



Joan A. Helmer

January 8, 1942 - December 27, 2024

After a period of declining health, Joan A. Helmer, 82, of Bonita Springs, FL, passed away on Friday, December 27, 2024, with her daughter and dear friend by her side. Born in Worcester, MA, on January 8, 1942, she was the daughter of the late Charles and Josephine (Koza) Triba.

Joan graduated from Worcester State College, earning her degree in education. She worked as a teacher in Malden, MA, before stepping away to raise her beloved daughter, Michelle. Later, Joan worked as a bookkeeper for a veterinary office in Oxford, CT.

Joan and Bob moved to Naples, FL, in 1998 and relocated to Bonita Springs in 2003, where they enjoyed a peaceful retirement. Known for her warm heart, Joan loved to bake and often sent treats to loved ones on their birthdays, including her legendary "Eva's Crazy Crunch." Joan's creativity extended to crafting, needlework, knitting, and sewing. She was also a lifelong seeker of knowledge and her curiosity about how things work, never dimmed. A die-hard Boston Red Sox fan, Joan found joy in the camaraderie of both her local community and the team she cherished. Joan's family was the cornerstone of her life.

She is survived by her daughter, Michelle L. Martin of Sudbury, MA; her brother, Charles (Marie) Triba of Leicester, MA; her sisters, Phyllis (George)

Muszalski of Worcester, and Mary (Gerry) Axelrod of Palm Beach Gardens, FL; and her cherished grandsons, Jack and Kevin Martin. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Helmer; and siblings, Paul Triba and Patricia Cozzolino.

A visitation will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2025, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, 28300 Tamiami Trail South, Bonita Springs, FL 34134. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island, NY 10306.

Joan will be deeply missed by her family and friends, whose lives were touched by her kindness, creativity, and love.

Online condolences may be offered by visiting www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, Family Owned Since 1978.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home
28300 Tamiami Trail So.
Bonita Springs, FL 34134
(239) 992-4982
bonitafhbill@comcast.net

Tribute Wall

LK

“ Sincere condolences to Joan's family on your great loss. I have many good memories of our fun times together during our years at Worcester State College. May Joan rest in Our Loving Lord's peace. Prayers, Lois (Sutherland) Kolofsky

Lois Kolofsky - January 01, 2025 at 11:30 AM

CS

“ My deepest sympathy Michelle on the loss of your mother and grandmother to your sons. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time. 💕💕

Carol Spooner - December 30, 2024 at 10:20 AM