



Martha Jean "Jill" Wieland

August 21, 1918 - December 18, 2023

Martha Jean (Jill) Wieland, of Jerseyville, passed away on December 18, 2023 at age 105. She was born August 21, 1918 in Taylorville, Illinois. She and her siblings attended a one-room school, then graduated from Taylorville Township High School. After graduating from High School at age 15, Jill attended Blackburn College at Carlinville, Illinois, where she participated in the work-study program as secretary to Dr. Hudson. She graduated from Blackburn in 1936 and then attended the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana for a year before becoming employed in the office of the Associate Dean of the College of Engineering, University of Illinois.

She married William Kenneth Wieland, of Jersey County, at the Taylorville Presbyterian Church on September 1, 1940. Following their marriage, the couple lived in Alton until 1944 where they moved to the family farm in Dow where Bill took over the farm business from his father. They remained in that area until moving to Jerseyville in 1979.

Jill was active in a number of organizations, including becoming an elder at the First Presbyterian Church of Jerseyville and serving on many committees in the church. She belonged to the Order of the Eastern Star, served as Worthy Matron of the Grafton Chapter in 1952, and served as Grand Lecturer for a number of years. She was a member of PEO. She organized the local DAR chapter in 1962, and served on many local and state committees for the organization. She served on the area Board of Children's Home & Aid Society of Illinois, and was a foster mother for that organization for over 40 years (if

you were adopted from there between 1962 and 2002, she probably rocked you as a baby). In 1999, she was chosen as the Illinois Mother of the Year and was also honored as a Woman of Distinction by the Alton YWCA.

She is survived by her son, Daniel Wieland, of St Ann, Missouri, her daughter, Martha (Marti) Wieland, of Jerseyville, two granddaughters, Kathryn E. Wieland of Champaign, Illinois, and Meagan T. Arnold of Collinsville, Illinois, as well as many loving nieces and nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, her sister, Eva Helena Gilman, her brother, Benjamin Melin Boyd, and all of her cousins, as well as her son-in-law, Jerry Arnold.

Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until time of memorial service at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, May 4, 2024 at the First Presbyterian Church in Jerseyville.

Memorials may be made to the Jerseyville Presbyterian Church, or Children's Home & Aid Society of Illinois, 6 Crossroads Court, Alton, Illinois. Gent Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Additional information and online guest book may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

First Presbyterian Church
Jerseyville, IL

Memorial Service

MAY 4. 11:00 AM.

First Presbyterian Church
Jerseyville, IL

Tribute Wall

RW

“ *Jill was such a wonderful special person. We had such a great time together at the mother daughter banquet. Rose Williams*

rose williams - May 02, 2024 at 05:01 PM

BE

“ *What is there not to be said about this beautiful wonderful soul who is soaring in Gods hands now. I have years and years of visits. I'd try and com 4-6 times a year just to check on her. We'd always go to the 518 while it was still open for dinner and an occasional amaretto sour. There were summers I'd pack up my 2 kids(Brad& Aron), niece Brenda, niece Becky & nephew Jon to see Aunt Jill and over to Taylorville to see my great Uncle Buck. Was so glad I did all those visits while I could. Aunt Jill is and always will be dearly loved and missed more than I can say but she is where she's wanted to be for so long..with Uncle Bill. Will forever miss you❤️*

Becky - January 21, 2024 at 08:20 PM

CG

“ As my cousin, Dave Boyd, said "She was the aunt that everyone wishes they had."

Because Aunt Jill and my mother, Eva Boyd Gilman, were so close, throughout my childhood we spent holidays (especially Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving) together, just alternating locations between her house and our house. That provided so many happy memories.

My favorite memories are of sitting around the dining table after each meal was finished and telling family stories. Apparently, we were a pretty funny family; we would laugh over the stories until we cried, and our sides ached. The laughter was the best part of the experience!

I'm not sure if there are meals in heaven, but I'm sure Aunt Jill and Mom are swapping stories and laughing together again.

Cyrena Gilman - 1944-2023

Cyrena Gilman - December 22, 2023 at 05:53 PM

PR

“ *The love and care that Jill shared to so many will continue to positively impact lives for generations to come, especially for those whom she took in at a time of their highest vulnerability. My life could have taken many different directions, but the love and unselfishness of Jill and her family set me on the right path and provided a soft landing in another loving and caring home. Of course, I have no recollection of any of this since I was only one year old at the time, but it became real when I was able to reconnect with her almost 30 years later. I'm so thankful that we had the time that we did to write and visit from that point through now, and I look forward to catching up with her again when I join her in heaven, where I'm sure she's already enjoying the rewards of an outstanding, fully-lived and giving life during her time here. She is truly one of the most amazing people I've ever known.*

Paul Ruh - 1963- 1965, and 1992 - 2023.

Paul Ruh - December 22, 2023 at 03:43 PM