



## Joyce Ann Villas

April 15, 1929 - April 12, 2022

Villas, Joyce Ann age 92, went peacefully to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on April 12, 2022 in Hopkins, MN surrounded by her loving family after a lengthy battle with Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus (NPH). Survived by her loving husband of 68 years, Demetrios "Jim" Villas; children, John (Linda), Cathleen Villas-Horns (John) and Daniel (Jill); 10 grandchildren, Daniel, Joshua (Hollie), Robert (Melanie), Jacob, Rachel, Zoe (Duk), Martina, Noah, Evan and Molly; great-grandchildren, Hayden, Julianne and Myles; and many nieces, nephews and friends. Joyce was born on April 15, 1929 on a farm near Fulton, South Dakota as the third daughter of Oscar and Dot Rongstad, both of whom preceded her in death. She was preceded in death by her sisters, Jean (Harlo) Fachtelkotter and Lois (Ray) Cornish. After graduating with high honors from Plano High School in 1947, Joyce attended Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, SD, before moving to Minneapolis to work at Pillsbury Mills where she met her husband, Demetrios Villas. Joyce was an extremely loving, caring, patient and devoted mother and wife. She got her kids to music lessons and sports practices, made cookies for after school snacks, praised good report cards and listened to all of our problems. She continued this practice with her grandchildren. Her big smile and hugs always made one feel better. She was so proud of all of her family. Holidays were filled with delicious meals and gift passing games. She knew us all well enough to buy the special treats we liked, along with practical stuff such as toothpaste and aluminum foil. Joyce helped her community by being an

election judge, donating blood, volunteering at church and singing in the choir. She loved walking with friends, mysteries, puzzles, crime shows, ice cream and angels. Modest and humble, she never enjoyed being the center of attention, but was always there for everyone. We will miss her smile, her kindness and her beautiful spirit. Funeral Service 11:00AM Monday April 18th with visitation beginning at 10:00am at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, 3450 Irving Ave South, Minneapolis. There will be a luncheon following the burial. Interment Lakewood Cemetery. [washburn-mcreavy.com](http://washburn-mcreavy.com) Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

# Cemetery Details

## Lakewood Cemetery (Minneapolis)

3600 Hennepin Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church  
3450 Irving Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

## Church Service

APR 18. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church  
3450 Irving Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

# Tribute Wall

AD

“Joyce and her husband Jim invited me to visit their church during uptown's annual Greek Festival in 2006 and I have been a church-goer ever since. He and his wife were amazing joyful people bringing light into others' lives. They were very patient with me when picking me up to church every Sunday back in 2006-2007 as I was always running late. Over the years I lost contact with them only recently to find out that they both passed away. I am so sorry for their family's loss. May their memories be eternal!

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Alexei Demchouk - December 15, 2025 at 09:40 AM

KR

“Dear Villas family,(Jim, John, Cathy and Dan), I just learned of Joyce's passing and so want to add our condolences from Kristine , Paul and myself. George passed away 2 years ago and Greg unexpectedly passed away 6 months ago. I still live on Humboldt Ave. Kristine and family live in Santa Rosa, CA. Paul and his wife are in Tucson. Greg's only daughter still lives here in Minneapolis but soon relocating to Denver. I have many fond memories of our children playing together ( neighborhood kick- the -can games, bike riding, swinging on the swing set and exploring the vacant lot behind the church. Joyce and I were the watch dogs , so to speak , keeping an eye on our children and hoping all went well. If any of you are ever in the old neighborhood, please stop by for a visit. I would love to catch up. Our condolences, Kathryn Reimer

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Kathryn Reimer - May 21, 2022 at 08:46 PM

VN

“ Dear Jim and the Villas Family,  
Joyce will be remembered as a gentle angel that graced the lives of  
the people she touched.

We can take comfort in the words of Isaiah 25:8-9

"he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe  
away the tears from all faces;... The LORD has spoken. In that day  
they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he  
saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be  
glad in his salvation."

Joyce has lived a life of service and love, with humility and grace,  
and she will be missed.

With deepest sympathy,  
Vangie Nicklow and family

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**Vangie Nicklow** - April 18, 2022 at 08:48 AM

VN

“ Dear Jim and the Villas Family,  
Joyce will be remembered as a gentle angel that graced the lives of  
the people she touched.

We can take comfort in the words of Isaiah 25:8-9

"he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe  
away the tears from all faces;... The LORD has spoken. In that day  
they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he  
saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be  
glad in his salvation."

Joyce has lived a life of serve and love, with humility and grace, and  
she will be missed.

With deepest sympathy,  
Vangie Nicklow and family

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**Vangie Nicklow** - April 18, 2022 at 08:34 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joyce Ann Villas.*



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April 17, 2022 at 07:23 PM



“ *Dear Joyce Villas Family,  
Thinking of you all and remembering your dear wife, mother, Yiayia.  
May her memory be eternal!  
With love in Christ, MaryKay (Pantages) Twito*

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**MaryKay Twito** - April 17, 2022 at 03:00 PM



“ *Brian, Ruth, Alex, Eric & Sean purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Joyce Ann Villas.*



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**Brian, Ruth, Alex, Eric & Sean** - April 15, 2022 at 08:58 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Joyce Ann Villas.*



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April 15, 2022 at 04:09 PM

TA

“ *The Arnolds purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Joyce Ann Villas.*



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**The Arnolds** - April 15, 2022 at 03:58 PM

MP

“ *Dear Jim and Family - Memory Eternal for dear Joyce! What a lovely women, whom my mom loved dearly! Sending our love to you all at this time. Take Care.*

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**Mary & Louis Pappas** - April 15, 2022 at 02:02 PM

SW

“ *To Jim & family of Joyce - I am so sorry to hear of Joyce's passing. I always enjoyed working with Joyce at church functions as she was a hard worker & had so much compassion for those around her in need. My thoughts & prayers are with you! May her memory be eternal.*

*Stephanie Pappas Woolf*

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**Stephanie Pappas Woolf** - April 15, 2022 at 12:17 PM

VN

*Dear Jim and family,  
Beautiful words about a Godly woman who lovingly cared for her husband, children and family. She was an inspiration to those who knew her. She personifies Proverbs 31:10-31 these verses in particular: "Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her; Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all".*

*May her memory live eternally in our hearts.  
Vangie Nicklow*

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**Vangie Nicklow** - April 15, 2022 at 12:57 PM

KJ

“ *Kenn & Maggie Judge purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joyce Ann Villas.*



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**Kenn & Maggie Judge** - April 15, 2022 at 11:54 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joyce Ann Villas.*



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April 15, 2022 at 10:00 AM