



Marilyn Eckerle

December 20, 1945 - January 24, 2025

Marilyn Anne Eckerle, 79, of Minneapolis passed away on January 24th after a 19-month encounter with cancer.

Marilyn was born on December 20th, 1945 to Harold and Ruth Woehrle in Detroit, Michigan, before spending most of her childhood years in La Grange Park, Illinois. She graduated from Lyons Township High School in 1964 and went on to earn a degree in Special Education from the University of Michigan, graduating in 1968. The day her grade-school sweetheart, Marvin Eckerle, graduated from college, the couple married. In the midst of raising her four children, Marilyn returned to school, earning a Nursing degree from Normandale Community College and became a Registered Nurse in 1986, an occupation from which she never really retired.

Marilyn was a compassionate person who led quietly from the background and without fanfare. An exceptional caregiver, she served her immediate and extended family, friends, church family, her students with special needs, and the patients and residents of Presbyterian Homes in Bloomington where she worked for 31 years. Her heart for seniors in care centers included bringing music to them as the piano accompanist for the Richfield Silvernotes for 41 years and also as a volunteer pianist at Presbyterian Homes.

Marilyn was deeply devoted to her family and enjoyed spending as much time

as possible watching the various activities her kids and grandkids participated in, whether it was music, sports, or theater.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents; her in-laws, John and Mildred Eckerle; her brother, Donald Woehrle; her sister-in-law, Donna Woehrle; and her nephew, Tim Carmichael. She is survived by her loving husband of 56 years; her children Jennifer Malecha (Doug), Jeff (Missy) Eckerle, Judy Eckerle (Martin Greven), and Joe (Jami) Eckerle; her brother, Thomas Woehrle; her sister, Barbara Carmichael (David); her sister-in-law, Adrienne Woehrle; 10 grandchildren whom she absolutely adored; many nieces and nephews; and her beloved golden retriever, Jeter.

A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday February 15th at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis. The service will begin at 11:00am, with visitation starting before at 10:00am and a reception, including refreshments, following the service. The church parking entrance is on Alice Rainville Place. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Presbyterian Homes Foundation, Westminster Presbyterian Church or a charity of your choice, in Marilyn's name.

Tribute Wall



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marilyn Eckerle.*



February 14, 2025 at 02:01 PM



“ *We are so sorry that Marilyn our sweet neighbor has passed. Such a wonderful person who was our “across the ally” neighbor for 16 + years. I still expect to see her driving her sporty VW beetle and miss all our “what’s going on with you” conversation when she arrived home. Marilyn really loved Golden Retrievers and she had many. We are also Golden owners. Marilyn would call or text about play dates and trips to the dog park between our dogs who were good buddies. A year or two ago Marilyn texted me with an urgent request for help. Apparently, a baby bunny had fallen or jumped into her very deep window well and couldn’t get out. After some failed attempts to catch the little guy by coving him with a towel, we did a little brainstorming on a different approach. Somewhere we found a board and made an escape route. We scared him up the board to freedom. The world is a little less bright and happy without Marilyn. We will really miss her.*

Gregory Nelson - February 09, 2025 at 02:10 PM



“ Joe and all family.

On behalf of Esko, I wanted to offer our deepest condolences on the passing of Mrs. Marilyn Eckerle.

I had the pleasure of meeting Mrs Marilyn through your photos. And I have no doubt that she did her best to take care of her children.

I hope that she will always be remembered by all of you. A big hug with a lot of energy to all of you and especially to Mr. Eckerle.

Arthur Seraphim - February 07, 2025 at 12:52 PM

TL

“ My heartfelt condolences to you, Marv, and your family.

Tony Lowe - February 03, 2025 at 08:31 AM

CK

“ Marilyn became a true golden friend over the years I was so fortunate to work by her at the reception desks of Presbyterian Homes. Her pleasant, caring and efficient ways only inspired and called out the best in us all. Marilyn was a quiet, attentive servant all the time. Her musical gifts added the perfect touch to her caregiving. A most beautiful woman of grace, and will be missed by all!

Carol Kane - January 30, 2025 at 07:14 PM

BL

“ Marilyn will be missed at every performance of the Richfield SilverNotes. She was the mainstay of the group for so many years and we couldn't imagine not having her with us. She encouraged us to keep going and we will, but will miss her greatly.

Bernadine Letsche - January 29, 2025 at 09:49 AM