



Joann R. Fisher

October 28, 1927 - July 31, 2010

Joann R. Fisher, age 82, of Warren, died at 3:32 p.m. Saturday (July 31, 2010) at the Heritage Pointe, Warren.

Joann was born on October 28, 1927, the daughter of Heber E. and Alma J. (Fisher) Humbarger, in Decatur, Indiana. She graduated from Huntington High School in 1945. After high school, Joann attended Huntington College and Ball State University where she received her teaching degree. She married John T. Fisher on June 1, 1963 in Huntington. John preceded her in death on March 14, 2000.

Joann, known as “Mother Fisher” by her students, was a teacher for 22 years at the Huntington North High School and was a member of the Indiana Retired Teacher Association.

Joann is survived by two nephews – J. Michael Arlington of Bluffton, South Carolina, and Dr. L. David Arlington of Eugene, Oregon, and five nieces – Melissa J. Glaze, of Roanoke, Leslie Dixon of Indianapolis, Jane Brewer of Indianapolis, Janice Humbarger-Amonette, of Indianapolis, Susan Wright, of Indianapolis. Her parents, husband, brother, Dr. George Humbarger, and sister, Maxine Garrison, precede her in death.

Visitation will be from 9-10 a.m. Monday (August 16, 2010) at the Bailey-Love

Mortuary. A memorial service will then be held 10 a.m. (August 16, 2010) at the Bailey-Love Mortuary. Burial will be in the Blue River Cemetery, Columbia City, Indiana.

Memorials may be made to the Cerebral Palsy Association or the Shriners Hospital for Children, in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive Huntington, IN.

Cemetery Details

Blue River Cemetery

3341-3453 County Road 300 N
Columbia City, IN 46725

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 16. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary
35 West Park Drive
Huntington, IN 46750
(260) 356-1710
wecare@baileylove.com
<https://www.baileylove.com>

Service

AUG 16. 10:00 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

BL

“ Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Joann R. Fisher



Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary - July 31, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ Oh, Miss Humbarger! She was a great teacher, but I trembled every time I enter her class. I'm sure she was trying to teach me more than I ever realized. But the one thing I remember her saying over and over again, "If you don't know how to spell a word, look it up in the dictionary". As a homeschool mom that is the one thing I instilled in my children at an early age. Thank you, Miss Humbarger, for giving us your all and for something I could pass on to my children. My sympathy to the family. She was one great woman and a fighter. (student of '62)

Pat Woods - August 16, 2010 at 12:36 AM

MW

“ I was blessed, last fall, to have the chance to visit Mrs. Fisher at Heritage Pointe. What fun to interact with her again, and find that despite the toll of time on her body, she was mentally as sharp as ever! Mom Fisher (or "Dead-Eye Joann" as she was also known) fostered in me a love for the music and flow of the English language at its well-crafted best. Her influence was a major factor in my choice of writing as a career. How fortunate we all were to have her in our lives!

Marcia Woodard '76

Marcia Woodard - August 13, 2010 at 03:25 AM

HD

“ Hope DuCharme lit a candle in memory of Joann R. Fisher



Hope DuCharme - August 08, 2010 at 11:12 PM

PB

“ Mom Fisher was the best teacher I had through high school - at the time she scared the heck out of me and I thought she was too hard on me - but I learned more from her than anyone else - and today (35 years later) I speak of her often with other classmates with great fondness.

Pamela Beckford - August 06, 2010 at 06:51 PM

RC

“ It was sad to hear about Joanne's death today, but as I read her obituary, I was pleasantly surprised to learn she lived to age 82. My concept of those with cerebral palsy has been one of a short life span, and the sources I found indicate a normal lifespan of 30 to 60 years for those making it to adulthood. Obviously she outlived the norm, which is a testament to the toughness she often exhibited during her time as a teacher.

As one of her throng of high school students, class of '62, I was one of many who enjoyed her uniqueness in both a physical and cerebral sense. She showed us early in our student/teacher relationship the importance of looking beyond the surface to grasp the reality inside. As with so many others, she really did have an influence on my grasp of the english language, and opening my eyes and mind to life itself.

My sincere condolences go out to her family in this time of their loss. God bless them and Joanne.

Richard Coyle, HHS Class of '62

Richard Coyle - August 06, 2010 at 10:54 AM



“ lit a candle in memory of Joann R. Fisher



August 06, 2010 at 02:24 AM



Larry
McCray

“ No one could ever forget being in Mom Fisher's class. I can still see her beating her head on the chalkboard when we did something not so brilliant. No one challenged me more to learn than she did. The students of today could use more Mom Fishers. Through it all you knew she loved her students. Deepest sympathies to her family and I certainly will never forget her.

Larry McCray
Huntington High Class 1969

Larry McCray - August 05, 2010 at 10:34 PM



MN

“ Mother Fisher brought literature to life, and made class both entertaining and challenging. She made a believer out of me, and I went on to become a Literature major in college. What a kind, wonderful person she was. I feel blessed to have known her.

Matt Neff

Matt Neff - August 05, 2010 at 06:56 PM

RH

“ I'm so sad to hear of the loss of Mom Fisher. Aside from a special fondness for my kindergarten teacher, by far, Mom was my favorite throughout school. She inspired me in ways that still touch my life...literature, the classics, poetry. To this day, *How Green Was My Valley* is my favorite novel, brought to life by this amazing teacher.

I will never forget the first day of 11th grade English, the bell rings, the door opens, and in walks this little lady with horned rimmed glasses, her gait swaying from side to side, due to Cerebral Palsy, as we later learned. I've often wondered if this was her customary way of introducing herself to her class on the first day of school, to great effect, I might add. She definitely had our attention. "My name is Mrs. Fisher...but you may call me Mom. Now, please open Macbeth to page one..."

My deepest sympathy to Mom Fisher's family. She was an extraordinary person, teacher and mentor. She touched the lives of so many people and her memory lives on inside all of us, her children. I will never forget her.

*Rachelle Lahr Hempel
Huntington North High School Class of '76*

Rachelle Hempel - August 05, 2010 at 02:09 PM

 Ginger
Breggin

“ This wonderful teacher helped to nurture a life long love of writing and thoughtful examination of life~ God Bless her for all the gifts she has given to others.

Ginger Breggin - August 05, 2010 at 11:13 AM



“ *Fond memories of a GREAT teacher that truly enriched many lives....direct and to the point was my most vivid collection of Mrs. Fisher.....she would always "challenge" us on the next journey in our young lives. As we were the 1st senior class (circa, 1970)graduating with the (then) newly constructed & inhabited High School, I had such admiration for her as she navigated herself through what seemed (at the time) such a large and cavernous space (at least in comparison to our old "digs").....Sweet dreams, Mrs. Fisher !!*

John Amick - August 04, 2010 at 11:10 PM



“ *Mother Fisher, we all loved her at school. I had an extra bonus of living next door to Mrs. Fisher, she was always welcoming and kind to us as we were growing up. She has definitely left her mark on the lives of my kids that was lucky enough to have her as their teacher.*

Carla Rock - August 03, 2010 at 08:06 AM