



Joann Pauline Roark Arneson

September 4, 1944 - March 14, 2023

Joann Pauline Roark Arneson, 78, passed away peacefully at home with family by her side.

Her funeral service will be at 11:00 AM on Friday, March 17, 2023 at the graveside at Crown Hill Cemetery. The Rev. Richard Stalvey will officiate. The family will receive friends at Kimbrell-Stern on Thursday from 5:30-7:00 PM. Born September 4, 1944 to Irby and Pauline Roark in Detroit, Michigan, she moved to Albany in 1953 and graduated Albany High School in 1962. Upon graduation, she attended Wesleyan College and the University of Georgia, earning a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics before attending Valdosta State University and receiving a Masters in Elementary Education and later a specialist degree in special education.

Joann married Steve Arneson August 1967. They remained happily married for 42 years.

She taught special education in Dougherty County Schools for 35 years. She stayed in touch with many of her former students and loved being an integral part of their lives, as they were to hers.

Throughout her life she was active and social, hosting regular parties for family, friends, classmates, and her scuba club. She enjoyed scuba diving, underwater photography, collecting and crafting with seashells, and any time she could spend at the beach, whether it be Boca Grande or Panama City, where she owned a home for over 30 years.

She had a heart of charity and volunteered for numerous causes over the

years. Especially dear to her was her work with Hospice, and she continued making cards for patients and their families until her death.

She joins her husband, Steve, parents, stepmother Nita Roark, parents-in-law Major and Lydia Arneson, and brother-in-law Steve Purrier.

She is loved and forever remembered by her “Sister” Carolyn Purrier, nieces Jennifer Johnson (Kevin) and Kimberly Purrier (Andrew), and her beloved “grands” – great-nieces Abigail Griffin (Zach), Rebecca Johnson (Hunter), and Kaitlyn Johnson, and many special friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Albany Humane Society, albanyhumane.org, Lee County Humane Society, leecountyhumane.org, or to Phoebe Hospice, 320 Foundation Lane, Albany, GA 31707.

Cemetery Details

Crown Hill Cemetery

1907 Dawson Rd.
Albany, GA 31707

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 16. 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors
1503 Dawson Rd.
Albany, GA 31707

Graveside Service

MAR 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Crown Hill Cemetery
1907 Dawson Rd
Albany, GA 31707
(229) 883-6600
<https://www.kimbrellstern.com/>

Tribute Wall

EC

“ *Such a fun gal! From MYF at 1st Methodist to Assisted Living when I'd visit my mom when Joann was there visiting someone too. Wish I could have been as sweet as she was [every time I saw her]. I knew Steve from AJC and he somehow got students excited to learn. It was heartbreaking for him to be ill, but Joanne kept him going as if it was a simple task. Few people can be as nice and thoughtful as Joann was. [Sorry to respond so long after loss, just now starting to check the last few months of losses- sadly too many good folks, like Joann have left us.*

Elizabeth Champion - June 10, 2023 at 10:03 PM

EB

“ *Joann was one of my dearest friends and I will miss her. We enjoyed many experiences as AHS Class of 1962 alumni. She had a great memory for people. She'll be missed by everyone who knew her. Condolences to her family who loved her. God bless each of you.*
With love, Eleanor Banks 🙏❤️

Eleanor Banks - March 17, 2023 at 03:03 PM

DW

“ *Our prayers and condolences are with you all! Joanne was such a wonderful friend through the Albany YMCA.*



Danny & Brenda Gail Wall - March 16, 2023 at 11:29 AM

LH

Joanne and I were in band together when she lived in Cuthbert. We remained friends thru the years. She will be missed.

Loyless Harris - March 17, 2023 at 10:54 AM

PM

“ *Sad to hear about the passing of a wonderful woman. I completed my student teaching under the watchful eye of Mrs. Joanne Arneson. I'll never forget her kind guidance and encouragement. She was my mentor when I went to work in Dougherty County & such an inspiration.*

Peggy McInvale - March 16, 2023 at 10:03 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joann Pauline Roark Arneson.*



March 15, 2023 at 07:50 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Joann Pauline Roark Arneson.*



March 15, 2023 at 06:08 PM

CD

“ I send my love, prayers and deepest sympathy to the family of Ms. Joann. She was a beautiful person with a big heart for others. Her kindness will be remembered always. Carry memories of her with you always and she will never leave your heart.

With love,
Candi Dokey

Candi Dokey - March 15, 2023 at 04:21 PM

CI

My condolences to the family, Joann was a loving and caring lady, was so blessed to meet her and become her friend at the beach. She was blessed to have a family that supported her and surrounded her with so much love! God bless each and every one of you. Continued prayers for your family.

Cathy Israel

Cathy T Israel - March 16, 2023 at 09:18 AM