



Arlene M. (Johnson) Bush

May 17, 2015

Arlene Mae Bush (nee Johnson) of Bloomington passed away peacefully Sunday May 17, 2015. She was born in Odin, MN on July 5th, 1931 to Arthur and Margaret.

Arlene graduated co-Valedictorian from West High School in Minneapolis and attended the U of M where she met the love of her life, Jack Henry Bush. They married on December 16th, 1950. Arlene was a devoted Navy wife and they spent their first 4 years of marriage living in San Francisco. Residents of Bloomington since 1957, Arlie Mae & Handsome Jack proudly raised their six daughters in a home full of love and laughter.

Arlene was a devoted member of Christ the King Lutheran Church for 58 years. Among her many Church involvements, she served as Church Council President and sang in the choir up until her final month.

In 1981, she was elected to the Bloomington School Board and tirelessly served for 33+ years. Her tenure is one of the longest in the state. She spent thousands of hours at meetings and loved every minute. Most notably, Arlene was a fierce advocate of Bloomington students. She attended sporting events, plays, pep fests, musicals, concerts, and ceremonies celebrating the young people of Bloomington. She did not need to know a student personally to enjoy and support youth activities.

Above all else, Arlene was a devoted mother and grandmother. She loved to spend time with her family; proven by treating her entire extended family to several tropical vacations so they could all be together, form strong family bonds, and create lasting memories. She loved to laugh, sing, dance, travel, support the Minnesota Twins, and was always the life of the party.

Arlene is survived by daughters Kathy (Eric) Larson, Susie (Tom) Schway, Penny (Dave) Mjolsness, Missy (Russ) Wilbur, Sandy (Bruce) Conner, and Jenny (Jim) Schoofs; Grandchildren Mike (Jackie) Larson, Tracy (Ray) Ogren, Charlie Schway, Jack Schway, Alex (Kelli) Mjolsness, Britta Mjolsness, Andrew Mjolsness, Valerie (Justin) Boelter, Joe Pike, Elliott Conner, Maggie Conner, Wyatt Conner, Hope Buddenhagen, and Paige Buddenhagen; Great-grandchildren Hunter and Lily Larson, Khloe and Lucy Ogren, and Baby Boelter; many cousins and countless friends.

She is preceded in death by her loving husband Jack and granddaughter Melanie Wilbur Pike.

Visitation: Washburn-McCreavy funeral home (Bloomington) on Tuesday May 19th from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Memorial Service: Christ the King Lutheran Church (Bloomington) on Wednesday May 20th at 4:00 pm. A one hour visitation will precede the service. Private Interment: at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

It was Arlene's wish for memorials to go to the Christ the King Foundation and/or the Bloomington Public Schools Foundation.

Tribute Wall

VR

“ *Arlene's vitality, passion for her community and students, willingness to work tirelessly to bring about positive change and acceptance of all of us was unmatched! I had the honor of working with her through school boards and their organizations (especially MSBA and AMSD) starting in 1990. She was a mentor and a friend! She will be missed, but her work will live on! I count myself lucky to have known her.*

*Vicki Roy
Burnsville*

Vicki Roy - May 20, 2015 at 01:24 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Arlene M. (Johnson) Bush.*



May 20, 2015 at 10:29 AM



“ *Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Arlene M. (Johnson) Bush.*



May 19, 2015 at 03:10 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Arlene M. (Johnson) Bush.



May 19, 2015 at 11:47 AM



“ Where do I start with sharing memories - there are so many fun ones. I spent many years with Arlene, serving together on the Board of the Minnesota School Boards Association, and her commitment to public education and kids was always at the core of her work. She was a champion "schmooser", and a wonder to watch at events. She truly enjoyed life and people, and most of all her family. I remember being awed by her stories of her many adventures with her grandchildren - they truly kept her young. Arlene is one of those "forever young" people. She's someone who will always have a special place in my heart, and someone whose zest for life I want to emulate.

Becky Montgomery

Former President, MN School Boards Association

Former Chair and member, Saint Paul School Board

Becky Montgomery - May 19, 2015 at 11:43 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Arlene M. (Johnson) Bush.



May 19, 2015 at 10:42 AM

DT

“ Dear Bush family~we are lifting you up in prayer during these days of saying goodbye to your wonderful Mom and Grandmother. Arlene was one of the most incredibly supportive and encouraging people in our lives while at Christ the King Lutheran Church. She was always so interested in our daughters and their activities. She and our Sarah recently chatted at a fundraiser and Sarah immediately texted us with that news of seeing Arlene. Her courage, resiliency, joy and love will live on through you and all that knew her! We are grateful for her stamp on our lives!

With our love~Pastor Tim Tengblad, Doree Du Toit, Sonja and Sarah Tengblad

Doree Du Toit - May 19, 2015 at 10:31 AM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Arlene M. (Johnson) Bush.



May 19, 2015 at 10:13 AM

LC

“ Hi Sue and Family,
Condolences to you and your family.

Sincerely,

*Liza and Rey Contreras
Thomson Reuters - Manila Office*

Liza Contreras - May 18, 2015 at 10:28 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Arlene M. (Johnson) Bush.*



May 18, 2015 at 12:21 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Arlene M. (Johnson) Bush.*



May 18, 2015 at 10:52 AM