

A Celebration of the Life of

Joan Walbank

23rd August 1940 - 27th November 2020



Tuesday 8th December 2020 at 10.30 am

St Mary and St Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Garstang

Conducted by Father Geoffrey Steel

In loving memory of Joan Walbank

23rd August 1940 - 27th November 2020

Born on Shorrocks Farm, Catforth with sisters, Margaret and Kathleen. Joan was the middle daughter of Leonard and Elizabeth Moorby. Often recounting stories of her youth, most recently memories of Catforth and Woodplumpton Field days held at Bartle Hall in the 50s. Of walking from home across farms and fields to visit relatives and shops in Garstang before cars became commonplace and, when they did, it took a day to get to the Lake District.

At a dance at the Old Public Hall, Preston, Joan was to meet her future husband, Bill and 2021 would have seen them celebrate 60 years of marriage. For the first year of marriage, they set up home in a caravan in her parents' field before moving to their current home on Dimples Lane. After reading a book about an aboriginal boy named Wopsy, the house was renamed and soon became the family home.

It was no surprise that Joan's first job was in a bakery shop. One of Joan's greatest passions was cooking and baking. Making many bakes and cakes, latterly for her grandson John's wedding to Natalie.

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After the children started school, Joan became a dinner lady at St Mary and Michael's RC Primary School, where she became known for her skills in pulling out wobbly teeth. She also worked as a school cleaner.

Raising money for charities and good causes has been a constant throughout Joan's life, starting when Joan and Bill helped start Wyre Worms Disco over 40 years ago to raise funds for their local Guide and Scout group. Raising money more recently through displays of flour milling and bread making.

Joan had many passions, from travelling to see family in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, America, South Africa and India, to summer vintage rallies, to bingo, to dancing, to Thursday friends' club, to Monday friends' catch ups. Recently completing the Scottish Highlands Route 500 in their camper van after many years of camping and caravanning in the UK. Returning last November for a bread-making course.

A National Trust member, Joan loved travel, holidays and days out. A devout Catholic, Joan always sought out the local church wherever she was staying and enjoyed the social side of all her passions with so many people she was happy to call friends. A special thank you to her many friends, who provided much comfort to her in recent times.

Joan, wife to Bill; mother to Michael, Sheila and Christopher; mother-in-law to Nancy and Barbara; grandma to John, Natalie, Ruth, Darrell, Lauren, Michael, Katie and Elaine; great-grandma to Sophie, Logan, Scarlett and Layla and good friend to many.
Joan will be sorely missed.





The family wish to express their sincere thanks
for your attendance today for the cards
and kind messages of support received at this sad time.

Donations, if desired, are for
Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team
in memory of Joan.
<https://www.justgiving.com/Bowland-PennineMRT>