



Gloria Ann McCann

October 28, 1928 - April 5, 2025

When Gloria Ann (Youngdale) McCann was born on October 28, 1928 on a farm in East Chain, Minnesota, her three older siblings-Virginia, Robert, and Dawn-were sent over to the neighbor's, and Bob remembered how he came home and saw her, a sweet little baby, wrapped up and sitting on the kitchen table! By the time Gloria started school, her father had bought an apartment building and started a painting contractor company. Her family of 6 lived in the semi-basement apartment, which allowed no children, except his own four, but she always said she had a happy childhood and enjoyed ice-skating and playing jacks, often with Dawn or friends.

Gloria thrived academically at school, starting before age 5, and by junior high school, she was co-editor of "The Phillipian" newspaper, elected President of the Phillips Chapter of the National Honor Society, and played the lead role in the school play. Gloria grew up at Simpson Methodist Church and accepted Jesus in their junior high youth league program. During high school, Gloria cut back her extra school activities to work at a Five and Dime store, earning spending money for more clothes, etc. Although told by a teacher that she had the talent to go to college, because she was a "depression baby," she (and her siblings) did not, but she always said she would have loved to have been a second-grade teacher.

After high school, Gloria became a secretary, working some for decades. She

enjoyed both water skiing and snow skiing in her young adult years. She always said, "I never took a lesson in my life" (like piano or swimming). Later, after meeting the love of her life, Joseph E. McCann in California, they had two children, Steven and Cheryl, and settled in Mankato, MN to raise their family, becoming active members of Grace Lutheran Church. Gloria liked playing cards, and she and her bridge partner were quite competitive! She always cherished her own family, her siblings and their families, her parents as they aged, and her many friends.

Gloria was thrilled when she became a grandma at age 69! She loved playing "patty cake" and holding each of her 3 grandbabies-Laura, Michelle, and Jason-and played a significant role in their lives. She attended nearly all their school events, all their family birthday parties (and always gave small "un-birthday gifts" to the siblings), all their high-school graduations and her granddaughters' weddings. In her retirement years, she and Joe would take vacations to CA to see relatives or to Mexico to relax. Weekly for over 20 years, Steve enjoyed dining out, watching old movies, and playing cards with her. Gloria was devoted to her weekly Bible study at Wooddale Church for over 2 decades, becoming close friends with 3 other ladies. At age 89, she transitioned to an independent-living apartment in Roseville to be closer to Cheryl to receive more help; she often played games with her daughter and grandkids, always being a good sport but reveling with arms raised if she won! Gloria had a sense of humor and delighted in hearing and telling jokes. Her favorite word was "magnanimity," which she displayed with grace, even in her 90s, always being thankful for any time she had with her loved ones. As her friend described Gloria after her death, she was always an "upbeat" lady, looking at her blessings and trusting in God, even in the days leading up to her death. She had a wonderful smile, contented and sweet personality, and was cherished by many.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 13. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Shoreview Chapel
515 Highway 96 West
Shoreview, MN 55126

Funeral Service

APR 13. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Shoreview Chapel
515 Highway 96 West
Shoreview, MN 55126

Reception

APR 13. 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (CT)

Shoreview Chapel
515 Highway 96 West
Shoreview, MN 55126

Graveside Service

APR 17. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Fort Snelling National Cemetery
7601 34th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450

Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Funeral Service for Gloria Ann McCann in memory of Gloria Ann McCann



Washburn-McReavy - April 07, 2025 at 06:39 PM

JL

“ I have many fond memories of holidays with Aunt Gloria. She was my mother, Dawn’s, younger sister. She always had a positive attitude, a smile on her face and a knock, knock joke to share. When our youngest went off to college, Aunt Gloria encouraged me to make breakfast for my husband. Previously, with five children in the home, breakfast was a busy time getting everyone off to school, etc. I took her advice, Clary and I started having breakfast together, praying for each of our children and their spouses and now our grandchildren. We also began listening to “Our Daily Bread” starting the day in God’s Word.

Over the years I enjoyed many phone calls with Aunt Gloria. She asked for updates on our kids and grandkids and shared with me about how her week was going. She always ended the conversation by saying “and say hello to your handsome husband.” As I think back on these things, I realized she was encouraging me to invest in my marriage! Clary also would ask, “Did Aunt Gloria have any message for me?” He loved hearing that greeting about my handsome husband lol.

Steve, Cheryl and family, it was a blessing to watch how you tenderly cared for your mother over these last few years and especially the last couple of months. We send our heartfelt love and prayers, that our Lord will comfort you and give you his grace and peace during this time. Gloria will be dearly missed, but we are so thankful she is resting safely with Jesus her Savior.
Love in Christ, Judy and Clary Larson

Judy Larson - April 22, 2025 at 10:49 PM

“ Laura Bankers Nana Memorial April 13, 2025

Good afternoon, everyone. I'm Laura, Gloria's granddaughter, and I just wanted to thank you all so much for being here to honor and celebrate the life of our beloved Nana McCann. I'm sure you'll hear it mentioned several times today that Nana's favorite word was "magnanimous", which is defined as "generous and forgiving". Though she joked it was her favorite because it included the word "nana", she was a wonderful example of magnanimity and impressed those values on us as well. The Latin roots for the word magnanimous are "great soul", and I can't think of more fitting words to describe Nana's big hearted generosity, openness, and positivity. She was an incredible grandma, keeping boxes of special Barbie dolls for us to play with as kids, making us delicious Eggo waffles with unlimited syrup and butter, and always sent us with twistie-tied snack bags for the drive home. Every time she gave us a present, she would remind us that we "had to PRETEND to like it", which was never actually needed since we loved the things she got us, but taught us an important lesson about how to be mature and grateful. Being a younger, less sanctified version of myself, sometimes I would get into arguments with my siblings over something silly, like who got to use the purple Barbie mailbox when we played. I remember sulking one time and Nana reminding me to be magnanimous, which of course was the LAST thing I wanted to hear, but she was teaching me an important lesson on maturity that has stuck with me to this day. Nana's impact on those around her was profound. She showed us what it meant to walk with the Lord every day, showing forgiveness and generosity, as well as having a playful, positive outlook on life.

As an adult, I grew even more to appreciate Nana's wit and zingy sense of humor. I remember one time when my husband Chris and I were newly dating--we were all walking out of Bethel's great hall after a choir performance, when Nana sidled up to Chris, grabbed his arm, looked over at me all slyly and gloated, "I've got your BOYfriend!" (laughs) Given that next week is Easter, I've found a lot

of comfort in this time by thinking about Jesus' resurrection. We celebrate Easter because it reminds us that Jesus paid the ultimate price in his sacrifice on the cross, but he rose again, which made possible our heavenly life with him forever. Without the resurrection, we would have no hope, but we DO have hope because Jesus lives, just as Nana is living with Him now. Death was not the end for our Lord, nor was it the end for Nana. Her faith has now become sight, and we know she is more alive than ever--healthy, joyful, and reunited with the ones she's loved and missed. Though we'll feel her absence deeply, we can be comforted knowing we'll see her again. And when that day comes, I like to think she'd welcome us with a smile, a hug, and maybe even a deck of playing cards ready to deal. :)

Cheryl Voth - April 15, 2025 at 12:35 AM

CV

“ Cheryl here: My mother wrote the following poem as a welcome for her mother's 90th Birthday Party, when many relatives came to celebrate her from out of state. I think it captures the essence of her view of life:

Why God Made Families and Friends

*God made the world a wonderful place,
Blessed with beauty and filled with grace.
He made for us this special home
With mountains, forests, and fields to roam.
Then to provide the finishing touch,
He gave us people who love us so much:
Parents who care, who guide and teach;
Children with tiny hands that reach;
Brothers and sisters to always share
The tears and laughter or just be there.
God also made friends, warm memories to share,
Always ready to understand and care.
God made families and friends to help the world grow,
And His steadfast, everlasting love to show.*

~ Gloria McCann

Cheryl Voth - April 15, 2025 at 12:25 AM

MB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Michelle Blasingame - April 14, 2025 at 12:08 PM

VR

I will forever miss my aunt Gloria! I got my middle name from her. I could always count on her being there! The slideshow is put together so beautifully, in chronological order!

Valerie Romness - April 14, 2025 at 03:40 PM

KK

“ We moved to East Main in Mankato when we were 28, spending 5 years in our split level at what was then the very end of the street. Soon we were welcomed into the neighborhood. Coffees, playing cards (bridge which I had never played! Oh such patient, patient ladies!) The chain of notification about Gloria's passing reached me from Jan Langer to Pat Englund (fellow Gretchen Court alum friends). Her pix here is the Gloria of my memory--that smile, always! Who'd guess she and Jan were ferocious competitors as bridge partners! Gloria was a beloved East Main alum. Our condolences are sent to the family and her many friends. RIP, dear lady. Katy Ketcham

Katy Ketcham - April 13, 2025 at 03:02 PM

EV

“ Gloria has passed on into glory! Thank you for raising your daughter to be my wonderful wife. You will be fondly remembered by all who knew your cheerful spirit and joy of life! I was honored to be part of your life for 32 years--seeing you always magnanimous, watching your love and impact on my own children's lives (coming to all of their school events and birthday parties), helping you however I was able, losing countless games of gin rummy to your amazing skill :-), feeding you breakfasts in the hospital, and praying over you in your final days. Rest in peace, dear mother-in-law!

Eric Voth - April 11, 2025 at 10:20 PM

EE

“Your mom Gloria was kind and gentle. Mourning alongside your family; yet rejoicing that she’s with our Lord Jesus, our good shepherd. Take comfort in God’s psalm through David: “The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

elisa eesley - April 10, 2025 at 02:21 PM