



W. Maxine VanCloostere

August 4, 1924 - January 19, 2013

W. Maxine VanCloostere (nee Alstat), 88 of Murphysboro, Illinois, died peacefully Saturday, January 19, 2013 at Terrace on the Park Nursing Home in Mascoutah, Ill. surrounded by her three daughters.

A funeral mass will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, January 26, 2013, at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Murphysboro, and burial at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park. Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday until 9:45 a.m. at Pettett Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to St. Andrew Catholic Church or St. Andrew School, Alzheimer's Association, or to the charity of the donor's choice. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at <http://www.pettettfuneralhome.com>.

Maxine was born on August 4, 1924, in Jackson County, Illinois, and was the daughter of farmers Bill & Verena Alstat. She married the son of farmers Tony A. and Mary Agnes VanCloostere, Robert E. on September 24, 1946, at St Andrew Catholic Church in Murphysboro.

At the time they wed, Maxine was the teacher of all 8 grades in 1 room Simpson schoolhouse in Sato Township. Prior to teaching, Maxine worked in St. Louis and Chicago factories to support the war efforts of the U.S. troops in WW II.

Maxine was extremely involved in the family businesses, VanCloostere Farms, R.E.VanCloostere Construction, Inc., VanCloostere Trucking, and Harsy Mine Services, Inc. She served as C.F.O., bookkeeper, General Manager for the 46 years, that they were married.

Maxine served as room mother & scout leader for her daughters at St. Andrew Grade School. She was a member of St. Andrew Altar Society, St. Joseph Hospital Auxiliary, and Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary, in which she volunteered at the KC Hall. Maxine was very civic and community minded, and she was active in the Farm Bureau and Elks Lodge.

Maxine was known for her generosity, caring & grace to all people she interacted with. She excelled as a homemaker and a gardener. Hard work was Maxine's "hobby", her passion.

As a couple Maxine & Robert liked to travel to sunny locations, particularly with the AGC or in Key Biscayne, Florida, with their family and friends. As a widow, Maxine continued to travel with family & friends. Her most memorable trips were to Alaska with sister-in-law Loretta Schneider, a Russian cruise, and numerous trips to Mexico with family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert E. VanCloostere, her son in law Harold Harsy, her parents Bill & Verena Alstat, brother and sister-in-law, Carl and Mildred Alstat, brother Delmar Alstat, brother and sister-in-law John and Loretta Schneider, brother-in-law Bill Eisenhauer, brother and sister-in-law Gene and Mary Endres, and nephew Joey Endres.

Survivors include her 3 daughters, Lana (Rich) Williams of Millstat, Roberta (John) Sytsma of Murphysboro, Nancy Harsy (Leonard Pullis) of Murphysboro;

6 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren, Tonya Williams of Chicago, Gina Williams (Jake Grieff) of Brooklyn, NY, Aric (Rhonda) Harsy and children Taryn and Logan of Murphysboro, Aaron Harsy (Tonya Alube) of California and son Chase, Adrienne (Nick) Carter and son RE of Fairfield, Ill, and Darren (Heather) Harsy of DuQuoin, son Dawson and daughter Aubree;

her brother and sister-in-law Wayne and Barbara Alstat of Vergennes, sister and brother-in-law Carolyn and Dr. Ron Liss of Sussex, NJ;

cousins, and many nieces & nephews.

A special thanks to all the loving people at Terrace on the Park Nursing Home and Heartland Hospice for treating Maxine with the same care and respect they would extend to their own family members.

Tribute Wall



“ *W. Maxine VanCloostere*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Lana, Bobbi and Nancy and families - You are in our thoughts and prayers as you celebrate the life of your Mother. So hard to let her go but what a blessing she was to you all.*

Joyce & Don Wisely - January 24, 2013 at 12:26 PM



“ *Sory to hear of Maxine`s passing, our prayers are with the Family. Gerald Shelba Gary Pyron went to Simpson school in 1950, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd , we moved to Tamaroa in sept.,1950 She was a fine teacher.*

Gary Pyron - January 23, 2013 at 06:17 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to Bobbi and family. I will be thing of you and praying for you during this difficult time.*

Casey Pierce - January 23, 2013 at 12:36 PM



“ *Sending my condolences to Roberta and extended family. Didn't know Mrs. VanCloostere but worked with Roberta in C'dale ER as a business office worker from 1984-1988. Keep her legacy alive in your hearts, souls, and minds and rest assure her mission has completed and she is in eternal rest with Jesus now. Hugs and Prayers*

Karen McNeely McMinn - January 23, 2013 at 08:42 AM

DW

“ *There was no place like Maxine's when I was a kid growing up .
Man she always had good food and a warm heart. Never a bad
word to be said. I will always remember her. She will be at peace
back with the love of her life. R.E.*

debbie williams wright - January 21, 2013 at 05:12 AM

DS

“ *Thinking of all of the family in your time of grief*

don and donna shadron - January 21, 2013 at 12:27 AM