

# JoAnn Graul



October 24, 1931 ~ July 28, 2021

The unforgettable Jo Ann Graul passed away peacefully in her home on July 28th, surrounded by her loving family.

She is preceded in death by her husband Joseph W. Graul, her daughter Lisa Pence, and her parents Ruth and Lester Cox. She is survived by her children Fred Graul (Faye), Jean Henderson, Susan Ricks (Layton) and Leslie Graul (Cindi); by her grandchildren Carrie, Brett, Nancy, Layci, David, Trevor, Leslie II., Angela, April, Lance, Barry and Patrick; by her great-grandchildren Addison, Jake, Kamryn, Cannon, Graham, Londyn and Mason; and by her sisters Betty Eichkorn (Bill), Kay Belchamber and Judy Heggie.

She was born on October 24th, 1931 in Oakland, CA. Her husband's work eventually settled her in Denham Springs, a town she loved and embraced with her whole heart. A firm believer in life-long learning, Jo Ann was a favorite substitute teacher at Denham Springs High School for 35 years and a Livingston Parish Library member and Board President for 30 years. She was a devoted member of the Garden Club and the Book Club, and was an avid bowler for many years.

Jo Ann loved to travel. She visited cities around the world, collecting stories and leaving good memories wherever she went. Her exuberance and zest for life were obvious and contagious. Her larger-than-life personality always lit up any room – she was a beacon of confidence and joy.

She was a Christian and member of the First Methodist Church of Denham Springs. More than anything, though, Jo Ann was a strong and loving matriarch. Her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were blessed to know her love and wisdom. She was a living example that love is never diminished, even when it is given to so many. She will be missed more than words can express.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the faculty and staff at Denham Springs High School (1000 N. Range Ave.) or to the First Methodist Church of Denham Springs (316 Centerville St. NW).

A celebration of her life will be held at a later date.