



Loretta Jean Krause

March 10, 2020

Jean Krause died on March 10, 2020, as she lived her life, under her own terms, at her Monroeville home, surrounded by family. Jean lived a life of profound Faith, with a foundation of limitless kindness, caring and generosity. She had a seemingly unlimited sense of adventure that led her to become a champion bowler and runner. Jean fished the rivers of Alaska, the lakes of Canada, and skydived off mountains in New Zealand. She traveled throughout the world, making lifelong friends. She was truly fearless and was the rock upon which her family endured. Loretta Jean Shafer, born in 1927, was one of eight children born to farmers Carl and Edna near Terre Haute, Indiana. Known as Loretta as a child, she began working at age 8, caring for an elderly couple. She never stopped caring for people. Jean finished high school early and studied nursing at St. Anthony's nursing school in Terre Haute, graduating at 20, too young to take the Indiana Board Exams, becoming a Registered Nurse some months later. She learned that Trans World Airlines was searching for flight attendants, and after a very competitive process, was among the 10% of candidates who were offered positions. In an age of elegant air travel, Jean was, and remained, a stunning beauty. Jean was a flight attendant for fewer than two years, but it was on one DC-3 flight from South Bend to his home in Pittsburgh that she met a young Notre Dame student, Richard Keady, whom she married in 1950. Jean and Dick lived in South Bend long enough for Jean to be baptized into the Catholic faith at Notre Dame's Sacred Heart Cathedral and to have their first and ever favorite

child, Bob. The young family moved to Pittsburgh in 1951 for Dick to begin his career at Westinghouse, later moving to Monroeville, where they continued to expand the family with the birth of Sandy and Donna, and after a lapse of some 9 years, John and Peg. Sandy, Donna and Peggy followed mom into nursing, all becoming RN's. For ten years she worked at Western Psychiatric with geriatric patients where she was adored and respected. Dick passed away in 1990 after a courageous battle with cancer. Through the scheming of Peggy, mom came to know Bruno Krause, whose wife had recently passed. After a romantic courtship, Jean and Bru were married in 1994 and spent 10 loving years together until Bru's passing in 2004. In spite of the death of son John in 1992 and husbands Dick and Bru, mom's life was joyful, soulful, compassionate and caring. She became a vital part of Monroeville Meals on Wheels, delivering to clients who she valued as friends. Jeans strength was never more evident than when she was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer in 2017. Gravely ill, Jean rallied through a clinical trial that beat the cancer and went on with a life still full of love, family and helping others. She spent her last months at home on her porch, built by son John. She insisted there would be no more hospitalizations and was cared for by her daughters and a wonderful team of caregivers who became like family. Jean is survived by her sister Geneva, four loving and grateful children, twelve grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren, and friends too numerous to count. Mass of Christian Burial 10:30 a.m. on Friday, March 13, 2020 at Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish at North American Martyrs Church. Interment following in All Saints/Braddock Catholic Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please direct any donations to Monroeville Meals on Wheels, 2225 Ramsey Road, Monroeville, PA. 15146. Arrangements entrusted to the GENE H. CORL FUNERAL CHAPEL INC. OF MONROEVILLE. www.corlfuneralchapel.com

Cemetery Details

All Saints/Braddock Catholic Cemetery

1560 Brinton Rd
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 13. 10:30 AM (ET)

North American Martyrs Church
Haymaker Road
Monroeville, PA

Tribute Wall

JC

“ I was always amazed hearing all the things that Aunt Jean achieved, all the traveling she did and the love and compassion she shared with her family and others. We are sending our thoughts and prayers for the loss of her companionship as a mother, friend, grandmother and more. She will missed. All our love.

Marc and Janis Shafer Countiss

Janis Shafer Countiss - March 13, 2020 at 05:29 PM

JH

“ Donna, I am so sorry to read about your Mom's passing. I can still remember her kindness and her beautiful smile. When I ride past your old house on Kenmar it brings back lots of good memories. Losing your Mom is not easy and you will think of her everyday. She will always be with you. I send my heartfelt sympathy to you and all of your family. May she rest in peace.

With Love, Janis (Howe) Horton.

Janis Horton - March 13, 2020 at 02:11 PM

JT

“My mission in life is not merely to survive , but to thrive ; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor , and some style”.

Maya Angelou

Aunt Jean did all of the above . Aunt Jean has passed on in the physical sense and yet she will live for ever in our hearts and our memories .

John and I will always have our memories of sitting on Johns porch and watching Jeans favorite game show or just conversing about Jeans childhood.

We will miss sitting outside in her yard and just taking in a beautiful summer or fall day .

It makes me fill good knowing you are with my mom.

Aunt Jean , you truly lived .

We love you ,

AJ

John Thomas - March 13, 2020 at 12:18 PM

AT

“ Jeans mission in life was not to merely survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor and some style.

Aunt Jean has only passed in the physical sense. Aunt Jean will always be alive in our memories and our hearts.

The times we spent with her on John's porch or the times just sitting in her backyard on a nice sumer or fall day . Those memories will I last for ever.

Aunt Jean truly lived.

We love you Aunt Jean.

Amy Thomas - March 13, 2020 at 10:17 AM

AT

“ Aunt Jean's life was not merely to survive , but to thrive ; and to do so with some passion , some compassion, some humor and some style.

Aunt Jean really lived. John and I will miss those times on Johns porch and swinging in her back yard. Aunt Jean has not passed because she is in our memories and our heart.

We love you Aunt Jean .

Amy Thomas - March 13, 2020 at 09:49 AM

MS

“ WALKED INTO MY LIFE 14 YEARS AGO...I WAS A BROKEN SOUL AND JEAN REMINDED ME OF MY WORTH. AND SHARED HER UNWAVERING FAITH.....NURTURED ME WITH PEA SALAD AND SALMON DIP..YUM YUM..

ENCOURAGED MY NEW JOURNEY IN NURSING.....GRATEFUL



mark Smith - March 13, 2020 at 06:29 AM

BL

“ I'm forever grateful when Gramma Keady and her family invited me over to spend Thanksgiving with them a few years ago.

One weekend was almost too short, but it was long enough for Gramma Keady to welcome me into her home with her great kindness, love, and compassion. I remember vividly how passionate she was when she shared with me her "pretty neat" collection, her homemade apple pies, or old photographs of her epic adventures. "This one was in Vietnam with your mom!" - she pointed out with enthusiasm. I was quickly charmed by her joyful, loving, and caring stories. This was my first Thanksgiving ever, and I was so thankful to have met such a kind soul like Gramma Keady!

The greatest testament for Gramma Keady's love is perhaps the happy and loving family that she has raised and cultivated. I bet that she is looking down to her children and grandchildren with a smile on her face right now. My friends, I want to send my deepest condolences to you during this difficult time. I will definitely keep you and grandma in my thoughts. Best wishes to you all!

Bob Le - March 12, 2020 at 02:41 PM

TN

“ Dear Bob and Keady family,

My thoughts with her, a wonderful Mom that I was told lots of good things by Bob. I got luck to see her in Vietnam and had cookies she made and sent to Bob's house in Connecticut during Christmas. She was happy until last day, R.I.P

Deepest sympathies and she is always in my memory.

Van

Thu Van Nguyen - March 12, 2020 at 01:40 PM

ST

“ So very sorry to hear about Jean. I met her at my husband's aunt's nursing home years ago. She would come to visit Aunt Bettye and help her eat. It's been a pleasure to reconnect with her through MOW. John and I were lucky enough to sit next to her during the Christmas luncheon last year. She was a dear lady and will definitely be missed. *Stephania and John Martin*

Stephania - March 12, 2020 at 10:19 AM

JP

“ Aunt Jean was a beautiful person, both inside and out. She was loved by many and will always be in my thoughts. I know she's now at peace, in the circle of her loving family that has gone before her. Our deepest sympathy to the family.

Love, Jeanette & Alan

Jeanette Penn - March 12, 2020 at 09:09 AM

SP

“ My sympathies to the family. My best memory of her is sitting around her kitchen table talking and eating her delicious homemade vegetable soup. Just loved her and my time spent with her. *Susan Poorman*

susan poorman - March 12, 2020 at 09:08 AM

JL

“ Jean was a great friend and neighbor. We got to know each other during bereavement sessions at North American Martyrs in 2004. She was always friendly and always volunteering. She loved her black Saab, which got her to all her activities. In the last few years, we would meet during our respective walks in the mornings. She said she had to keep moving. Eventually, she invited me in for coffee after I finished my walk. If the light was on in her favorite back porch room, it meant the coffee was ready, and I was to let myself in. We shared stories and I got to know how incredibly active she was. We watched repetitive episodes of Match Game 74 and Match Game 78. We both got a kick out of hair and clothing styles of that era. She always wanted to know my planned activities for that day. If I was planning to do work around the house, she would say “you better get busy”. I will miss these coffee sessions and her friendly wave and smile from her favorite spot on her beloved porch. May she Rest In Peace.

John Lobritz

John Lobritz - March 12, 2020 at 08:59 AM

DC

“ Donna and Jim,
Our sincerest sympathies. I didn't have the pleasure of knowing her well, but she certainly left an impression on those around her. She certainly is credited with raising an awesome daughter who has blessed my family in so many ways. May her memories provide comfort to all of you as to await the reunion with her in heaven. Blessings.

Donna Connell - March 11, 2020 at 08:37 PM

RR

“ Aunt Loretta was such a special woman. Always thoughtful & caring. She will be missed by family.

Robert & Stephanie Romine - March 11, 2020 at 06:07 PM

DR

“ Wow the picture of Aunt Loretta says it all and how she lived. I surly did not know she jumped off mountain sides anywhere, she's got one up on me!! I remember the good times when she brought the cousin's to the farm and we all slept on the floor and ran around the farm all day long. Aunt Loretta always had a smile and up beat about life. We will miss her and our thoughts are with the Keady family.

Donnie Romine - March 11, 2020 at 04:53 PM

MD

“ My fondest memories of Gramma Keady was how she welcomed me and my children into her "fold" when my family was going through some difficult times...the Sundays at her home for her famous soup brunches and just an absolute feeling of togetherness....I and my children loved her, and she will always hold a special place in our hearts...💖💖

Melissa Davis - March 11, 2020 at 01:22 PM