



Rita Ann Cook

May 15, 1945 - March 23, 2025

IN MEMORY OF:

Rita Ann Cook

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – MURPHYSBORO

1421 Walnut Street, Murphysboro, Illinois

Rita Ann Cook, Age 79, of Murphysboro, passed away on Sunday, March 23, 2025, at Manor Court in Carbondale.

She was born on May 15, 1945, to Charles, Jr. and Doris (Rosenberger) Pellegrini in Murphysboro, Illinois. On April 23, 1966, Rita married her high school sweetheart, Thomas A. Cook, they have spent over 58 years together and he survives.

Rita was a proud graduate of the Murphysboro Township High School, and she later attended Southern Illinois University and received her Master's Degree in Education. She taught at Tri-County Special Education, and St. Andrew School in Murphysboro. She also taught at Parish Elementary School

in Carbondale, IL. After Rita's retirement from Parish School in 2000, she continued to be involved with St. Andrew School by implementing the Accelerated Reading Program and substitute teaching.

Rita had a passion for gardening, and she was a Master Gardener through the University of Illinois Extension Center in Murphysboro. Rita was a faithful and lifelong member of St. Andrew Catholic Church. Rita's generosity and thoughtfulness were cherished by all who knew her.

Rita is survived by her husband Tom, and two sons Garrett (Sheri) Cook and Loren (Kim) Cook. She is also survived by her grandsons, Brendon (Meaghan) Cook and Ethan (Madeline) Cook; granddaughters, Sydney Cook, Shelby Cook, Sarah Cook; and nephews, Michael Mifflin, Kevin (Denise) Beavers, and Ryan Beavers.

Along with her parents, she is preceded in death by her infant daughter, Jean Ann; sister, Joan Mifflin; and brother, Don Pellegrini.

Funeral Mass will be held on Monday, March 31, 2025, at 11:00 AM with Father Joel Seipp officiating at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Murphysboro. Visitation will be held the day of service from 9:00 AM until the time of service at the church.

Interment will follow the Mass at Tower Grove Cemetery in Murphysboro.

In Lieu of flowers, the family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions be made to the Accelerated Reading Program of St. Andrew School and/or St. Andrew Parrish.

Crain Funeral Home in Murphysboro is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Tower Grove Cemetery

Murphysboro, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 31. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (cst)

St. Andrew Catholic Church
724 Mulberry St.
Murphysboro, IL

Funeral Mass

MAR 31. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (cst)

St. Andrew Catholic Church
724 Mulberry St.
Murphysboro, IL

Interment

MAR 31. 12:15 PM - 12:45 PM (cst)

Tower Grove Cemetery
Murphysboro, IL

Tribute Wall

AF

“ Aaron Baril and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Rita Ann Cook.



Aaron Baril and Family - April 01, 2025 at 12:01 PM

SK

“ My sincere and heartfelt condolences go out to Tom and family in the loss of Rita, your wife and mother of two sons. Rita and I were classmates at MTHS. She was a special, friendly, and caring person who met no strangers. May God's blessings, support and encouragement be your strength during this your time of bereavement.
Sincerely, Sharon Kerrens

Sharon Kerrens - March 29, 2025 at 09:23 PM

LH

“ Rita was a wonderful Master Gardener volunteer at University of Illinois Extension. She was a beautiful soul, and so very knowledgeable about plants! We still have some of her plants here in the office. They will serve as reminders of her wonderful life and her passion for service to the community. We are deeply saddened to hear of her passing. We are praying for you during this time of sorrow.

Lynn Heins - March 27, 2025 at 03:17 PM

JM

Rita was the wife of my husband's cousin Sonny Cook. We were go to their home and they would come to our home on vacation sometime. They would bring their sons Garrett and Loren. We always enjoyed each other company. Also Sonny's parents was always a joy to be with. Rita will be missed. My husband spoke of them often and always had them in his heart.

Donnie and Judy Marrs.

Judy Marrs - April 03, 2025 at 12:56 AM

DW

Tom(Sonny), Fran and I were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Rita. At least, she is at peace now.

I know this must be a difficult time for you, but you have a wonderful family to support you. Also, Fran and I are here for you anytime, just let us know if there is anything that we can do to help. Please do not hesitate to ask.

Where has the time gone? It seems like just yesterday we were playing football in the neighborhood and at MTHS. Also, just yesterday, that I was best man at your wedding and you were best man at my wedding. Hopefully, we can get together again soon.

Best friend Danny Wiggs

Danny Wiggs - April 07, 2025 at 02:43 PM

KK

“ Garrett, Sheri & Family ~ we were so sorry to learn of Rita's passing. She was a very special lady. May God comfort you during this time of sadness. She will be with you always. Sandy & Kevin Klaine

Kevin & Sandy Klaine - March 27, 2025 at 12:44 PM

MI

“ *It was with a sense of shock and sorrow that we learned of the death of Rita Cook. Please accept our sincere sympathy.
All the members of the Museo in Cuggiono Italy*

MUSEO Cuggiono Italy - March 27, 2025 at 11:38 AM

TK

“ *Tom and family i am so sorry for your loss. Prayers of comfort for you. Rita was a special lady.
Tracy Endres (Gary Endres daughter)*

Tracy Endres Kelsay - March 25, 2025 at 01:29 PM

TM

“ *Garrett, so sorry for your families loss. Keeping you in my prayers*

Terry Middendorf - March 25, 2025 at 11:46 AM