



Joan Patricia Heinemann

March 17, 1928 - June 18, 2025

Joan Patricia Greig Rex Heinemann, 97, died June 18, 2025, at the NC Little Hospice Home in Edina. After being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in February, Joan chose home hospice care and then transitioned to the outstanding care at N.C. Little.

Joan, the wee lassie, was born March 17, 1928 in Indianapolis, Indiana to Mae Margaret Baughman Greig and Arthur Dawson Greig, who immigrated from Tayport, Scotland at age 18. Throughout her life, Joan's connection with her Scottish cousins remained strong with delightful visits-both in Scotland and at Joan's residence.

Joan and her family moved to Huntington, WV where she attended public school and then Marshall College (now Marshall University) earning a Bachelor's degree in Music Education. Piano and organ were her instruments. Most of her music teaching career was in the Pompano Beach, Florida public schools.

It was in Florida that Joan met Gordon Rex and they married in 1972. Gordon's sailboat and his sailing skill took them on many adventures including to Dry Tortugas National Park beyond Key West. Other fun adventures were with Mike Rex (Gordon's only child) and his young family who lived in Minneapolis.

Gordon's stroke in 1982 left Joan a widow in Florida. Mike and his wife, Debra, encouraged Joan to move to Minneapolis to be with the family-so, ever one for travel and adventure, Joan moved to Minneapolis. Joan loved being with the young family-doing all the fun grandma things with her three young grandsons.

Friends introduced Joan to Lowell Heinemann, a life-long resident of Minneapolis/St. Paul. They were married in 1986 and now Joan's family expanded to a step-daughter and three additional grandchildren. Lowell and Joan saw the world together until Lowell's death in 2010. Traveling the world- Joan rode camels and an elephant, played a river boat calliope, and, most importantly, she connected with many of the staff and service people she encountered on each trip. Joan was "notorious" for quips and kindnesses with family. Staff became good friends. Joan loved laughing and making others laugh-sometimes with a gentle humor and other times with just the right amount of sarcasm.

She continued this easy-going style with everyone at Founder's Ridge in Bloomington where Joan lived for the last five years of her life. She was absolutely loved by all the staff there.

Joan is survived by Mike Rex and his wife Debra Engquist; Peggy Coffman (niece) and her husband Doug; Douglas Greig (nephew) and wife Denise; Michelle Miller (granddaughter) and husband Alvin; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and two great great grandchildren; and several grand nieces and nephews.

Joan's life and humor will be celebrated at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Edina on Monday, June 30th with a 10:30AM visitation and an 11:00AM service.

Donations in Joan's memory may be made to N.C. Little Hospice Home.
Arrangements made through Washburn-McReavy, Edina, 952-920-3996

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
6716 Gleason Road
Edina, MN 55439

Memorial Service

JUN 30. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
6716 Gleason Road
Edina, MN 55439

Graveside Service

JUN 30. 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (CT)

Lakewood Cemetery (Minneapolis)
3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Tribute Wall

AC

“ *Deepest condolences to Joan's family. She was a wonderful lady who lived a full life, filled with love, adventure and humour*❤️

We always enjoyed her visits to Tayport in Scotland and our email correspondence over the years.

Murray, Alison, Cameron and Alexander Christie

Alison Christie - July 21, 2025 at 04:24 AM

CI

“ *Sorry I didn't learn of Joan's passing in time to attend her funeral. I've known Joan and Lowell since 1986 when I arranged their honeymoon. They became my favorite clients as they traveled the world together for 25 years and Joan continued traveling on her own another decade. Joan was a joy to help and I'll miss our conversations.*

Charlene

Charlene Ihrig - July 18, 2025 at 05:22 PM

BR

“ *Love you Aunt Joan and wishing you all the bounty, beauty, and blessings in this next leg of your evolution. May you be well, may you be peace, may you be wrapped in LOVE.*

Bree - June 27, 2025 at 08:27 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joan Patricia Heinemann.*

June 26, 2025 at 04:37 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joan Patricia Heinemann.*



June 26, 2025 at 04:37 PM



“ *♥️ to Joans family. Lowell and Joan spent many fun and enjoyable campout times and Winnehaha State rallies with our Winnebago friends.
Mike and Ann Hadel*

. **Mike and Ann** - June 22, 2025 at 09:21 PM



“ *What an amazing person and what a remarkable life. We feel so lucky that Joan was a part of our Winnebago family for so many years.
We will be celebrating the life of this wonderful woman and mourning her passing with you.
Peace and Prayers to all!
Darryl & Vicki Bonin*

Darryl Bonin - June 22, 2025 at 11:54 AM



“ *Oh my, what a wonderful woman. We met Joan & Lowell in the mid 1990's by joining the Winnebago groups in Minnesota. Always so warm and welcoming, great conversationalist. Many laughs were had during those years. Bless you all; keep those memories alive
janet & dan feeney, Coon Rapids MN*

Janet Feeney - June 22, 2025 at 10:46 AM