



## JoAnn Brusnahan

April 16, 1932 - January 27, 2020

JoAnn Brusnahan, age 87, of Rensselaer, Indiana passed away peacefully, Monday, January 27, 2020 at Franciscan Health Alternacare of Rensselaer. Born on April 16, 1932 in Rensselaer, Indiana, she was the daughter of Ralph W. and Opal M. (Potts) Myers.

JoAnn was educated at the Fair Oaks School, graduating with the Class of 1950.

On January 13, 1951 at St. Augustine Church, she married the love of her life, Charles G. Brusnahan. Charles passed away in July of 2002.

JoAnn was employed as a bank teller for 26 years. She worked for Farmers and Merchants Bank, Northwest Bank and Lafayette Bank and Trust before retiring from Kentland Bank in 1998.

JoAnn was an active member of St. Augustine Catholic Church. She enjoyed helping with parish dinners and the annual Church Bazaar. She also enjoyed traveling, knitting, and exploring Turkey Run State Park.

JoAnn's love of adventure took her on many travels. She bought into "see the USA in your Chevrolet", although for her it was always a Ford or a Mercury. She made sure her children saw all of the western states...immortalized in a photo of her pointing out that we children needed to get out of the car because she did not drive all the way to the Petrified Forest for us kids to sit in the car!

She added Belgium and France to visit her granddaughter Sarah on her study abroad. Followed by a trip to Japan to visit with her granddaughter Brooke. For a child of World War II, she was in awe of the fact that having lived through Pearl Harbor she spent time as an adult tracking down a Starbucks in downtown Tokyo.

JoAnn is survived by her three children, Barbara Kay (Greg) Howell of West Lafayette, Ind., Mari Anne (Bruce) Sayler of Rensselaer, Ind. and Timothy P. (Lynn) Brusnahan of Shorewood, Wisconsin and her brother Ralph (Doris) Myers. Also surviving are grandchildren, Brooke (Carlton), Stacy (Brian), Sarah (Jake), Maggie (Nick), Timothy Colin, Charles Devon, Kathryn and Brookelynn and seven great-grandchildren, Claire, Luke, Owen, Sam, Emma, Will, and Matthew and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Charles and a grandson, Brad.

Friends are invited to visit with the family at Jackson Funeral Chapel in Rensselaer on Thursday, January 30, 2020 from 4:00 - 7:00 PM, (Central time). A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 AM on Friday, January 31, 2020, at the St. Augustine Catholic Church in Rensselaer with Rev. Donald Davison officiating. Burial will follow at Memory Gardens Cemetery. Memorials may be made to St. Augustine Catholic School,

# Cemetery Details

## Memory Gardens of Rensselaer

Memory Gardens  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5125  
[info@jacksonfuneral.com](mailto:info@jacksonfuneral.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JAN 30.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer  
250 N. McKinley Avenue  
P.O. Box 70  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5123  
[info@jacksonfuneral.com](mailto:info@jacksonfuneral.com)  
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

## Funeral Mass

**JAN 31.** 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Augustine Catholic Church  
318 North McKinley Avenue  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
(219) 866-5351  
<https://stmichaelpastorate.org/>

# Tribute Wall

GK

“ George And Joan Kanne lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan



George and Joan Kanne - February 01, 2020 at 04:48 PM

GK

We were so sorry to hear JoAnn passed away. She was a beautiful lady with the best smile ever and always so friendly and cheerful. She will be missed by many. Our deepest sympathy to Kay, MariAnn, and Tim and all of your families. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. God Bless. George & Joan Kanne.

George and Joan Kanne - February 01, 2020 at 04:55 PM

RK

“ Ruby Kanne lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan



ruby kanne - February 01, 2020 at 04:45 PM

HL

“ Homer And Theresa Lakin lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan



Homer and Theresa Lakin - February 01, 2020 at 08:45 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of JoAnn Brusnahan.*



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January 31, 2020 at 10:03 AM



“ *Linda Park lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan*



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**Linda Park** - January 30, 2020 at 05:45 PM



“ *Thinking of all you during this time. JoAnn was a very special lady.*  
*Anita Stath Padgett*



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**Anita Padgett** - January 30, 2020 at 05:21 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to the family & friends of a special lady, Joann Brusnahan.*  
*Our thoughts and prayers for comfort & peace in your loss, Jim & Dorrie Lefler*



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**Jim & Dorrie Lefler** - January 30, 2020 at 11:38 AM

CS

“ Cheryl SchultzOreskovich lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan



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**Cheryl SchultzOreskovich** - January 30, 2020 at 11:01 AM

ML

“ Marilyn Albert's Lowry lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan



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**Marilyn Albert's lowry** - January 30, 2020 at 07:53 AM

DW

“ I want to express my sincere sympathies to the Brusnahan family for your loss. Thinking of you and praying for comfort. Donna Wiseman

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**Donna Wiseman** - January 30, 2020 at 07:30 AM

GK

“ Oh how we loved to see JoAnn , she brightened our days with her warm welcome and cheerful smile, we are so sorry to hear of her passing . Prayers to you all.

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**Gale and Noreen Kerns** - January 29, 2020 at 08:45 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of JoAnn Brusnahan.*



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January 29, 2020 at 06:49 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of JoAnn Brusnahan.*



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January 29, 2020 at 06:42 PM



“ *I admired your Mother so much while we worked together at the bank. Even though there was an age difference between us she always was young at heart, not only in her heart but in her soul as well. She always made everyone one feel special. I find it comforting to know she is back home again with Charlie. RIP my friend!*

*Linda (Cochran) Pugh*

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**Linda (Cochran) Pugh** - January 29, 2020 at 05:44 PM

LL

“ JoAnn was such a sweet person. She was nice to me the first time I met her and every time after that. She loved life and loved people - I think she knew everyone in the town of Rensselaer. I was able to see her often up at Alternacare, since my Mother and JoAnn were there at the same time. Sometimes I would stop by her room just to say hello and to check on her. She always talked about her wonderful family and how proud she was of everyone. She will be missed!

Linda Gwin Lebedeff - January 29, 2020 at 12:46 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of JoAnn Brusnahan.



January 29, 2020 at 11:17 AM

RW

“ Lots of good memories she was a very special lady. I knew her from a little girl on up. One of the best smiles around. Prayers for the family you're in my thoughts.



Regina Warfel - January 29, 2020 at 10:00 AM

MB

“ Myles Beeching lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan



Myles Beeching - January 29, 2020 at 08:05 AM

KW

“ Kathy Wilcox lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan



Kathy Wilcox - January 29, 2020 at 08:01 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. Keeping your family in my prayers.

JoAnn Reese - January 29, 2020 at 07:10 AM

JM

“ Jerry Miller lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan



Jerry miller - January 29, 2020 at 03:34 AM

JB

“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan*



**Judy Burvan** - January 28, 2020 at 11:02 PM

DG

“ *She and Charles were both just the sweetest people ever. Rest In Peace*



**Deb Grigson** - January 28, 2020 at 10:36 PM

JH

“ *Janice HopkinsMalchow lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan*



**Janice HopkinsMalchow** - January 28, 2020 at 10:33 PM

SK

“ *Sue Kanney lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan*



**sue kanney** - January 28, 2020 at 10:16 PM

GN

“ *Glenda Nagel lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan*



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**Glenda Nagel** - January 28, 2020 at 09:08 PM

SH

“ *So sorry to hear of JoAnn's passing. JoAnn was simply the sweetest lady! She had a way of making you feel so comforted when you spoke with her.*

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**shannon** - January 28, 2020 at 07:31 PM

DG

“ *What a sweet lady and always with a smile on her face!! We always met each other at the library. My sincere condolences and prayers to the entire family*

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**Denise Gillespie** - January 28, 2020 at 07:21 PM

BS

“ *JoAnn was a wonderful lady...I worked at the Remington bank, but did work with your Mom a few times. I am sad to hear of her passing. Caring thoughts and prayers for her family. Barbara Sigo, Lafayette*

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**Barbara Sigo** - January 28, 2020 at 07:19 PM

MC

“ *Mary Jo Casey lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan*



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**Mary Jo Casey** - January 28, 2020 at 06:54 PM

LP

“ *My sincere condolences to the family! Always enjoyed visiting with her. May God wrap his loving arms around you all for comfort during this difficult time. May she rest in peace.*



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**Lib Prohosky** - January 28, 2020 at 06:14 PM

DW

“ *OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY TO ALL OF YOU.*



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**Don and Gloria Waymouth** - January 28, 2020 at 06:03 PM

AV

“ *Amy Valade lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan*



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**Amy Valade** - January 28, 2020 at 05:54 PM



“ *JoAnn was always such a true lady. Beautiful and a joy to be around.* ”



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**Doris Hammersley** - January 28, 2020 at 05:11 PM



“ *Cindy Stath lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan* ”



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**Cindy Stath** - January 28, 2020 at 04:51 PM



“ *Gayla Warran lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan* ”



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**Gayla Warran** - January 28, 2020 at 04:20 PM



“ *So enjoyed your mom while caring for her. Always a joy to talk to. Your family is in my prayers.* ”



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**Deb E.** - January 28, 2020 at 04:04 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of JoAnn Brusnahan.*



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January 28, 2020 at 03:52 PM



“ *Joann was a wonderful beautiful lady that knew everyone.. we all have great memories.. love her she definitely will be missed by many..*



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**Donna Sullivan** - January 28, 2020 at 03:36 PM



“ *Mike And Janet Brown lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan*



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**Mike and Janet Brown** - January 28, 2020 at 02:55 PM



“ *Loved taking communion to JoAnn while at the Alternacare unit....she was always so kind and pleasant...plus shared specials memories concerning her family. She never complained! What a remarkable lady. She will be greatly missed.*

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**Bernice Post** - January 28, 2020 at 02:45 PM

TF

“ *The Liersch Family lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Brusnahan*



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**The Liersch Family** - January 28, 2020 at 01:42 PM

GB

“ *Deepest sympathy to the family . Prayers in the coming days.*

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**Gloria Baier** - January 28, 2020 at 01:41 PM



“ *We are very sorry for your loss. JoAnn was always so lovely and ready to share her pretty smile. Your family is in our prayers.*



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**Pamela Sayler** - January 28, 2020 at 01:41 PM