



Joyce Audre Franzen

October 18, 1935 - May 21, 2025

Joyce Franzen (née Devine)

Aged to perfection, Joyce Franzen flew up to heaven on May 21, 2025.

Joyce is the legendary Irish queen-once the Flame Princess for the fire department at the Minneapolis Aquatennial-with her gorgeous auburn hair and radiant presence that captivated all who met her. Her grace, warmth, and charm lit up both pageants and parties alike.

A vibrant wife, mother, grandmother, and precious "GG" (great-grandmother), Joyce's greatest joy was her family.

Joyce was a creative spirit and consummate entertainer-an accomplished pianist, church organist, and talented chef. Her home on Brunswick Ave. was the site of countless gatherings, always loud, joyful, and filled with the aromas of her legendary banana bread, infamous Christmas cookies, and unforgettable beef bourguignon.

A woman of fierce determination, wit and fun, Joyce was an avid member of the WTWM (We're Through With Men) club, surrounded by a wonderful circle of friends who shared laughter, stories, and the occasional mischievous toast. She was also a crack bridge player and golfer at Edina Country Club.

As president of Travel Joy, she explored the world with her beloved husband Rich and their children, creating memories full of laughter, culture, and adventure.

Joyce's extraordinary legacy of love, music, and family traditions live on in all who were lucky enough to know her. She was, and always will be, our queen.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years Rich, and her son Rob. She is survived by her devoted children: Denise Boczek(Terry), Michelle Linnihan(Neal), Yvonne Hoban, Rick (Marci), and daughter-in-law Sheila. Her light continues through her grandchildren: Dan, Nicole (Jared), Conor, Dominique (Matt), Scott, Grady, Gavin (Angela), Sheila (Kushal), Lucy (Christopher), Sonia, Ruby, Nadia, Chloe, and Daisy-and her treasured great-grandchildren(GG'S): Rosabelle, Lincoln, Waverley, and Alder.

The celebration of her extraordinary life will take place on Monday, June 9, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, located at 835 2nd Ave NW, New Brighton, MN 55112. Services will begin at 10:30 a.m., preceded by a gathering at 9:30 a.m. for attendees to view photos and shared memories. A luncheon will follow at the church, and the occasion will conclude with a graveside service at St. John the Baptist Cemetery.

Wear a touch of green to honor Joyce's proud Irish roots-and the twinkle that was always in her eye.

IYKYK: Dentyne

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 9. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
835 2nd Avenue NW
New Brighton, MN 55112

Mass of Christian Burial

JUN 9. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
835 2nd Avenue NW
New Brighton, MN 55112

Tribute Wall

TF

“ *The Carlson, Mayer, & Dickson Families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Joyce Audre Franzen.*



The Carlson, Mayer, & Dickson Families - June 07, 2025 at 10:22 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Joyce Audre Franzen.*



June 05, 2025 at 04:13 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joyce Audre Franzen.*

June 05, 2025 at 04:13 PM

MB

“ *Eternal rest grant unto her o Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. Keeping Aunt Joyce and all of her family in our prayers. Mark & Melissa (Franzen) Buhr & family*

Melissa J Buhr - June 04, 2025 at 06:33 AM

BC

“ Boczek, Skovbroten, Caldwell purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Joyce Audre Franzen.



Boczek, Skovbroten, Caldwell - June 02, 2025 at 07:53 PM

BC

“ Boczek, Skovbroten, Caldwell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joyce Audre Franzen.

Boczek, Skovbroten, Caldwell - June 02, 2025 at 07:53 PM

FG

“ My Mother, Mary Jo Blonigan, considered her a great friend. As Golden Valley parents they shared running children around and being active members of the community. They both were proudly Irish, faithful Mother's and active people persons who entertained. We are blessed to have been their children. Frankie of the Blonigan Bunch.

Frankie Blonigan Galka - May 29, 2025 at 01:07 PM