



## Joan V Hartsell

March 12, 1946 - March 22, 2018

Joan Veronica Cassandra Hartsell, aged 72, died peacefully on March 22, 2018 at her home in Gulf Shores, AL, after a brief struggle with cancer. She was surrounded by her family and friends. She was born on March 12, 1946, in Brooklyn, New York, the daughter of Ruth Healey and Alexander Keenan.

Joan enjoyed traveling, the beach, going to church, reading, listening to Rush Limbaugh, talking on the phone, and cocktail hour. She did very well academically including graduating at the top of her nursing class, attending Law School at Touro Law and getting her real estate license. Her true passion was as a bookkeeper at Just Books in Gulf Shores, AL.

Joan is survived by her five children, Henry (Megan) Eginton, Victoria Eginton, Alex (Stacy) Eginton, Jean (Cormac) Hawney, and Katharine Cassandra, and her six grandchildren, Andrew, Cody, Madeleine, Emma, Carmela and Keenan. She also leaves behind numerous loving friends.

Joan was a member of Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church. She attended mass on a daily basis.

There will be a memorial service at Our Lady of the Gulf on the 28th of April 2018 at 10am. All are welcome to celebrate her life.

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to the Springhill Home Health and Hospice for their support in her final days.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church, 308 E. 22nd Ave, Gulf Shores, AL 36542.

Online condolences can be left on Joan's Memorial Tribute at [www.casonfuneralservice.com](http://www.casonfuneralservice.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

APR **28**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church  
317 East 23rd Avenue  
Gulf Shores, AL 36542

# Tribute Wall

ES

“ My memory allways intercepts with your children. Many, many times we ate dinner together. Rocky was part of you then but never a part of your children.  
When youa nd Rocky came to visit Farrell and me for dinner, Rocky cooked!  
I am not sure if you are with us. I remember that you moved down south with all of your children. I could never get there to visit you. In my mind you are alive. Hugs to Tory, Buddy and Alex! Contact me via email [ewamarires34@gmail.com](mailto:ewamarires34@gmail.com)

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**Ewa Seiler** - May 02, 2024 at 04:39 PM

KN

Hey Ewa this is Katie Joan's youngest daughter. Thank you for saying those kind words about my Mom. She was pretty amazing.

Buddy lives in WI with Gus wife and two girls. Tory lives in California, and Alex is also in WI with his wife.

Jean is in Texas with her husband and two kids and I am in Florida with my husband and daughter.

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**Katie Nix** - March 07 at 09:01 AM

ES

“ Dearest Joan, It has been years, but I think about you daily and miss you. You were my dearest and now very much missed friend. I lit a candle daily in the memory of Joan.  
Now my husband and Joan are running free of pain and world cares in heaven.  
Joan comes back to visit me once in a while; You are in my heart forever.

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**Ewa Seiler** - January 19, 2021 at 04:46 PM



*Are you still wirh us?*

**Ewa Seiler** - May 02, 2024 at 04:21 PM



*What happened to Lenore?*

**Ewa Marie Seiler** - May 02, 2024 at 04:42 PM



*How are your children Tory, Buddy and Alex?*

**Ewa Seiler** - May 02, 2024 at 04:48 PM



“ *Ewa lit a candle in memory of Joan V Hartsell*



**Ewa** - July 19, 2019 at 04:05 PM



*Ewa thank your for doing that. She is one of the most generous people I know. I miss her!*

**Katie Cassandra** - November 20, 2019 at 09:28 PM



*I lit a candle in her name daily. It is now shared with thoughts of my husband Farrell who passed in 2012.*

**Ewa Seiler** - January 19, 2021 at 04:49 PM



*Send any words. Buddy, Alex and Torry were her children*

**Ewa Seiler** - May 02, 2024 at 04:23 PM

EW

“ *Joan, I miss you daily. We spent hours talking on the phone, We shared life when you were with Rocky in Rockville Centre, NY. Good bye dear friend!* ”

Ewa - June 16, 2019 at 02:43 PM



*Ewa she was so selfless. Thank you for all your posts!*

Katie Cassandra - November 20, 2019 at 09:30 PM

KC

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall* ”



Kathleen Childs - July 27, 2018 at 03:35 AM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Joan V Hartsell.* ”



April 25, 2018 at 01:43 PM



“ *Flowers are part of funeral everywhere. When my husband died, I was the only one who brought flowers. I guess it is not a part of funeral services in Vermont.*

*Here is another story I want to share with you.*

*I am not sure exactly what and why was happening. I called Joan and she was crying that she does not even a penny to buy milk or bread. I talked to my husband Farrell sent her money. I know it was not much. We did not have too much.*

*A few years later when my husband was very ill, after 4 -FOUR- chemotherapies he was not the same man that I married. This was after 44 years of marriage. Farrell closed all accounts, mortgage was over due, house insurance was over due, car, etc. I had no way out! I called Joan. Joan understood! Joan sent me \$ to get me out of trouble. I was and still am very very thankful. Today was the day that I spent thinking about her. I guess it is because I am not well and know that Joan will help me to get better.*

*Good bye dearest Joan.*

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**EwaMarie Seiler** - April 07, 2018 at 10:47 AM

HE

*Thank you so much Ewa. She loved you very much, and I'm glad she was able to see you again in Vermont not too long before the end. All my love to you, Damian, and Jason. - Buddy*

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**Henry Eginton** - April 16, 2018 at 05:13 PM



*There is nof a day that I do think about Joan and her beatiful spirit. Joan and I spent a lot of time on Lido Beach with all the children running around. We just listen to ocean waves amd sounds of our children playing.*

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**EwaMarie Seiler** - June 14, 2018 at 03:21 PM

ES

*It is June 23 2020, Looking at the loving and kind face of Joan lifts up my heart. O dearest Joan, we will meet again! It is daily that I think about you!*

*Thanks for being you. Remembering your yellow sport car where we packed Tory, Buddy, Alec, Jimmy, Sonu and Mantu and drove to the beach. Kids knew how to hide when police drove by.*

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**Ewa Seiler** - June 23, 2020 at 08:46 AM



*I wish we could see each other. I live now in a house in Rockville Centre NY. Please come and send words>*

*Do you know anything about Lanoure?*

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**Ewa Seiler** - May 02, 2024 at 04:54 PM



“ *That is how I remember her last time I saw her when she came to visit me because. she came to bury her husband!  
Good bye Joan!*

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**EwaMarie Seiler** - April 04, 2018 at 08:44 AM

MH

“ *I have known Joan since I was 10 years old. I babysat her 3 oldest children Buddy, Tori and Alex. Our friendship grew from there! Because of distance we spoke on the phone through out the years. Joan asked me repeatedly to come down to Gulf Shores that it was beautiful and of course she was right. Over the last few years she welcomed myself and my friends to continue to come down and visit. We had a great time lots of laughs!! My heart is broken!! I loved Joan very much and there was nothing she wouldn't do for you!! I am so sorry for your lose Bud, Tori, Alex, Kate and Jean and all her grandchildren. I just know she has a special place in heaven. You are all in my thoughts and prayers 🙏🙏🙏 Mariann Hartley*

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**mariann Hartley** - April 03, 2018 at 07:12 PM

HE

*Thank you so much Mariann. I know she loved you too, and looked forward to you and your friends visits to Gulf Shores. Just on a side note - I'll never forget what a great babysitter you were for Alec, Tory, and i. Love - Buddy*

Henry Eginton - April 16, 2018 at 05:10 PM



*Dear Buddy, you mom, my friend will be missed forever. Peace to all of you!*

EwaMarie Seiler - April 21, 2018 at 05:06 AM

KM

*“ I have known Joan for 40 years. We shared many life experiences. These last years of her life we shared a telephone friendship due to living so far apart. I will miss her and hope the fun memories we shared will ease my sadness. My deepest sympathy to her beautiful family. Kathy Miller*

Katherine Miller - March 27, 2018 at 11:29 PM



*When Joan and I lived in Rockville Centre, NY we spent summers together. Joan packed into her car her children, my two children and often we took Jimmy. Then when Sonu and Mantu moved in, she took them, too.*

*When she couldn't, I packed most of them into my yellow Bug. Lido Beach which had wooden playground toys, sand, sun and ocean was pleasure. They also often had life guard on duty.*

*One day, the ocean was very, very, wavy, children were not allowed to swim in the ocean. It was 90 with humidity about 90. Joan and I took a chance. Slowly we felt being pulled into the ocean. Life guard saw us. It took two people to pull us out!*

*When we got home Rocky's Whisky Sours stopped our knees shaking. We never talked about it. Her mother and her aunt were like two grandmas!! All children got envelopes on Christmas.*

EwaMarie Seiler - April 07, 2018 at 06:59 AM

HE

*Thank you so much Kathy. She loved you very much and was happy your friendship remained strong despite the distance, All the best to you, Laura, Madeleine, and all your family. Love- Buddy*

**Henry Eginton** - April 16, 2018 at 05:22 PM

MB

*I know Joan from Daily Mass at church. I will miss her. She was so concerned about Cody and the band, but she said God will take care of it. I will miss her*

**Maureen Bacon** - April 23, 2018 at 04:08 PM



*Dearest Joan, it is hard to think that you are no longer in this world. Almost every night, when my day was not easy, my thoughts are, I have to talk to Joan...then I remember!*

**EwaMarie Seiler** - June 17, 2018 at 04:49 PM

KC

*Dear Buddy, Tory, Alec, Jean and Kate,*

*I knew your mother for the past 55 years., and even met you all in the 1970's when you were very young children. Joan was so very proud of you all and loved you so, and she would keep me abreast of the important events in your lives whenever we spoke. My heart and thoughts and deepest sympathy go out to you and your families over your loss. . Joan was a very special , remarkable woman. Joan was my friend and confidante, and I will miss having her on this earth more than I can even begin to say.*

*Joan and I were roommates in nursing school at St. Vincent's 1963-1966, as well as during the subsequent year at Ohio State University. When we left OSU, Joan came to spend the summer/fall months at my parents' home in Yorktown Heights, NY and we worked the evening shift at St. Vincent's in Harrison, NY. In the Fall, Joan returned to Manhattan to live with three of our other roommates from nursing school and work at St. Vincent's in Manhattan. During these years we became close to one another's families and spent many a time visiting at one another's homes. My parents loved Joan as she did them — in those days, she felt like they were a second set of parents to her. In our later years, she would always mention them and tell me how special they were. Likewise, I knew and loved her parents and her Aunt Mildred, and they were my second family. Between 1963 through 1968, we all shared many a lively and deep conversation over cocktails before dinner. Joan and I shared the trials and tribulations of young nursing students, age 17-21, and after we graduated, taking on charge responsibilities in life and death situations while working in cardiac and intensive care units at the university hospital. At the same time we shared the visions of hope and dreams of young women as well as enjoyed the carefree life as we dated young men, danced, sang, partied, and took vacations to Virginia Beach.*

*Over these past 5 decades as we matured despite the time and distance we faced, Joan and I shared so many wonderful moments and similar life experiences -- some good and some not so good. We shared laughter and we shared tears. I last saw Joan in 1997 when she and Jim stopped for an overnight visit on their way to Alabama. Despite the time and distance we faced and although our visits together were sporadic as our lives forged ahead, we always stayed in touch by telephone and laughingly referred to our phone calls as our "annual telephone marathons." These conversations would usually occur sometime between Thanksgiving and New Years. However, we were always available to give one another support at significant times in our lives and it was not unusual for us to call one another just to talk.*

*Our last marathon call was this past holiday season. I received Joan's*

*Christmas card. Jim had died and Joan was struggling with the decision of whether she could maintain both of her homes. We had a wonderful conversation – reminiscing about our nursing school days, our marriages, our lives as young women and how times had changed as we became older. We both were of a conservative leaning, so of course we could not help but discuss the politics of the day. We talked about Joan’s coming to see us after she completed some business.*

*Two nights ago, I tried to call Joan for a midyear phone marathon and to hopefully arrange for her visit here. There was no answer at her number. I dialed 411, and was told that there was no one by Joan or Jim’s name at their address. I then googled Joan’s name and to my total disbelief, I found her obituary on line. It is hard for me to think of a world without Joan in it or to think that I will never have the opportunity to talk to her on the phone just one more time.*

*I attach two photographs of your mother as a young girl from her nursing school days — the first is of Joan upon her graduation from St. Vincent’s used in the yearbook, and the second is of Joan with our roommates from nursing school in the apartment “3-J” that we all shared.*

*Fondly,*

*Kathy Bast Childs*

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**Kathleen Childs** - July 25, 2018 at 02:05 PM

ES

*It is 2021! Joan is still missed. Each time I need hel, I think od Joan. I know that she helps. Now hwr help comes from heaven. Love , Ewa*

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**Ewa Seiler** - January 19, 2021 at 04:58 PM