

# **Joan Marie Montgomery Burns**

MAY 22, 1936 - AUG 18, 2020

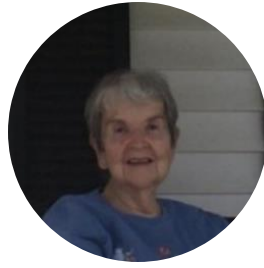


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FUNERAL HOME  
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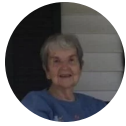
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# Joan Marie Montgomery Burns

MAY 22, 1936 - AUG 18, 2020

**M**rs. Joan Marie Montgomery Burns, 84, went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 in the Village at Riverview in Barboursville, WV. Mrs. Burns is preceded in death by her father, Leonard Lee Montgomery, her mother, Nellie Mae Foster Montgomery, her brother, Leonard Lee Montgomery, Jr., and her husband, Mr. Richard Burns. She is survived by her four children: Richard and Linda Burns of Lavalette, WV, Terry (Miller) and Robert Ramsey of Prattville, AL, Ellen and Rae Bland of Pittsboro, NC, and Alan and Jeanette Burns of Culloden, WV; eight grandchildren: Zach and Sarah Burns, Matthew (Jessi) and Jeremy (Jes) Miller, Tristan Bland, and Erin (David Keffer), Andrew (Taylor) and Erica Burns; and five great-grandchildren: Conley, Sloane, and Teagan Miller (Matthew), Harper Miller (Jeremy) and Margot Burns-Keffer (Erin). Joan was born May 22, 1936, in Cedar Grove, WV. She was the daughter of a coal miner and a housewife and lived in a tightly knit coal mining community. On her sixteenth birthday, Joan graduated from Montgomery High School, as she had been double promoted twice. She then attended Marshall College (University) from 1952 until 1955. While home on a weekend, she met Richard Burns at West Virginia University of Technology. They married in June, 1955. Joan Marie began her teaching career in Lincoln County, West Virginia, in a one room schoolhouse. The nineteen year old rode the bus to a certain point, walked two 2 miles each way, and taught grades one through eight. Joan and Richard then moved to Proctorville, Ohio, where Richard became the band director at Fairland schools. Joan substituted at Fairland quite a bit until she finished her BA degree from Marshall in 1968. She first taught Social Studies at FHS, however, it soon became apparent that her expertise in teaching higher level math was her true calling. She began teaching courses including precalculus, trigonometry, analytic geometry, limits and functions. When computers first became available, Mrs. Burns taught herself computer science and programming and began teaching her students



## Obituary

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how to write programs. Upon retiring, she taught at Marshall University for two years. Nearly every student she taught has remarked that she was their favorite teacher. She was fun, but most importantly, knew how to break everything down so that any problem could be solved. She taught from her heart and sincerely loved teaching. Joan was also a mother of four children, whom she loved unconditionally and supported throughout their lives. She attended every local event in which any of the four, and often her grandchildren were involved, including band, basketball, volleyball, and football games, concerts, plays and musicals, dance recitals, and many more activities. When Joan Marie Montgomery Burns retired from teaching, one of the best teachers to walk the halls of Fairland High School was sorely missed. When she retired from this world, heaven received a true angel with a sweet, pure heart. She was always kind to everyone and will truly be missed from this earth. She has touched the heart of all who knew her. Funeral service will be conducted 11 a.m. Saturday, August 22, 2020 at Hall Funeral Home and Crematory, Proctorville, Ohio. Burial will follow Montgomery Memorial Park, London, WV. Visitation will be held 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, August 21, 2020 at the funeral home. Condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.ehallfuneralhome.com](http://www.ehallfuneralhome.com). Visitation HALL FUNERAL HOME

Friday, August 21, 2020

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

625 COUNTY ROAD 775 PROCTORVILLE, Ohio 45669

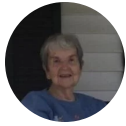
Directions Funeral Service HALL FUNERAL HOME

Saturday, August 22, 2020

11:00 AM

625 COUNTY ROAD 775 PROCTORVILLE, Ohio 45669

Directions



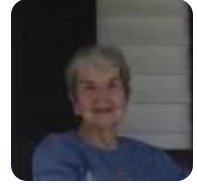
# Tribute Wall

**Joan Marie Montgomery Burns**

MAY 22, 1936 - AUG 18, 2020



**Schneider-Hall Funeral Home** shared an album called **Obituary Wall.**



November 20 at 2:00 PM



**Schneider-Hall Funeral Home** lit a candle in honor of Joan.



July 27 at 8:00 PM

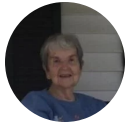


**Terry Burns** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Alan, I know you are not on FB. Here is my post. PLEASE PASS THIS ALONG!!! As many of you know, my mother, Mrs. Joan Burns, passed away on August 18, 2020. However, her legacy remains forever in the hearts of her former students and all who knew her. Whether it was higher level math, or computer programming, her students always excelled due to her love of teaching and gentle ways. Many of you were unable to attend her funeral or to say goodbye to this beloved teacher and friend. Therefore, to honor her memory, a ONE TIME scholarship has been established in her name. It will be awarded at graduation in 2021 to the graduating senior with the highest GPA in math who is attending an institute of higher education. Mom would be so honored with this memorial to her. All monies for this scholarship will come from DONATIONS from her friends, colleagues, former students, or any person or organization who wishes to honor this very special person. Thank you in advance for your donation. Any amount would be appreciated. PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO FAIRLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT 228 PRIVATE DRIVE 10010 PROCTORVILLE, OH 45669 You should indicate on the memo line that it is for the Joan Burns scholarship. The treasurer, Ms. Loretta Wirzfeld, will mail you a receipt for tax purposes. Or, if you wish to use a debitcredit card, please call the high school at 740.886.3250. Please remember to indicate that the money is intended for the Joan Burns Scholarship. Scholarships are awarded in May. I would like to thank Ms. Loretta Wirzfeld, Treasurer for Fairland Schools, for her assistance.



August 19 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Joan Marie Montgomery Burns**

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DH

**Dee And Beth Heinz** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Dear Burns Family, We were very saddened to learn of Joan's death. She was a special Christian lady, and the math teacher for all three of our children (Chris, Karin and Erich). They all thought she was a great teacher. She leaves quite a legacy, and influenced many young lives over the years. Our heartfelt sympathy to all of you.

August 30 at 8:00 PM



BB

**Brenda Boggs** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Dear Terry and family, So sorry to hear about Mrs. Burns. My deepest condolences.

August 23 at 8:00 PM



JB

**Jennifer Stewart Baumgardner** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

I graduated in 1990 from Fairland and had her for math and computer classes. I just found out a few minutes ago, and the world has lost an amazing lady. Sweet, nice, caring, friendly, fun, smart and I could go on. I want to send my condolences to her family. Can't think of any words that fully describe her other than 'Best Teacher ever' and 'Best Person Ever'.

August 22 at 8:00 PM



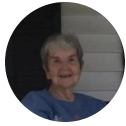
SS

**Shelli (Bunting) Swail** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

I heard the sad news today of her passing and it crushed my heart. I had Mrs. Burns for 3 years in high school and without a doubt, she was my absolute favorite teacher. She was the most kind, caring and patient teacher that I had ever known. It always amazed me how patient she was. And like someone had said above, she did always talk to you as if you were the only one in the room and explained any problem in simpler terms until you understood it. She was certainly one of a kind and so very special to me. I still have her recommendation letter that she had typed out for me to include with my college application, and it was so thoughtful and kind that I will keep it and cherish it forever. My grandparents also live on Scott Drive and it'll be very sad now to pass by her house. To all of her family, you were blessed to have her in your life because I know that she made each and every one of you feel so loved and special. She made me and so many students feel the same way. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

August 22 at 8:00 PM





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CM

**Connie Gorby Mays** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

There are no words to express how much Mrs. Burns meant to me. Yes, she was my math teacher, but she was so much more. She gave me the confidence to face challenging situations. She showed us all how to work hard to reach our goals and to be proud of our accomplishments. She was never too busy for a question or to tired to be encouraging. Years after high school, when I was lucky enough to see her, she always took the time to catch up a little and leave me with a smile. I only hope she knew how much she gave to so many. Thank you Mrs. Burns.

August 21 at 8:00 PM



JE

**James R Eaton** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

thanks for the memories

August 20 at 8:00 PM



WR

**Walter Rutledge** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

I graduated in 1979 from FHS and she was the BEST teacher I ever had. She was able to put all math problems in common terms allowing me to understand and to enjoy being in her class. She was the inspiration for our senior class to donate money to get computers for the high school. Please accept my condolences and prayers.

August 20 at 8:00 PM



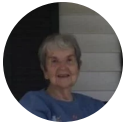
CB

**Charles And Sheila Burns** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

We were blessed to have Joan as our sister in law and aunt to our children. We always loved her because of her kindness and love to us all our lives. She was always the loveliest, most accepting, caring lady who shared loving smiles and conversations with all who were blessed to know her. She was such a family person and loved her children so very much. The world will miss Joans' kindness and smile, she was a wonderful person and many people were blessed to know her.

August 20 at 8:00 PM





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KB

**Katie Bonnett** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

My sincerest sympathy to all of you. Joan was a wonderful person and a great teacher. All of my now grown children (Brian, Amy and Jill) always said she was their favorite teacher. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Katie Bonnett

August 20 at 8:00 PM



RT

**Rusty Thornburg** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Mrs. Burns was my Algebra teacher in the... ahem... late '80s. It wasn't my best subject grade wise, but she was always willing to help. Mrs. Burns was the epitome of educators! She will be greatly missed.

August 20 at 8:00 PM



BC

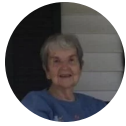
**Byron Chevront** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Mrs. Joan Burns was my High School Math Teacher for both 11th and 12th grads, I was a 1970 graduate. She taught me more about mathematics that I could have ever imagined learning. She made it exciting, fun and a challenge. She was one of my favorite teachers that I ever had and that includes my Marshall University years.

She was warm, kind, caring, compassionate and made every one of her students feel like they were special each and every time she spoke, it was if she was talking just to you. The last time I saw Mrs. Burns was at the Home Depot in Huntington, WV, when I was up visiting my Mother and we ran into her. I hadn't seen her in more than 40 years and she made it seem like it was yesterday, even remembering a special math project that I had worked with her on while in High School. How many teachers could even remember your work 40 years later, Mrs. Burns could and I loved her dearly. To all of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, you all have my deepest condolences. My thoughts and prayers are here with you during this most difficult time. I loved you Mrs. Burns! Then, now and forever!

August 19 at 8:00 PM





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LS

**Linda Schneider** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Joan was my Algebra 2 and Geometry teacher at Fairland High School in the late 60's. Joan was my neighbor on Scott Drive. Joan was the mother of two of my siblings' best friends (Rob - Ellen and Tim - Allen. Joan was my co-worker when I went to teach at FHS in 1983. She nurtured me as a teacher, and as always, led the way by her example. At some time during the FHS days a group of us began going for dinner the first Thursday of each month. I've been retired for 13 years, so I'm guessing this was 15 or more years ago. Joan became my friend. What a beautiful woman! What a beautiful story! From a one room school house to one of the most beloved teachers in our community's history! She touched so many lives in the most positive ways! She is one of my life's treasures. Godspeed, Joan! You've earned your wings! Love & hugs to Richard, Terry, Ellen, Allen, and families! You are her legacy!



August 20 at 8:00 PM

RW

**Robin Hayes Webb** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Ellen, your Mom was a gracious lady. There's little I can say that will take your sadness away. I was sorry to find out about her passing. She brightened our math classes and you know I needed all the help I could get.



August 19 at 8:00 PM

SS

**Suzanne Schultz Shriver** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

It isn't possible to find words to describe Joan Burns. All the superlative words are not enough. I'm grateful for the ways she blessed my life as my teacher, and later as my colleague. She left so much kindness in the world on her journey through life. Thank you, Mrs. Burns



August 19 at 8:00 PM

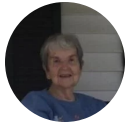
LH

**Laura Hazelett** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

I taught at Fairland High School for 10 years with Joan. Wonderful Teacher. Wonderful Woman.



August 19 at 8:00 PM



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DA

**David Anuskiewicz** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Dear Burns Family, My thoughts and prayers are with you in this sorrowful time. What a wonderful obituary! I have many fond memories of Proctorville, Fairland, and Scott drive. Mrs. Burns was a wonderful teacher and lady! May God bless her and all of your family! Sincerely, Dave Anuskiewicz

August 19 at 8:00 PM



AC

**Amy Lynch Cooke** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Ms Burns was by far my very favorite teacher. My favorite memory is her 3 mistakes rule. If we found 3 mistakes in her teaching, we could have the rest of the class off and I think no homework. It kept us very attentive. Only 1 time did we find 3 mistakes and I still remember her smile and laugh about it. She didn't give us the rest of the time off but let us work together on our homework. I will always remember what a wonderful lady and Christian she was. Prayers for her children, grandchildren, and great grands. I think all who knew her is feeling sadness over losing such a wonderful person.

August 19 at 8:00 PM



KP

**Keith Petrie** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Terry, Ellen, and Family Please know that you and yours are in my thoughts during this difficult time. Ms. Burns was such an amazing lady who played an instrumental part in not only my youth, but the lives of the multitudes of young people she touched through her classrooms in Lincoln County, Fairland High School, and MU. Always willing to take time to spend with each child student, you mother demonstrated the highest degree of professionalism, compassion, respect and kindness which all educators aspire to provide. I am a better person for knowing your parents and especially your mother. Fly high, Ms. Burns, fly high with the angles.

August 19 at 8:00 PM



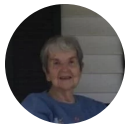
LL

**Lynda Logan** lit a candle in honor of Joan.

Dear Richard, so sorry to learn of your Mother's passing. Mothers are very special to each of us. Praying that God will continue to comfort you and the Family as you walk through the coming days, weeks and months, remembering all that your Mother meant to all of you. Lynda Sue and ED

August 19 at 8:00 PM





## Media

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**Schneider-Hall Funeral Home** shared a photo to the **Obituary Wall** album.

November 20 at 2:00 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Joan by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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