



Joan H. Parker

May 24, 2014

Joan H. Parker passed away in her sleep on the morning of Saturday, May 24, 2014 of natural causes. She was 79. She was born in Sacramento, KY, the daughter of Abb Atherton Humphrey and Anna Mae Humphrey. After graduation from Owensboro High School, she attended Kentucky Wesleyan College, in Owensboro, KY. After graduating with a degree in teaching, she moved on to Michigan where she taught for two years and took classes at Michigan State Univ. She also taught in Iowa. She then moved to Albuquerque, NM in 1960 for a teaching job with Albuquerque Public Schools, where she taught elementary school. She took several years off to raise her children, but helped to found A Child's Garden at First Presbyterian Church in 1971, where she taught 3 yr. olds. She taught there for 4 years. She then returned to teaching with A.P.S., and began teaching Special Education. In 1976, she received her MA in Special Education from U.N.M. She continued teaching for 25 years. A member of First Presbyterian Church, Joan met her husband of nearly 47 years, Clinton Parker, at Questers, a singles mixer at the Church. They were married in August of 1963 and were blessed with three sons and six grandchildren. At First Presbyterian Church, she was an elder and a deacon, and she sang in the choir. She loved singing and also sang with the NMSO, Albuquerque Civic Chorus, and others. She and her husband Clinton loved to travel and visited all 50 states as well as 27 foreign countries. Joan loved music, the Lobos, and Sequence (a board game). Joan moved to Fairwinds in Rio Rancho in 2011, where she lived up until her death. Joan is

survived by her three sons; Andrew and wife Yvette, Todd, Russell, and wife Jodi; her Sister Mary Hunt and husband Charles, her Brother-in-Law Richard Parker and wife Ann; her six grandchildren; Cameron, Clinton, Joshua, Jillian, Kayson, and Liorah, and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins. Memorial Services will be held on Saturday, June 21st at 11:00am at First Presbyterian Church, 215 Locust NE, 87102. In lieu of flowers the family prefers donations to the First Presbyterian Church, New Mexico Philharmonic Orchestra, P.O. Box 21428, Albuquerque, NM 87154 or another charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 21. 11:00 AM (MT)

First Presbyterian Church
215 Locust NE
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Tribute Wall



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Joan H. Parker.* ”



July 03, 2014 at 10:43 PM

“ I first met Joan Humphrey Parker in the mid 40s when she was living with her mother and older sister in Greenville Ky. My name is Charles S. Hunt, Joan's brother-in-law. The following are just a few of the many things I recall about Joanie.

I don't think Joan ever met a stranger because she was a "people person" who could talk to most anyone and usually did. Joan was never lacking in courage and at times could be "feisty" as when she cornered Jimmy Dean in Vegas. She told Jimmy Dean she was displeased with the new way he was packaging his sausage because the new packs did not fit the Parker family's needs. Doubt if Jimmy rushed right out and took care of the situation. Regardless, Joan had her say.

Joan was not short on interests from the Lobos to choir to roses to her church just to list a few. Her husband Clint was the love of her life. Joan adored her three fine sons, Andrew, Todd and Russ and the spouses. Her grandchildren were "icing on the cake" and cause for bragging rights. Friends were a big part of Joan's life as well as being very close to her sister Mary. Even though the sisters lived miles apart they remained in touch. When Mary learned of Joan's passing, with tears in her eyes she told me, "This hurts even more than when mother died."

No question Joan had courage, determination, a positive attitude, and she has set an example for the rest of us. Since Clint's passing Joan has had to deal with loneliness coupled with failing health. Despite these numerous challenges she did not whimper or ask "God, why me?" Joanie always saw her cup at least half filled or more.

According to Louis L'Amour, well known researcher and author of many, many books and stories about the old west, said western folk in those days had a saying for people who displayed courage, determination, grit and loyalty as having "salt." The way I remember Joan Humphrey Parker is to say, "Joanie had SALT and lots of it." God bless you Joan, we'll miss you. In brotherly love, Charlie

YS

“ We are sorry for your loss. Joan i'll miss talking to you on Tuesdays about the results of dancing with the stars. I was truly blessed to get to know you. I'm sure your in heaven and dancing with the stars.
Love Yolanda & Ruben Saiz Albuquerque

yolanda saiz - June 10, 2014 at 04:54 PM

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Love Yolanda & Ruben Saiz Albuquerque

yolanda saiz - June 10, 2014 at 04:54 PM

AP

“ To Andrew and Family, Russell and Family, and Todd
We send our love and sympathy for your loss. We will all miss this very special lady with her cheery smile and beautiful laugh. We don't think we ever heard her complain, no matter how poorly she felt. We are looking forward to being with you all to celebrate her wonderful spirit on June 21st. Hugs to All, Aunt Ann & Uncle Richard

Ann Parker - June 05, 2014 at 03:25 PM

CS

“ Aunt Joanie.....I don't know if its because I was the flower girl in your wedding that I will always associate you with celebration, but regardless I think the association is fitting. You were the young, fun grown up with a contagious laugh, stories of travel to far away places like Michigan and New Mexico. You gave me your green brocade high heels to play dress up in, styled my hair and sang songs. As an adult, I continued to look forward to your visits but also developed an appreciation for your commitment to children with special needs. I know that those values of service to others were modeled for the rest of us. My love goes out to my mother, and my cousins: Andrew, Yvette, Todd, Russell and Jodie.
Peace,
Catherine Le Saux

Catherine Le Saux - June 03, 2014 at 10:36 AM



“ Joan,

You were the best Mother-in-law a daughter-in-law could have. You were an inspiration in my life. I love the openness we shared. I am blessed because of you.

Time is short on this earth. So glad we will be able to resume our friendship again one day in heaven. Until that day, I will hold onto the memories that we all created while you were here.

I love you Ma Joan,

Yvette Parker

y - May 29, 2014 at 08:36 PM

RE

“ Joan,

I will miss you so much you were the life of the party here at Fairwinds! Being the Activities director here at Fairwinds you and I enjoyed so many fun activities together. You even taught me how to play your favorite game Sequence... You always put a big smile on my face as well as everyone here at Fairwinds. I am so glad I got the chance to get to know you over the last year and half, you will be truly missed. You were an amazing woman and your family and friends are so truly blessed to have had you. I am so happy that you are now united with your love of your life, your husband, and now you may rest with our Lord Jesus Christ in Heaven forever. My condolences to all of Joan's family and friends! God Bless

*Sincerely,
Rebecca Gutierrez @ Fairwinds*

rebecca - May 29, 2014 at 04:52 PM

SG

“ Dear Family of Joan,

I only knew Joan for a little over a year, she was full of life and was a very caring person. Joan was always very welcoming to our new residents, she loved to be involved. I recently got to spend sometime with Joan, she was super excited about her 80th birthday party and the rose garden she was going to have dedicated to her here at Fairwinds! I enjoyed her company and thankful I had the chance to get to know her, she was a very sweet lady with a warm heart. My condolences.

*Sincerely,
Stephanie @ Fairwinds Retirement Community*

Stephanie Gallegos - May 29, 2014 at 04:34 PM

TP

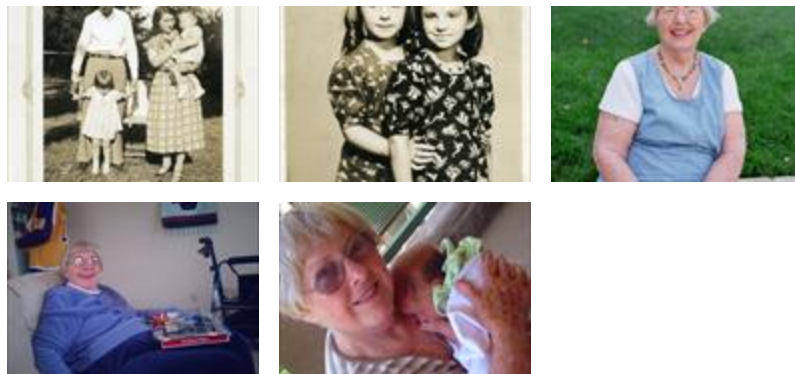
“ Dear Mom, how I will miss you, I will miss your laugh, I will miss you singing proudly, I will miss you telling me your stories, I will miss your hugs, and I will miss just being with you. You were always there for us, even though at times, you sacrificed your well being for ours. You were always our champion, always trying to make us the best we could always be. You embodied care, you cared for us, you cared for all, and you taught us to care for others. The world can never replicate someone like you, hopefully in our actions we can endeavor to make the world a better place.
You are out of pain and discomfort now, and together with Clinton again for perpetuity. Rest In Peace,
Love,
Todd



Todd Parker - May 29, 2014 at 12:46 PM



“ 5 files added to the album New Album Name



a - May 29, 2014 at 11:34 AM



“ Mom,

We are all truly blessed to have had such a kind and loving mother. You always put family first, and yet had so many great friends. Although you had suffered such tremendous pain, you never complained, and you never wanted us to worry about you. i'm so happy that You and Dad are now reunited with our Lord Jesus Christ in Heaven.

*Love,
andrew*

a - May 29, 2014 at 11:23 AM



“ *On behalf of the FRENCH Family of Companies we want to express to you our deepest condolences.*

Richard Stewart - May 29, 2014 at 11:15 AM