



## Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch

October 27, 1950 - April 12, 2021

Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch, age 70 years, a resident of Marion, Illinois and a former resident of Johnson County, passed away Monday evening, April 12, 2021, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.

Marilyn was born October 27, 1950 in Fairfield, Illinois. She was the youngest of three children of Roscoe and Charleen (Withrow) Bullock. The family moved to Goreville in 1959 and then to Dutchman Lake Road in 1963.

On May 30, 1969, Marilyn was united in marriage to James O. "Jim" Cook at Busby Chapel Freewill Baptist Church south of Goreville. He preceded her in death on August 2, 2000. Marilyn was later united in marriage to Kenneth D. Upchurch on November 4, 2006. He survives.

Marilyn is also survived by: her children – Mike (Tracey) Cook of Harrisburg and Missy (Terry) Coonce of Tunnel Hill; grandchildren – Brody (Liz) Strickland of Marion, Lucas Strickland serving in the United States Air Force and stationed at Vandenberg AFB in California, Madison (Logan) Mathis of Rolla, Missouri, Mya Cook, Madi Cook, and Courtney (Zack) Carter all of Harrisburg, Kacey (Andy) Whorton of Marion, Kaley (Armando) Amezquita of Grapevine, Texas, and K.J. Coonce of Goreville; great grandchildren – Aurora and Allo; 2 brothers-in-law – Joe (Myrle) Upchurch and Jerry (Brenda) Upchurch all of Marion; and 2 sisters-in-law – Jane Bullock and Libby Bullock;

as well as a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and many dear friends.

In addition to her parents and husband, Jim, Marilyn was preceded in death by 2 brothers – Ronnie Bullock and Byron Bullock.

Marilyn was a 1968 graduate of Vienna High School. She began her teaching career at Goreville School working as an aide in the first grade. She then was employed for 3 years at New Simpson Hill as a special education aide.

Marilyn earned a teaching degree in special education from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Beginning in 1983, Marilyn taught at Harrisburg Community Unit District # 3 until her retirement at the end of the 2009 school year. During this time, Marilyn taught in the special education department each year with the exception of one school year when she taught third grade. Marilyn and Kenny worshipped at Second Baptist Church in Marion.

She loved working puzzles, traveling, and was an avid reader. Her pride and joy, however, were her grandchildren.

A service honoring the life of Marilyn Cook Upchurch will be conducted Friday afternoon, April 16, 2021, at 1 PM at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna. Pastor Ashby Tillery and Pastor Pete Vinson will officiate.

Burial will be in the Busby Chapel Cemetery, south of Goreville.

Visitation will be held from 11 AM – 1 PM Friday at Bailey Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, 5 Schiber Port, Suite C, Maryville, IL 62062.

Those attending the visitation and funeral service are reminded to observe

customarily accepted social distancing guidelines. The wearing of a face mask or covering is strongly encouraged.

For the convenience of those unable to attend the service, it will be live-streamed on the Bailey Funeral Home Facebook page. The recorded service video will also be archived for later viewing.

# Cemetery Details

## Busby Chapel Cemetery

IL Route 37 South  
Goreville, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 16. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home  
705 North First Street  
PO Box 695  
Vienna, IL 62995  
(618) 658-2311  
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com  
<https://baileyfh.com>

## Service

APR 16. 1:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home  
705 North First Street  
PO Box 695  
Vienna, IL 62995  
(618) 658-2311  
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com  
<https://baileyfh.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *I just learned of the passing of Marilyn. She was such a pleasure to see when she came into Joyner Therapy. I will miss her smiling face and kindness. Rest sweet Marilyn.  
Jody Moore and the staff at JTS*

**JODY MOORE** - May 07, 2021 at 01:11 PM



“ *So very sorry your loss. Marilyn was such a sweet Lady and a Wonderful friend to my Mother for which I am very grateful, she is immensely missed ❤️  
Kathy & Bobby Spicer*



**Kathy & Bobby Spicer** - April 16, 2021 at 12:39 PM



“ *Dianna and I are saddened at the loss of this wonderful lady. Her family is in our prayers.*

**Larry Choate** - April 16, 2021 at 11:09 AM

BW

“ *Bill And Barb Warmack lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



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**Bill and Barb Warmack** - April 15, 2021 at 11:10 PM

DB

“ *A beautiful christian lady, who loved her family . My thoughts and prayers are with your family. #Some call it Heaven but I call it home.*

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**Donnie Blankenship** - April 15, 2021 at 08:24 PM

RB

“ *I enjoyed working with Marilyn. Our working relationship turned into a lasting friendship. My prayers to you all for God's comfort during this most difficult time. Marilyn will be missed.*

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**Renee Boots** - April 15, 2021 at 04:40 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch.*



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April 15, 2021 at 02:50 PM

TH

“ *Traci Harris-Mason lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



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**Traci Harris-Mason** - April 15, 2021 at 11:45 AM

RF

“ *Marilyn and Kenny and Tom Anna attended different gospel concerts. One in particular was Marilyn went with Tom and I to see Guy Penrod at the Marion Civic Center and we got a backstage pass and I remember when Marilyn shook hands and talked with Guy Penrod. Tom and I have lots of memories of her and Kenny when we would go out to eat and Marilyn and I would talk a lot on the phone. Wonderful lady, friendly and always had a smile on her face even when she was in pain. So very sorry for all the families loss but she is in the presence of her Lord. Tom and Rose Fields*

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**Rose Fields** - April 15, 2021 at 11:30 AM

SC

“ *Saline Ridge Missionary Baptist Church purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch.*



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**Saline Ridge Missionary Baptist Church** - April 15, 2021 at 09:04 AM

JH

“ So sorry for your loss



Jack and Jackie Harper - April 15, 2021 at 08:58 AM

SL

“ Steve&Kathy(Whiteside) Lay lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



Steve&Kathy(Whiteside) Lay - April 15, 2021 at 01:12 AM

JM

“ Janie Anderson Morris lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



Janie Anderson Morris - April 14, 2021 at 10:17 PM

LG

“ Lora Goddard lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



Lora Goddard - April 14, 2021 at 03:16 PM

MM

“ *Mary Marks lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



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**Mary Marks** - April 14, 2021 at 10:27 AM

MM

*Marilyn was such a nice person. She was a college friend of mine and we kept in touch through the years. I'm so sorry for her children and the family! May God give you comfort at this sad time.*

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**Mary Marks** - April 14, 2021 at 10:29 AM

JB

“ *Jim And Linda Biethman lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



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**Jim and Linda Biethman** - April 14, 2021 at 09:57 AM

FH

“ *Frederick And Betty Heaton lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



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**Frederick and Betty Heaton** - April 14, 2021 at 03:18 AM

SG

“ Marilyn & I have been friends since high school. She was a great person & we'll all miss her. Mike, Missy & Kenny & of course the grandchildren I'm so sorry. You are all in my prayers.



Sondra Goins - April 13, 2021 at 09:32 PM

CH

“ Cheryl Harris lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



Cheryl Harris - April 13, 2021 at 09:12 PM

GM

“ Gene McHugh sent a virtual gift in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



Gene McHugh - April 13, 2021 at 08:03 PM

AB

“ Anita L Bullock lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



Anita L Bullock - April 13, 2021 at 07:32 PM

JS

“ John Slack sent a virtual gift in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



John Slack - April 13, 2021 at 06:51 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch.



April 13, 2021 at 04:31 PM

NG

“ Nita Gulley lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



nita gulley - April 13, 2021 at 03:31 PM

NG

Always enjoyed your mom she had a beautiful voice ❤️

nita gulley - April 13, 2021 at 03:32 PM

LK

“ *Linda Koehler lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



Linda Koehler - April 13, 2021 at 03:27 PM

MM

“ *Marilyn always had a smile! Condolences to her family. Margaret and Jerry Mathis*



Margaret Mathis - April 13, 2021 at 02:58 PM

SN

“ *Sam Riley And Deb Newton lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



Sam Riley and Deb Newton - April 13, 2021 at 01:03 PM

VS

“ *Velva B Struble lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



velva B struble - April 13, 2021 at 12:24 PM

TH

“ *Tom & Paula Hendrickson lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



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**Tom & Paula Hendrickson** - April 13, 2021 at 12:17 PM

VG

“ *Our deepest condolences to Kenny and all the family. Having known Marilyn since we were young growing up on Dutchman Lake Road, the thing I'll always remember is her bubbly personality and the thoughtful, caring person she was. She will be missed by ALL who knew her.*

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**Verna Kay & David Gunther** - April 13, 2021 at 12:13 PM

NB

“ *Nancy Breeden lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



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**Nancy Breeden** - April 13, 2021 at 12:01 PM

JC

“ *My deapest sympathy,I love you all*



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**Joan Cook** - April 13, 2021 at 11:57 AM

NW

“ Neal & Carol Watkins lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



Neal & Carol Watkins - April 13, 2021 at 11:44 AM



“ Jeannie McCall lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



Jeannie McCall - April 13, 2021 at 11:44 AM

KB

“ Karen Brumley lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch



Karen Brumley - April 13, 2021 at 11:36 AM

KB

*Such a sweet lady, always smiling.*

Karen Brumley - April 13, 2021 at 11:36 AM

BR

“ *Bobby Rentfro lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



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**Bobby Rentfro** - April 13, 2021 at 11:27 AM

PS

“ *Paula Sullivan lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Kay Cook Upchurch*



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**Paula Sullivan** - April 13, 2021 at 10:59 AM

PS

*A precious friend & classmate. Lovely lady & child of God. RIP 🌸🌹*

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**Paula Sullivan** - April 13, 2021 at 11:02 AM