



Phyllis Jean Martin

December 13, 1929 - April 17, 2019

On April 17, Phyllis Jean Martin took the last steps in her dance of 89 years here on Earth. Born December 13, 1929, in Harvey, Illinois, she was a daughter to Ola M. and Esther Bell. She had four siblings – Marjorie (Marge) Vickers, Hoopeston; Donald Bell, Cissna Park; Thomas Bell, Watseka; and Juanita Brooks, St. Joseph. All preceded Phyllis in death.

On March 11, 1950, she married James C. (Diz) Martin of Hoopeston. Together, they raised a family, enjoyed the company of friends and family alike, and built a wonderful life together. He passed away on August 13, 2002. We believe they're happy to be together again, maybe dancing a slow one and catching up on old times.

After a lifetime spent in Hoopeston, Phyllis lived her last 10 years in Murphysboro.

She leaves behind sons, Bruce Martin (Loreen Mason) of Cape Coral FL, and Greg (Linda) Martin of Carlock. While she lovingly called her sons her 'young'uns', she absolutely lived to spend time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren – grandson, Jon Martin, his wife Jessi and children Billie Louise and Hiram of Oak Park; granddaughter, Abigail Krummel, her husband Nate, and children Leo & Lucy of Murphysboro; and granddaughter, Hannah Martin of Carlock.

Phyllis would be the first to tell you she was a bad driver, worse cook and couldn't tell a joke to save her life. Still, she gave it her all, and no one was hurt, went hungry or left talking to her without a smile on their face.

She was always willing to share what she wasn't, but we'll remember her for what she was – full of love and life, and dedicated to her friends and family. Till the end, she wanted to know we were happy.

If you knew her, you loved her company, her laugh and how her face grew redder and hands flailed faster as her excitement grew while telling a story. We'll miss all this, and so much more, as we continue our travels down life's road without her.

When thinking about that last dance, she asked for little more than having her ashes mixed with those of Diz, then scattered into the wind on the Gulf Coast where they began their lives as snowbirds.

Bruce and Greg will announce any plans for a celebration of Phyllis's life sometime later.

For now, we know she'd like nothing more than for you to take a moment, grab your partner and dance. She'd tell you it doesn't matter if you're good or not – only that you do it with love and have some fun. Make the most of the time you have.

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Phyllis Jean Martin*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Bruce, family;
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. May God hold you in his
arms and rest his hand lightly upon your hearts.
Craig, Anita Harris*

Craig , Anita Harris - April 26, 2019 at 11:31 AM