



Joann Elaine McElfresh

January 18, 1934 - December 4, 2020

Sutton, NE resident Joann Elaine McElfresh, 86, passed away Friday, December 4, 2020, at the Sutton Community Home in Sutton, NE.

Joann's wish was to be cremated and due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions, a celebration of life will be held outside this spring.

Memorial contributions in her honor may be directed to the Sutton Federated Church and sent to 202 N. Glen, Sutton, NE 68979.

Joann Elaine McElfresh was born on January 18th, 1934, in Smith County, KS to Henry and Viola (Shipley) Franklin. She graduated from Lebanon High School. She met Donald McElfresh in the first grade. He would later become her high school sweetheart and husband of 67 years. They were married on July 4, 1953. Don and Joann had three children; Ronald, Mary Sue, and Scott. They raised their children in Sutton, NE. Don and Joann owned and operated three retail businesses in Kansas and Nebraska. They enjoyed their customers and contributed to the growing community.

When grandchildren started arriving, Joann was delighted. She decided to open a daycare where she raised her four grandchildren along with many other children from Sutton for ten years. She was a member of the Sutton Federated Church, Women's Fellowship, and Fox Hollow Golf Course. She enjoyed golfing, fishing, gardening, attending horse shows, square dancing,

and sewing. She was on the bowling league and an avid bridge player for many years. Most of all, she enjoyed following all her grandchildren's events and cooking family meals for them; especially homemade Runzas and fried fish.

She was deeply loved and will be forever missed. She is survived by her husband, Don; two children, Ron (Kim) McElfresh and Sue (Allen) Geiser; four grandchildren, Megan (Douglas) Ahrens; Jeremy (Nancy Berg) Hultman; Matthew (Paige Pavlik) McElfresh; and Justin (Elizabeth) Hultman; two great-grandsons, Jameson Hultman and Hudson Ahrens.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers, Jim and Bill Franklin; and her son, Scott.

Tribute Wall

BK

“ Don and family - So sorry for your loss. We have many great memories of times spent with you and your wonderful family. Joan - rest in peace.

Bill and Carolyn Kassebaum - December 11, 2020 at 07:36 PM

JZ

“ Dear Mary, I extend my Sympathy..I did not know , your Dear Mother has departed this Earth..God be with You and Your Family Through Out the Holidays...Bless You..Peace and Joy
Julie (Snell) Zimmerman

Julie Zimmerman - December 10, 2020 at 09:52 AM

DY

“ Joann was a great person, loved being part of her care. Deepest sympathy. Prayers!

Dean and LuDella Yost - December 09, 2020 at 08:30 PM

GS

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Joanne passing. She was a very nice, friendly lady that I'm glad was a part of my growing up. My condolences to Don, Ron, and Mary Sue.

George Syring - December 09, 2020 at 04:27 PM

CF

“ Joann has always been one of my favorite people. Don, too! Joann's zest for life, love, and fun made visiting with her very uplifting. My sister Joyce and I always enjoyed visiting with her at Verda Franklin's home whenever we were all in S.C. for alumni weekend. She will always be remembered with the greatest affection for what she brought to the Franklin side of the family. My condolences to Don & family. Praying for peace and comfort for all of you.

Carol Franklin Fagan - December 08, 2020 at 10:48 AM

DH

“ We are so sorry to hear of Joanne's passing. We met her through her daughter, Mary and son-in-law, Al and always enjoyed her at the back yard parties and other summer events. May the many memories of your wonderful mother help you through this sad time, Mary. Much love

Darrill and Marlene Hinrichs - December 08, 2020 at 10:03 AM

MC

“ Our sympathies.

Mark and Rita Czaplewski - December 08, 2020 at 07:41 AM

IK

“ Don --- Mary & family --- Ron & family.
I was so sorry to hear of Joanne passing. Many years ago when I married into the family relation, we were all close friends. We did many fishing trips to local ponds with each of us carrying babies in baskets. I will remember her as lots of fun! May she rest in her Lords arms as she is at Peace. My Love & Prayers be with all of you.

Ione Shipley --- Esbon, KS. - December 06, 2020 at 04:31 PM