



Jane Frances Castle Church

November 3, 2023

Jane Frances Castle Church, 82 passed away on Friday, November 3, 2023, at Green Ridge Village, Newville, PA. Born in Roslyn, NY to the late Joseph Castelluccio and Frances O'Brien, she was married for 41 years to John A. (Jack) Church, who passed away in 2005.

Jane attended Niagara University in Buffalo, New York, and was dedicated to the field of nursing. She held many positions throughout her career, which included conducting research at NYU and later acting as the coordinator for a Multiple Sclerosis support program at Westchester County Medical Center. A highlight of her career came in 1975 when she became the first nurse to work on the set of Saturday Night Live with the show's initial cast. She also enjoyed working with children as a school nurse at the Cottle School in Tuckahoe, NY for several years. After moving to PA, she worked for many years as the Director of Nursing for Manor Care Health Services. After she retired, Jane continued to enjoy helping others. She volunteered weekly at the Water Street Rescue Mission where she ran smoking cessation groups and provided compassionate care to those in need.

She was an avid reader and loved word puzzles. In her free time, she enjoyed participating in her monthly reading group and doing the NY Times crossword puzzles. She was also a member of the Maple Grove Bridge Club.

Jane was a world traveler. She visited Alaska, France, England, Egypt, and many countries in Central and South America and the Caribbean. Most of all, Jane loved being known as “Grandma Jane” and often brought her granddaughter along with her on these exciting trips. She was thrilled to spend a month each Summer in Sag Harbor with her granddaughter.

She is survived by her two daughters, Victoria B. (Vicky) Church (Paul F. Kerrigan) of Dillsburg, PA, Sarah H. Church (Braden R. Josephson) of New York, NY, her granddaughter Eliza Castle Josephson of New York, NY, her sister-in-law, Suzanna H. Castle, her nieces and nephews Joseph Castle (Jane Cirigiliano), Anne Castle (John Santulli), Stephen A. Church (Tara L. Murray) of Massena, New York. She is preceded by her brother Joseph G. Castle and her niece Lisa M. Church.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 2:00 p.m. Friday, November 17th via Zoom (<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86568017102?pwd=awsrzPD6UjPLwUprbvuj7B9KXC70HR.1&from=addon>), and an in-person reception will be held later that day at 77 Park Avenue, Apt 7D, New York, NY from 5 pm-9 pm for those who are able to attend. A Pennsylvania Celebration of Life will be held in the future at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Water Street Rescue Mission, 210 S. Prince Street, Lancaster, PA 17603.

Tribute Wall

JE

“ I have many memories of Jane faithfully volunteering here at Water Street Health Services. She always brought a quick smile with her! I knew she volunteered many years, but was surprised by how many when I went back to check. She started volunteering in 2007 and continued until 2016! This was a beautiful gift to our patients and staff. I send my condolences to family.

Jean - November 22, 2023 at 10:51 AM

VC

Wow!!! 9 years.... Thanks for checking on this Jean.... Mom loved going to the “Mission” on Thursdays. So glad she could continue helping those in need after she retired from her “official” nursing capacity. She really enjoyed being part of your organization and improving the lives of those who needed help in Lancaster. 🙏❤️🙏

Victoria Church - November 23, 2023 at 09:00 PM

TO

“ I remember Mrs. Church picking me up with Vicki in the 69 340 Dart Swinger. I have never forgotten that great memory. Thank you. You will be missed.

Todd - November 21, 2023 at 08:48 PM

VC

I remember you telling Mrs Church to “floor it” from the back seat.... She could just barely reach the clutch... 😊👍😊

Victoria Church - November 21, 2023 at 08:56 PM



“ I knew Jane as a young person, so my memories of her are more like moments: shooin Vicky and me into and out of the back of that great, gray Studebaker she drove; her encouragement while shooting an air rifle at a target in the driveway in Bedford, at a birthday party, back when such things were an unaccented part of our world; and her presence, as a leader on many, many Girl Scouts trips, during which she was unfathomably patient. She influenced me in ways I did not understand until many years later, when I began to write professionally, and found I often thought of her and the vivid stories she wrote for the Patent Trader. She will be missed. Condolences to family and friends.

Barbara Eidlin - November 21, 2023 at 01:25 PM

VC

Barbie (yes your are still Barbie to me & Mom too) I thank you for taking the time to reflect on our “formative” years.... Thank you my friend from Me and my sister as well.

Victoria Church - November 21, 2023 at 01:33 PM

OM

“ It was such a pleasure to meet Jane with her friend Wes in Egypt. We had such a good time. Jane is so kind and loving, Im lucky I got to spend time with her. So sorry I couldnt attend the obituary. It was also nice to chat with Vicky. Thank you for including me.

Ola Mohamed - November 19, 2023 at 05:53 PM

VC

Thank you for writing your kind words Ola. Mom loved spending time with you and staying in touch via the internet.

Victoria Church - November 20, 2023 at 12:15 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Jane Frances Castle Church.



November 16, 2023 at 02:56 PM



“ I’m not sure what to say in the face of such a difficult loss but I will try and give a gist moment of memory as care giver with my dearest Jane.

She’s a lovely person and care about everyone irrespective who you are. She loves sharing and always wants to make sure I’m ok together with my children whom she never met but loves to know how they are faring.

Even when she’s not happy with a situation and she talks about it, she will be the first to apologize for her reaction about the situation afterwards.

She took me as her daughter so I developed so much love for her and took her as my mom due to the bond.

Just want you to know that I care about you and share the sadness with the entire family.

Rest Well in the bosom of the Lord

Perpetual Kesse-Adu - November 16, 2023 at 02:07 AM



Oh Pep.. Thank you so much... Maybe someday I can meet your children. You and all the other ladies are Mom’s and my angels. You all allowed her the opportunity to “age in place” as she liked to say. She was home with Misty and you and that my friend I and my sister will forever be thankful for. 🙏🙏🙏

Victoria Church - November 16, 2023 at 07:45 PM

EM

“ In Fall 1957, Jane found that her roommate at Niagara University was to be Weslee Ann Neary, of Troy, NY. They received their BSN together, and were very close friends until Wes died in 2016. I remember an incident from 2008. Wes was traveling in China when an elderly member in her tour-group needed medical attention. International cell phone calls were rather new at the time, but Wes called Jane in PA and they determined that the patient needed to return to the US without delay. Ten years earlier, in Cambridge, England, over two days I had seen Jane and Wes in a master-class of care-giving for a stroke-victim: it was professional expertise delivered with love. Now Jane and Wes are together again.

Eugene McGovern - November 15, 2023 at 02:52 PM

VC

Oh Gene... Thank you for sharing these stories I have never heard of. You, Wes and Mom are truly the most special people in my book. Words can never express this. I hope you and your song birds & woodpeckers are doing well. Nature is important for the soul. I know Wes & Mom are reunited and most certainly reacquainting each other and coming up with their next shopping trip or travel adventure. We love you and your boys and please keep in touch. Love always, Vicky

Victoria Church - November 16, 2023 at 07:51 PM

PN

“ I was fortunate enough to meet Jane shortly after we both coincidentally had relocated to Lancaster, Pennsylvania from Westchester County, New York. It was always such a pleasure to spend time with her. She was not only incredibly bright and capable, but was also one of the kindest and most caring people I have ever met. Jane was always more than happy to share her time and talent with others, and I know that she enriched the lives of many. She will be missed!

Peggy Nepps - November 15, 2023 at 12:19 PM

VC

Thank you Peggy from the bottom of my heart. Vicky... ❤️

Victoria Church - November 16, 2023 at 07:53 PM

DE

“ Although I did not know Jane, I met her once while helping her daughter Vicky with pruning the backyard. Over these past months, I have learned a lot about Jane, through the stories and details that became so important toward the end of her life. She was much loved and respected by her daughters, who will miss her very much.

Deana - November 14, 2023 at 07:11 PM

VC

Deana - These are lovely words and sentiments. Mom enjoyed meeting you and your company during our visit to help manage the “jungle”.... Thank you from Me & Mom...

Victoria Church - November 16, 2023 at 08:05 PM

CB

“ Jane and I met 19 years ago at a Stop Smoking Program. We became fast friends along. For many years, we would spend time chatting together while having lunch. Laughter was always present.

Jane was very special to me. Our conversations were full of information about our granddaughters. We loved to analyze world issues and we would laugh when we felt we could solve problems if only someone would listen to us.

Lady Jane, my favorite name for her, will always have a special place in my heart and mind because of the time and conversations we had.

Lady Jane was a gift God gave to me. She definitely was a special lady

Connie Beury - November 14, 2023 at 06:50 PM

VC

Thank you so much Connie for sharing these thoughts. Mom enjoyed your friendship too.

Victoria Church - November 20, 2023 at 12:22 AM

LV

“ *Sending all of our love and prayers from Virginia for Jane's loss to Vicky, Paul, and family.*

A life well-lived and well-loved is a Beautiful gift, and one of God's greatest Blessings.

Love, The Vadens: Bill, Lynn, and Caleb

Lynn Vaden - November 14, 2023 at 06:15 PM

VC

Paul, Captain and I appreciate your thoughts. Thank you. 💕

Victoria Church - November 20, 2023 at 12:24 AM

SS

“ *I will miss Jane very much. She was warm, and bright, and funny. I admired her compassion as a nurse; she cared for the underdog and was everything a nurse should strive to be.*

We both loved Thanksgiving and cats and dogs, and she loved her granddaughter with all of her heart. She was a great listener and talker, and I admired her skills in Bridge and word games.

There was only one Jane Church. The one and only, there will never be another. God bless her and her family.

Samantha Summers

Samantha M Summers - November 14, 2023 at 01:19 PM

VC

Sam - You are the BEST.... Love, Vicky, Paul, Sir Francis the Cat and Clinch Mountain Captain Talk 2-It... 🙏❤️🙏

Victoria Church - November 14, 2023 at 06:09 PM

PS

“ So very sad to hear that Jane has passed. She was the first (and maybe only) neighbor to welcome my husband and I to our new neighborhood in Lancaster County, PA when we moved here from California in 2011. She brought us an apple cake and I will never forget that kindness. Later, I would occasionally see her walking her "granddog" and we would chat. She appreciated that I placed a dog waterbowl on my sidewalk to offer that we were dog-friendly neighbors. Always a smile and a positive greeting from her. I will miss that. Rest well, Jane.

PS - November 14, 2023 at 10:23 AM

VC

Hello My Friend PS.... You got to know both "grand dogs" Charlotte the NC rescue and Clinch Mountain Captain Talk 2-It... Captain got to visit Mom while at the "home" and on her final day. He was the perfect ambassador for a therapy dog for me and the staff too. You know how to reach me and we're here to support you as well. You forgot to mention about how Mom & Eliza came to visit your puppies if I remember correctly. Dog world and people sometimes blend together.... May you too have peace and comfort. In Kready Ave we Trust!

Victoria Church - November 14, 2023 at 06:16 PM

BL

“ Jane was a true friend. I will always remember how she helped me get through the years my husband was disabled with MS. As directors we often traveled to conferences where we shared our souls and plenty of laughs. Loved her and will miss her. To her family my sincere condolences.

Barbara Landis - November 14, 2023 at 08:39 AM

VC

Barb - Thanks for writing your kind comments. DON's are special ladies.... Glad Mom was able to help you and your husband.

Victoria Church - November 14, 2023 at 06:18 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jane Frances Castle Church.*



November 12, 2023 at 09:18 AM