



Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen

June 24, 1946 - July 29, 2025

Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen, 79, of Rockford, IA, passed away peacefully in her home on Tuesday, July 29, 2025, of cancer, holding her loving husband's hand and surrounded by family. Funeral arrangements are with Fullerton Funeral Home.

A visitation will be held from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 3, 2025, at Fullerton Funeral Home, 123 2nd St SE, Mason City, IA. A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 a.m. with a one-hour prior visitation on Monday, August 4, 2025 at Fullerton Funeral Home with Pastor Michael Ward from St. Croix Hospice officiating. Marilyn will be laid to rest at Rock Grove Township Cemetery in Nora Springs, IA at a later date.

Marilyn was born June 24, 1946, the third of four children, to Wes and Harriett (Schultz) Navratil in Rockford, IA. As a child and even into adulthood she would spend most of her time in Grafton on the family farm with her grandparents, Art & Lora Schultz, whom she looked to as role models for her own life.

Marilyn met her soulmate, Dennis Mullen, in the summer of 1961 in what can only be described as love at first sight. The couple were married in Clear Lake, IA on August 26, 1962. Shortly afterwards they welcomed their first daughter, Vicky. For many years, the three of them enjoyed camping, golfing,

and spending time with extended family. After settling into family life, Marilyn went back to school to earn her GED—it was a meaningful accomplishment that she worked hard for and never took for granted. In 1973, the Mullens moved to the country, creating a loving space for family, friends, and neighbors, and growing the best food garden, similar to how her own grandparents lived. In 1976, they welcomed their second daughter, Denise, and the family was complete.

Marilyn worked various roles over the years at Trettin's Hatchery, the Rockford School systems in food service for 26 years, and as a high school Sunday school teacher at Zion Lutheran Church in Rockford where she was able to share her strong faith in God through music and gospel with "her kids" that she saw pass through the lunch line at the high school. However, her favorite role was being a grandmother.

Marilyn & Dennis were blessed with two grandchildren, Travis & Rose, and one great granddaughter, Elizabeth. They would spend every opportunity with them including summer vacations around the US, babysitting after school, riding the fastest and highest roller coasters, and weekend sleepovers. Marilyn was constantly learning through her grandchildren's school projects, musical talents, and even assisted as a scout mother on Travis's journey to Eagle Scout. She credited staying young to having to keep up with her grandchildren.

Marilyn is survived by her husband of 63 years, Dennis; daughters Vicky (John) McCloskey, and Denise; Grandchildren Travis McCloskey, Rose (Travis) Korleski, and great granddaughter Elizabeth Korleski; Sister Debbie (Jim) Fitkin; Sister-in-laws Jean Navratil, Joyce Navratil; and many nieces & nephews. Awaiting her arrival in Heaven are her parents, and brothers Jerry & Ronald (Butch) Navratil.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 3. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City
123 2nd St. SE
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-8676
mail@fullertonfh.com
<https://www.fullertonfh.com>

Visitation

AUG 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City
123 2nd St. SE
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-8676
mail@fullertonfh.com
<https://www.fullertonfh.com>

Celebration of Life

AUG 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City
123 2nd St. SE
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-8676
mail@fullertonfh.com
<https://www.fullertonfh.com>

Tribute Wall

KP

“ Vicky & Denise ~ Sorry to read of your Mother’s passing. I’m keeping you both in my thoughts and prayers.

Kathy Pitcher

Kathy Pitcher - August 08, 2025 at 07:56 AM

JJ

“ Our condolences Denny---continue to cherish her life with you and share those moments with you kids and the rest of your family. Our hearts are with you in this difficult time. Jim Card & Karen Wood (fellow graduating classmates 1960)

JimCard - August 06, 2025 at 10:34 AM

KM

“ Kathy Mullen lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen



Kathy Mullen - August 03, 2025 at 04:50 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen.



August 02, 2025 at 10:43 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen.

August 02, 2025 at 10:43 PM



“ So sorry Vicky and family. She is and was a truly beautiful and friendliest friend at McCloskey Appliance! I miss our talks at the store! Rest in peace sweet Angel.



Teresa Tietjens - August 02, 2025 at 10:39 AM



“ Joel, Mindy, Lane, Chance and Kasey planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen.

Joel, Mindy, Lane, Chance and Kasey - August 01, 2025 at 05:14 PM



“ Joel, Mindy, Lane, Chance and Kasey purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen.



Joel, Mindy, Lane, Chance and Kasey - August 01, 2025 at 05:14 PM

KK

“ Kay Stiller and Vickie Koebrick. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen.



Kay Stiller and Vickie Koebrick. - August 01, 2025 at 01:50 PM

BK

“ Bonnie Korleski purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen.



Bonnie Korleski - August 01, 2025 at 01:48 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen.



July 31, 2025 at 10:16 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen.

July 31, 2025 at 10:16 PM

RA

“ Randy/Brett & Aaron/Ryan purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Marilyn "Sis" Ann Mullen.



Randy/Brett & Aaron/Ryan - July 31, 2025 at 12:59 PM

AN

“ I was one of "Marilyn's kids." I never had the chance to tell her that she helped guide me toward helping the youth of our church as she helped us back in the day. I will forever remember her teaching us the lessons of life. Here's a quarter, call someone who cares.

Amy Noss - July 31, 2025 at 09:38 AM