



Kay M. Purcell

December 3, 1940 - May 12, 2024

IN MEMORY OF:
KAY M. PURCELL

Serving Location:
CRAIN PLEASANT GROVE-MURDALE FUNERAL HOME
31 Memorial Drive, Murphysboro, Illinois

Kay MacDonald Miller Purcell, age 83 of Carbondale, passed away Sunday, May 12, 2024 in Good Samaritan Hospital, Mt. Vernon, IL.

She was born on December 3, 1940 in Cleveland, OH to James and Anita Mae (MacDonald) Miller. She married Thomas D. Purcell on June 16, 1962.

She met Thomas in the computer department at SIU when he helped her learn to write a program to examine data from her experiment. They shared 60 years together, raising a family and making wonderful lasting memories. He preceded her in death on July 6, 2022.

She was a professor of physics and electrical engineering at SIU and retired in 2004.

She was incredibly devoted to her church, husband, children and her work.

She was a member of the University Baptist Church in Carbondale. She loved cats, and she enjoyed knitting in her free time. She cared a lot about other people and made quiet efforts to support them in unobtrusive ways.

Kay is survived by her children, Doris (Dan) Purcell-Rabinowitz of Niwot, CO and T. David (Cindy) Purcell of Mt. Vernon; her granddaughter, Jacqueline Grace Rabinowitz; other relatives and many friends who will miss her dearly.

She is preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Interment was private in Pleasant Hill Cemetery, Dix, IL.

Expressions of love may be directed to University Baptist Church, 700 S. Oakland Ave, Carbondale, IL 62901.

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

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Hill Cemetery

Dix , IL

Tribute Wall

BB

“ I remember Mrs. Purcell from Engineering school she was a wise woman with an incredible personality for everyone who was lucky enough to get to know her. She will be missed the world lost a fine lady.

Benjamin Paul Boyt - May 15, 2024 at 11:25 AM

VM

Sorry to hear about Mrs Purcell. Been a year almost but sending my condolences to her family as I just saw this. Blessings.

Vicki Mason - April 11, 2025 at 03:05 AM