



Marion Elizabeth Bracken

June 15, 1921 - July 13, 2020

Marion "Micki" Bracken

Marion E. Bracken (nee Ryan), age 99, passed away at her residence in Corvallis, Oregon, on Monday July 13, 2020.

She was born June 15, 1921 in Joliet, IL, and lived there most of her life. Known as "Micki", she was the oldest of the four Ryan girls. Micki graduated from Joliet Township High School in 1939 and St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing. She worked as a nurse at St. Joseph Hospital and the Will County Health Department. Micki took night classes at NIU, received a BS Degree in Nursing, and finished her career as a school nurse for the Joliet Public Schools. She loved working with the District 86 staff and children.

After retiring in 1982, she enjoyed traveling and wintering in Chula Vista, CA and Lehigh Acres, FL with her loving husband of 56 years, Robert T. Bracken. In 2015, Micki moved to Corvallis to be close to her son, Mike. Micki was a member of the Illinois and Joliet Area Retired Teachers Association and Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Micki is survived by her son R. Michael (Wendi) Bracken; two granddaughters Melissa (Josh) Russell and Kathy Bracken; great-granddaughter Adley Russell; sister Dolores Massey; many nieces, nephews, and life-long friends.

Preceded in death by her husband Robert Bracken; parents Altalene (nee Tibbetts) and Martin Ryan; Sisters Bette Daum and Virginia Steffes; Brother-in-laws Ralph Daum, Robert Massey, Robert Steffes; Brother and Sister-in-law William and Betty Bracken; Father and Mother-in-law Christopher and Lillian Bracken.

Micki loved her family and helping anyone in need. Those who think of her will always smile.

A memorial celebration will be held at a future date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Please share your thoughts and memories for the family at www.demossturda.com

Tribute Wall

JK

“ *Mike and Wendy,*

My parents and I lived next door to Micki and Bob and Mike at 911 Donnie Court in Joliet. I spent my teen and early adult years there and I have nothing but warm and positive memories of those days. Your Mom and Dad were just great people and I remember Micki as so friendly, and a sweetheart of a woman. We had great picnics, used the Bracken pool and enjoyed a lot of laughs together. Micki leaves behind nothing but positive and loving memories I am sure for so many people whom she has encountered.

God bless you and your family, Mike.

Jim Kubalewski

James Kubalewski - July 24, 2020 at 12:21 PM



AD

“ *Micki, Bob, and Mike lived next door to my parents on Donnie Ct. (where my family spent a great deal of time.) They were absolutely “wonderful” neighbors/friends. I will reiterate the words of others to describe Micki.....she was kind, helpful, and great fun! What a blessing, especially for her family, that she left a legacy of positive, joyful, memories.*

Annette Dobbs

Annette Dobbs - July 21, 2020 at 07:42 PM

GM

“ WE used to sit behind her and her son in Church. I admired her sweet demeanor and gracefulness.

Gail Millimaki - July 20, 2020 at 03:01 PM



“ Mike and Wendy, Our sympathy at this time. We were so blessed to have Mickey in our life for so long. She was so vibrant and lit any room she entered. She was generous and kind. She always said she was my Lutheran godmother and I couldn't have been more blessed! Her friendship was Mom was extraordinary and taught us from a young age the value of lifelong friendship. We'll never forget her. She always said you only go around once and she lived each day accordingly. Another valuable life lesson! Beautiful picture of a beautiful soul. Bridget and Colette Garavalia

Colette Garavalia - July 18, 2020 at 02:32 PM

MK

“ Mickey kept a balance of good humor and expertise as a school nurse all of her years at District 86. As an after retirement readers club member, I had the good fortune of knowing her as a friend who could put a smile on our faces and laughter as well, with her ability to relate any occurrence in her delightful way. We will keep her memory forever in our hearts. Mary K.

Mary Kinzler - July 18, 2020 at 11:17 AM

NW

“ Eugene and I spent many Friday nights at the Moose with Mike and the Paul's. Of course the best was when we were neighbors in Florida!
Eugene and Nancy Wright

Nancy Wright - July 17, 2020 at 10:27 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Micki



Debra Massey - July 17, 2020 at 10:26 PM



*Aunt Micki is with her Mom and sisters in the photo on the left and with her sister Gina and niece and nephew at our sons' wedding. Aunt Micki flew from California to Chicago and then drove with family to Ohio in order to attend her great nephew's wedding, That is how special she was, literally going the extra mile and then some. You will be missed.
Deb*

Debra Massey - July 17, 2020 at 10:40 PM

SM

“ *Micki was a great neighbor but an even better friend. Our family loved her very much. She was a kind and generous person. We watched Michael grow up with his amazing mother and father, Bob. What a wonderful family.*

*Love and prayers,
Sue, Sharon and Sandy Majetich*

Sharon Majetich - July 17, 2020 at 06:19 PM

VR

“ Aunt Micki was very special. She had a positive attitude and was about having a good time and a lot of fun. I have many memories of her as I was growing up, and also memories of spending several winters with her in Florida. She especially loved the parties we had at Fairways III. I remember a 50's party where I made three skirts, one for Micki, my Mom, and myself. I gave her a pattern to make the poodle on her skirt and it turned out a little on the heavy side. She had fun telling people her poodle was pregnant! I also remember taking her to the chiropractor in Lehigh, and after seeing her, the chiropractor walked out of the room and said tell your Aunt she doesn't have to dress up to come here. I informed him that she dressed that way everyday. One time I stopped to see her on Midland Ave in Joliet and she was washing the floor with white dress pants on. She told me she was ready to go if someone called! I'm sure there is a lot more fun in heaven right now. Love you Aunt Micki!

Love, Ginger

Virginia Rubner - July 17, 2020 at 01:57 PM

DB

“ One of the very best parts of becoming a Bracken was having you in my life, Aunt Micki! You always had a way to make everyone smile (and laugh) and you showed us all what having a good time is all about. I hope you know how much joy and goodness you brought to the lives of everyone who was fortunate enough to know you. Thank you for being such a shining light in this world and may you continue to shine on us from Heaven!

Donna Bracken - July 17, 2020 at 01:34 PM

WB

“ Hi, Aunt Mick. I don't really remember your wedding but I do remember your wedding reception. It was on the second floor of a hall and everyone had to climb an outside staircase to get up there. Fast forward 70 years. You were sitting with Donna and me at our granddaughter Elissa's wedding reception in Baltimore. I was explaining to 5 of our grandkids what a rare privilege it was having my aunt, who dandled me on her lap when I wore short pants and who participated in every phase of my life and who I love dearly, sitting next to me. Interesting memory book ends to a lifetime of memories. You are leaving a hole in my life but that is more a privilege than a problem. Tell Uncle Bob I said "hey". Love, Bill

William Bracken - July 17, 2020 at 01:09 AM

AR

Hi Bill. Email me your contact information. I'm Bette's daughter - Alice arasp79@gmail.com

Alice Raspolich - July 17, 2020 at 08:55 AM

AR

“ I had my first sip of a Manhattan from my Aunt Micki at what she dubbed happy hour on Midland Ave! I inherited her quick, Irish wit and her profound sense of humor.
RIP Godmother. I'll see you on the other side.

Alice Raspolich - July 16, 2020 at 07:08 PM

KB

“Your love for family, fondness for good times & parties, ability to look on the bright side of life, & finding something to laugh about no matter what else is going on will always stay with me.

I have so many warm & fun memories with you. Letting me steep your morning earl gray tea. Drawing blood from an orange. Watching White Christmas every year. Showing me old toys in your basement during visits to Illinois. The story about the wrong kind of cheese on my burger. One hilarious visit to the Seattle museum of pop culture... And the reason for why my presents must always be “wrapped pretty” will no doubt be brought up every Christmas, keeping your humor & spirit a part of the tradition.

You’ve taught me to always try to give others around me a reason to smile.

Cheers to you, Grandma.

To 99 years full of life, love, & laughter.



Kathy Bracken - July 15, 2020 at 09:18 PM

EB

*All of my memories of Aunt Micki are good and positive ones, from playing billiards in the basement in Illinois, having sleepovers, going out for dinner and dancing with Uncle Bob or watching Aunt Micki dance with Uncle Bob.... There was always joy & laughter. When I grew up and became a nurse, I felt an even closer kinship, and I so respected her profession in a time when many women did not work outside their homes. My last memory was sitting and chatting together at Miranda's wedding--her zest for kids & love if family bubbled over. Everyone who sat near her smiled; she was so winsome!
I love you, Aunt Micki!!*

Eileen (Bracken) Beale - July 17, 2020 at 09:50 AM

NP

We first met Micki years ago at Mike and Wendi's, when she and Bob visited for the holidays. She was such a sparkly, warm and fun-loving woman to be around. Many years later, she and my mom, Betty Owens, both moved from Illinois to Timberhill Place in 2015 where they lived across the hall from one another for 3 years. Micki was full of life and adventure, telling my mom she would drive them back to Illinois. I think that trip would actually have been attempted, except for a set of car keys that disappeared. We're so glad that we got to enjoy time with her these last five years. She became like family, and we will miss her.
Nancy and Les Pliskin

Nancy Pliskin - July 23, 2020 at 01:47 PM

MB

“ 11 files added to the album Micki



Mike Bracken - July 15, 2020 at 12:40 PM

MR

“ 99 amazing years. My earliest memory is sprinting off the airplane to meet you outside the jetway, my last is introducing you to your great granddaughter, Adley Elizabeth, who will always know her middle name was to honor you.

I will never forget the look you'd give me when I convinced you to participate in a prank with me. Drinking a cold Miller Lite with you. Seeing you in a bikini in Vegas at 90. Getting you onto the beach at 98 for our wedding.

I hope Adley has half the fun you did in life. I know you walked into Heaven and straight into Grandpas arms.

RIP Grandma, show heaven how to have a good time.



Melissa Russell - July 14, 2020 at 11:19 PM

EP

Until we meet again, Rest in Peace! Love, Eileen

Eileen Paul - July 26, 2020 at 02:10 PM