



Reverend Stephanie D. Johanpeter

December 31, 1945 - May 27, 2023

Reverend Stephanie D. Johanpeter, age 77 of Mattoon, IL, peacefully passed away surrounded by her loving family on Saturday, May 27, 2023, at 11:19 p.m. at her home at Brookstone Estates.

The funeral in her honor will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, June 2, 2023, at the First Baptist Church, 1804 South Ninth Street in Mattoon. Pastor Dennis Strawn will officiate with the assistance of Pastor Pat Murphy. A committal service will follow at Pleasant Grove Cemetery in Cooks Mills. The visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. until the time of service at the church. Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, is in charge of services.

Stephanie was born on December 31, 1945, in St. Louis, MO to the late Emmons Harold and Margaret Elizabeth (Petersdorf) Dorn. After her parents passed away at a young age, Stephanie and her two siblings were adopted by her late uncle and aunt, Russell E., and Margaret Elizabeth (Barney) Dorn. Stephanie married David B. Johanpeter on February 3, 1968, at Salvator UCC Church in St. Louis, MO; he survives and resides in Mattoon. Other survivors include their three children, Brian P. Johanpeter and wife Michelle of Lisle, IL, Lara E. Johnson and husband Doug of Aurora, IL, Loren D.J. Baxter and wife Heidi of Fort Worth, TX; seven grandchildren: Arielle Johanpeter, Tori Poulter, Mayla Johanpeter, James Johnson, Kaleb Johanpeter, Tyler Johnson, Robert Baxter; and one brother, Gaylord and wife Carol of Smyrna, TN. She is preceded in death by her twin brother, Stephen C. Dorn.

Stephanie worked as a nurse in the emergency department at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center in Mattoon for numerous years. However, always a woman of faith and devout member of the First Baptist Church of Mattoon since 1974, Stephanie felt a calling from God to pursue a life in ministry. With encouragement from her husband, Stephanie attended Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, KS and obtained her Master of Divinity in 2003. She served in various interim pastoral positions in central Illinois until she was called to be the pastor at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Cooks Mills, where she served for 10 years. Active in many organizations within the church, Stephanie was especially pleased to serve with the American Baptist Women ministries, was an ardent supporter of International Ministries (missions) and was also involved with the Lake Benton Family Camp for 25 years. She had a special relationship with her prayer partners, Kathie Early, Shirley Rogers and the late Helen Murphy. Together they shared faith and fellowship, and the time they spent together was treasured.

Stephanie enjoyed crocheting, reading, crafts, and cooking. With an impressive knack for vegetable gardening, Stephanie's green thumb provided an abundance of meals for her family. She had an admirable charm and personality that touched numerous lives.

Leaving a legacy of liveliness, faith, and determination, Stephanie will be sorely missed but lovingly remembered.

Memorials in her honor may be made to the First Baptist Church of Mattoon, Illinois, or International Ministries at www.internationalministries.org.

Please visit www.mitchell-jerdan.com or www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome to light a virtual candle in her honor or share a memory with the family.

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Grove Cemetery

Cooks Mills, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 2. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church
1804 S 9th Street
Mattoon, IL 61938

Service

JUN 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church
1804 S 9th Street
Mattoon, IL 61938

Tribute Wall



“ Reverend Stephanie D. Johanpeter

October 08, 2023 at 07:40 PM



“ My dear, dear friend. Stef and I went to high school together. We were "church friends" most of all. We would go to the local funeral home at 4:00 on Saturday afternoons, go to church, and arrange flowers for our Youth Church the next morning. Then we would sit down at the piano. Stef would play the left hand, I the right, and we would play and sing hymns together. This is a precious memory for me. I was so proud of Stef when she graduated from nursing school. I still think her nursing pin is the most beautiful of any I have ever seen. When I went away to college, we made a deal that her twin and I would look out for one another and she and my twin would do the same. Steve and I kept our part of the bargain. She has been my "personal nurse" throughout my life. I will miss her love and great sense of humor. I look forward to her greeting me at Heaven's gates some day.

My deepest sympathies to Dave, Brian, Lara, Loren, and all of her grandchildren.

Kathy Silber - May 31, 2023 at 10:09 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Reverend Stephanie D. Johanpeter.

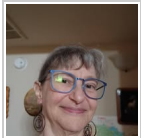


May 31, 2023 at 06:58 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Reverend Stephanie D. Johanpeter.

May 31, 2023 at 06:58 PM



“ Stephanie joined the few of us, and blessed our Thanksgiving Day meal. Her sermons and sharing of the Word were always so deeply meaningful.



Jeanette Kercheval - May 31, 2023 at 11:42 AM



“ 56 files added to the album Life Tributes



Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home - May 31, 2023 at 11:29 AM

KH

“ *Pastor Jo was the reason I decided to get baptized. She was always there for me and my family and made me feel safe and loved. She truly was the best, and I’ll miss her dearly.* ”



Karlie Hamilton - May 30, 2023 at 08:42 PM

CG

“ *I was so sorry to learn of Stephanie’s death. She was such a gracious, lively presence in all her endeavors. Wishing God’s deepest blessings to the whole family.* ”

Cheri Grizzard - May 30, 2023 at 08:17 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Reverend Stephanie D. Johanpeter.* ”



May 30, 2023 at 05:06 PM

SM

“ *Stephanie was so good to our entire family. So sorry to hear of her passing. All of us will deeply miss her.* ”

Steve Matheny - May 30, 2023 at 02:15 PM

BM

Prayers to her family.

Barbara McKenzie - May 30, 2023 at 05:03 PM

DH

Pastor Jo was an amazing woman of God. She had a quick wit, words of encouragement and a smile for seemingly everyone. My sincerest condolences to her friends and family, she is already missed, but she is now safe & whole at home with God. Amen and Hallelujah!

Dean Horsley - June 01, 2023 at 04:11 AM

JU

David, I just heard about Stef, we are so sorry, sending prayers for all..

Judy - December 13, 2023 at 09:03 PM