dale Bury, and Joe Bury. Kathy and Joe had no children, but lots of wonderful nieces, nephews, and their children.

Kathy is survived by her husband Joe.

Kathy had requested no formal funeral service. A private inurnment will be held at Murdale Gardens of Memory.

Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church of Carbondale.

The cremation of Kathleen Sue Swindell will be personally handled by the staff of Crain Funeral Home.

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

Cemetery Details

Murdale Gardens of Memory

137 Murdale Gardens Rd
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-1145
crain@crainsonline.com

Tribute Wall

TB

“ Dear Joe and family:

Please accept our sincere condolences on Kathy's passing. We always enjoyed the times that we spent together. The two of you were such a great team. Please don't hesitate to call if there is any way that we can do to be of assistance. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Tom Bik/Laurel Toussaint

Tom Bik - June 09, 2025 at 01:24 PM

DK

“ Joe , I am very sorry for your loss , please accept my deepest condolences and also from all the staff @ Hunan . You and Kathy have been our patrons and friends for so long, this is so sad . We will miss her . I will miss her advice and opinions on the new staff that we hire, she will always tell me if they will work out or not , also for taking time to get to know all the staff that you both encounter. We will always remember “ The Kathy Special “ her favorite dish when she comes made special and only for her. Farewell Kathy , may you rest in peace.

David Kuan - June 08, 2025 at 07:34 PM

JS

“ Sorry to hear about this. Kathy was one of the kindest, nicest people I have known. She and Joe made a sweet couple. A great loss for him and all who knew her. John Sweazy

John Sweazy - June 08, 2025 at 07:23 PM

AP

“ Joe I heard about Kathy’s passing at Sunday school today. I’m so so sorry. I had no idea she was ill. She was a very sweet person, witty, fun loving and caring. You two coming to my Sean’s visitation meant so much to us. Know that your many friends, family and church family have our prayers, support and loving arms around you. I know she is free from pain and with our Lord. God bless you.
Allison and Jerry Phillips

Allison Phillips - June 08, 2025 at 04:30 PM

MP

“ Joe, I am so sorry to hear of Kathy's passing. She was always so kind and generous to me. I really appreciated her loving words of encouragement regarding my readings of the liturgy. Thank you both for your friendship. Kathy will certainly be missed.

Mary Pohlmann - June 08, 2025 at 11:24 AM

SS

“ Hi Joe--You know how much you and Kathy meant to my family, and still do! I'm so glad you had the courage to stay the course, as did my father. I've planted the iris, and hope for a flower in a year or two. So much love, Susan

Susan Sommers - June 07, 2025 at 05:41 PM

RR

“ Worked with Kathy and Joe different times at SIU great people prayers for Joe and family, Rodger Riley

Rodger Riley - June 07, 2025 at 02:02 PM

DF

“ Joe we are all thinking of you and keep you in our prays! U r truly a good man! Kathy couldn't have picked a better guy to spend her life with! My dad always said u were a keeper!! Thanks Joe for taking such great care of Kathy!❤️

Dana Fulk - June 07, 2025 at 01:41 PM

DF

“ Kathy was always there to listen! She loved me sending pictures of my dog Fiona! I will miss seeing her emails! I will truly miss her! Kathy tell everyone hello and that we love them!❤️❤️❤️

Dana Fulk - June 07, 2025 at 01:37 PM

CS

“ Kathy was a valued member of the SIUC International Programs and Services team. In addition to her work with the Nakajo campus, she coordinated visits from international student groups to Carbondale. She was always involved in bringing the young people of the world closer together in one way or another, and I'm sure they will never forget her kindness. Sayōnara Kathy.

Christine Svec - June 07, 2025 at 01:17 PM

EH

“ Joe, I'm so sorry for your loss. Joey Helleny

Edward J Helleny - June 07, 2025 at 12:24 PM

LD

“ Kathy is my cousin by marriage and a dear friend by choice. I will cherish and chuckle over the many adventures she, Joe, Deb, Glenda and I have shared.



Linda Decker - June 07, 2025 at 12:22 PM

CK

“ I was saddened to see Kathy had passed. Both Kathy and Joe always put such a bright spot in my day when I would see them. I'm thinking of you Joe in this most difficult time. ❤️

carrie lea Killman - June 07, 2025 at 09:39 AM

JL

“ Joe, I was so sorry to read about Kathy. I was in an exercise class with her at Davies Gym, SIU.

Judy Lewis - June 07, 2025 at 08:45 AM

DF

“ Joe, I'm so saddened to see this news about Kathy. She was a lovely woman & I know you loved her deeply. May God bless.

deborah Frey - June 07, 2025 at 07:21 AM

CK

Joe, I'm Kathy's cousin Carol, Marianne's sister. I was so sad to hear about Kathy's passing. She was one of the good ones.

Carol Decker Kulinski - June 10, 2025 at 01:54 PM

TF

You two are one of the instant smiles in my life. Thank you!

Tony Mc Fadden - June 12, 2025 at 02:50 PM