



## Elaine G. Joyce

August 7, 1929 - July 27, 2023

Elaine G. Joyce, 93, of South Wilmington, IL passed away July 27, 2023 at Morris Hospital. Born August 7, 1929 in South Wilmington to Romeo (Dick) and Loretta (nee Burla) Menozzi. She graduated from Gardner- South Wilmington High School and worked in her parents' grocery store and meat market as a teen before marrying Michael "Plow" Joyce on September 12, 1948, at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in South Wilmington. They farmed together in the Kinsman, South Wilmington, and Essex areas.

Elaine was a homemaker and old-fashioned farm wife who could drive a tractor, help care for livestock, bring food to the men in the field, and prepare meals for the crew on corn shelling and hay baling days. She was an excellent cook who specialized in traditional homemade Italian entrees, pies, coffee cakes and Christmas caramels. She was friendly, caring, and generous to all she met. She enjoyed talking on the telephone, visiting with family and friends, and trips to the casinos where she was often very lucky. She especially enjoyed relating stories of the adventures of raising her five children on the farm. She was a loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, and her family was always her main interest.

Elaine is survived by her sister Diane Whalen; children, Cathy (Randy) Walton of Decatur, Richard (Cathy) Joyce of Coal City, Mary Waggoner of Morris, David (Brenda) Joyce of Normal, and Carol Massa of Wilmington, Delaware.

Her grandchildren are Colin Kaestner, Dr. Andrea Osborne, Courtney Joyce, Olivia Massa, and Evan Massa. Her great-grandchildren are Erik and Liam Kaestner and Marina Osborne. She is also survived by her brother-in-law, John Orth and sister-in-law, Therese Phipps, as well as numerous cousins and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Michael in 2018; and her sister, Dorla.

Visitation for Elaine will be at the R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, Braidwood, Wednesday, August 2, 2023 from 4-8 p.m. Family and friends are welcome to meet Thursday, August 3, 2023 at the St. Lawrence Catholic Church in South Wilmington for a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. Interment will follow in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in her name may be directed to the South Wilmington Fire Department, St. Lawrence Catholic Church, or South Wilmington Grade School.

# Cemetery Details

## Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 W. Hoff Rd.  
Elwood, IL 60421

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**AUG 2.** 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home  
401 East Main St.  
Braidwood, IL 60408  
(815) 458-2336  
[info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com)  
<https://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com>

## Service

**AUG 3.** 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

St Lawrence Catholic Church  
165 Rice Rd  
South Wilmington, IL 60474  
(815) 237-2230

# Tribute Wall

LB

“ *Mary Jane & Families*  
*Deepest Sympathy on the passing of your mom. Mrs. Joyce was always kind to me. I always enjoyed talking with her. Hugs to all.*  
*Linda (Pfeifer) Basham*

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**Linda Basham** - July 31, 2023 at 07:20 PM



“ *44 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd.** - July 31, 2023 at 12:43 PM

MR

“ *I had the honor of helping to care for Elaine at her home. We shared stories, pictures, recipes. Elaine didn't just become a friend, she became family. I will greatly miss our talks. Rest easy my sweet friend. I hope you and Plow had a great reunion catching up. Love,*  
*Michelle*

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**Michelle Rickert** - July 30, 2023 at 01:04 PM

BS

*So sorry to hear this. Always had a great smile everytime I had the opportunity to run into her out an about.*  
*Pat Swisher*

**Bob & Pat Swisher** - August 04, 2023 at 11:41 AM

HL

“ *Dick and Cathy and the entire family, my sympathies and prayers are with you during the loss of your Mother*



**Helen Lamping** - July 29, 2023 at 01:36 PM

DP

“ *I had the privilege of knowing Mrs. Joyce from teaching her children David and Carol at South Wilmington grade school. She was a great person. My thoughts and prayers go out to her family.*

*Mr. Pantaleone*

**Dominic Pantaleone** - July 29, 2023 at 10:15 AM

CS

*To the Joyce family, Your mom was a very special lady who always shared stories and cared greatly for her family and fellow South Wilmington residents. She will be missed by many. My condolences to you.*

**Cathleen Smith** - August 01, 2023 at 09:11 PM

BC

*As a young boy, we lived less than a mile from their Kinsman farm. I loved to ride my bike to their house, because Elaine always had some great coffee cakes to share. She was such a nice lady. When we would see her and Plow around the area, we always had a good visit about the good old days.*

**Bob Crane** - August 03, 2023 at 09:14 AM