



Joan H. Connolly

October 2, 1930 - October 22, 2019

Joan Hanlon Connolly passed away October 22, 2019, after a long illness. Born October 2, 1930 to John J. and Nora Catherine (Conroy) Hanlon, Joan was the youngest by eight years of the four Hanlon sisters. She grew up in the Pine Hills and lived there most of her life, attending Vincentian Grade School and High School, Class of '48. After graduating, she worked for the State of NY for seven years. A gifted vocalist, she joined the Albany Civic Theater and the T.E.D.S while in her early twenties. It was there she met Richard Connolly, (Dick), the love of her life, and a charming trumpet player who asked her to be the vocalist in his swing band, The Orchets. It was a gig she was to hold for forty-two years.

They married in 1957 and immediately commenced to have six children: Catherine, Colleen, Richard, John, Thomas, and Michael. Their last child Michael, a special needs baby, required extensive care. Both Joan and Dick rose to the occasion, instilling in their abled children a compassion for, and an acceptance of, those more needy, and as a gift from God.

After Michael's gentle passing in 1972, Joan decided to attend college and was one of the first "returning women students." She graduated with honors from Maria College with an R.N., (to the cheers of her husband and children), and, at the age of forty-seven, began a career as a full-time "med-surg" nurse on McAuley Sixth, St. Peters Hospital, then as a nurse for the Albany Dept. of Health, and finally, as a traveling nurse for Albany Visiting Nurses and Eddy Visiting Nurses.

Joan's strong faith in her Lord Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit was her life's bedrock. She was a lifelong communicant at St. Vincent de Paul Church, and active in parish life as a Eucharistic Minister, a lector, as well as serving terms on the Liturgical Committee, and the Parish Council.

After Dick's untimely passing in 1999, Joan made a new life for herself, volunteering at the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry and supporting the Albany Symphony. She treasured her friends, particularly "The Girls," with whom she shared so much over their long years of friendship. And of course, enjoying her nine grandchildren and her four great-grandchildren.

Joan is predeceased by her three sisters: Kathleen Hanlon, Rosemary Grace, and Marge Dieckelman, as well as by her husband Richard Connolly, and her son Michael Connolly.

She is survived by her children: Catherine (Chris) Kervandjian, Colleen Connolly, Richard Connolly, John Connolly, and Thomas (Kristy) Connolly; grandchildren: Katrina, Mary Elizabeth, Erin, Scott, Christina, Nicole, Robert, Michelle and Sydney; and great-grandchildren: Lucy, Benjamin, Oliver, and Theodore.

The family would like to thank Teresian House and the medical community that provided Joan with excellent care, as well as all her friends that lent her their unstinting support over the years.

Funeral services will be held Saturday morning 10:00 am at St. Vincent dePaul Church. Relatives and friends are invited and may also call at the Magin & Keegan Funeral Home, 891 Madison Ave., Friday from 4 to 7 pm. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to St. Catherine's Center for Children. Interment St. Agnes Cemetery.

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **26** (ET)

St Vincent De Paul Church
900 Madison Ave
Albany, NY 12208

Tribute Wall

DT

“ *Sincerest condolences to the Connolly family. We have so many fond memories from our days at St. Vincent;s and our shared experiences with our children at VI. Rest in peace.*
David and Marie Tenney

Dave and Marie Tenney - October 27, 2019 at 03:55 PM



“ *Sue Caesar lit a candle in memory of Joan H. Connolly*



Sue Caesar - October 24, 2019 at 07:50 PM

RM

“ *Rosemary Murray lit a candle in memory of Joan H. Connolly*



Rosemary Murray - October 24, 2019 at 03:36 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Joan H. Connolly.*



October 24, 2019 at 12:34 PM

MW

“ *Maria Welch lit a candle in memory of Joan H. Connolly*



Maria Welch - October 24, 2019 at 08:49 AM

MW

“ *You will be missed Joan, a true matriarch..feisty and full of life! Great sense of humor (except when the kids misbehaved!), fun to be around and very wise about the way of the world. You were a great part of the backbone of the North Pine Ave. mother's league, and so much a part of our lives. Thank you for that. Condolences and love for all the Connolly family.*

Maria Welch - October 24, 2019 at 08:48 AM

KK

Maria, thank you so much for your kind words. No. and So. Pine was a special street, with wonderful friends and family. Hope all is well with the Welch clan. Katie Connolly'

Kate Connolly Kervandjian - October 26, 2019 at 03:59 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joan H. Connolly.*



October 24, 2019 at 08:44 AM

TF

“Katie and all, you are all in my thoughts during this time...I can say that I truly loved and appreciated your Mom so very much!!! What a wonderful person. If there is one word I would use to describe her it's CLASSY!! She imparted many words of wisdom to us all, the least of all being, "Never leave the house without your lipstick"! never did!!! Love you, Mrs. Connolly!!! Tiny

Tiny Feeney - October 23, 2019 at 10:54 PM

TF

“Tiny Feeney lit a candle in memory of Joan H. Connolly



Tiny Feeney - October 23, 2019 at 10:37 PM



“Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joan H. Connolly.



October 23, 2019 at 05:51 PM



“Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Joan H. Connolly.



October 23, 2019 at 04:54 PM

M(

“ *Mary Connors (Burger) lit a candle in memory of Joan H. Connolly*



Mary Connors (Burger) - October 23, 2019 at 01:47 PM

CS

Connolly family you are in my thoughts . Remembering how impressed I was that your Mom went back to school to be a Nurse. She was ahead of her time also showed her determination. Getting a Mass card in her honor.

Clara Smith - October 24, 2019 at 09:13 AM

GM

While I'm sure there are many sager words of wisdom that Joan passed on, for some reason my first memory is a remark she addressed to a forkful of cake in front of her-- "A minute on the lips, forever on the hips"--before she gulped it down with gusto. As with cake, the rest of her life, too. Relished it and reveled in it. Rest in peace, dear Joan. And condolences to all the Connollys. Gregory Maguire Concord MA.

Gregory Maguire - October 24, 2019 at 11:22 AM

DI

IS THERE A TOM CONNOLLY IN THIS GREAT FAMILY? VI grad in Albany/?????

dick - September 29, 2024 at 10:17 PM

DI

IS THERE A THOMAS CONNOLLY FROM vi HIGH SCHOOL? WE WERE GOOD FRIENDS

dick - September 29, 2024 at 10:20 PM



MISS OLD FRIENDS FROM VI, TOM CONNOLLY WAS ONE OF THEM

DICK SOFFEY,VI,62 GRAD - September 29, 2024 at 10:22 PM