



Marilyn R. Lightner

September 26, 1935 - October 3, 2025

Marilyn Reed Lightner was called up to be an angel on Friday, October 3rd, one week after her 90th birthday. She was born in Rochester, NY to parents Lester & Jayne (Barrick) Reed, grew up in Pittsburgh's South Hills where she married high school sweetheart Don Boening and raised daughters Joni Boening (Randy) McCann and Leslie (Boening) Halon. They divorced after 21 years and she began her career in Real Estate which included roles as a sales agent, broker, office manager, then motivational speaker internationally for the National Association of Realtors.

Marilyn met and married M. William Lightner Jr., the love of her life for over 30 years, and her family expanded to include Bill's children Leslie Lightner, David (Maria) Lightner, Marc Lightner. Bill's career took them to St. Louis, Los Angeles, Toronto, and Tampa; finally retiring in Bonita Springs until his passing in 2009. She made many lifelong friends across the bridge table in each city and became a Gold Life Master at the Bonita Bridge Club.

Marilyn's big passions were family, church, bridge and paying it forward. Gram will be missed by grandchildren Marlie McCann (Dan) Filipek, Brandon (Reneé) McCann, Elisa Halon (Jeff) Hagen, Ashley Halon (Scott) Maiberger, Kayleigh and Max Lightner. Great Gram leaves behind 9 great-grands: Kylie, Adelyn & Penelope McCann, Cooper & Quinn Filipek, Hendrik & Willem Hagen, and Olivia & Max Maiberger.

Marilyn & Bill were long-standing members of the First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs where she served as usher, deacon, elder and memorial donor of The Lightner Conference Room. She is a benefactor of Artis Naples, Gulfshore Playhouse, Café of Life; funds scholarships for Grove City College and FGCU; former Board member of Pelican's Nest Golf Club and Arts Bonita.

A memorial service, officiated by Dr. Doug Pratt, will be held on Saturday, November 15th, 2025 at the First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs, 11:00 AM.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Resurrection Garden of First Presbyterian Church, Arts Bonita, or Café of Life in Bonita Springs.

To sign her guest register or to leave online condolences please visit www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

NOV 15. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs
9751 Bonita Beach Rd.
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

Tribute Wall

JN

“ I met my dear friend Marilyn fifty years ago while we were taking bridge lessons at the local bridge club in Mississauga. Over the years, our friendship grew through many shared adventures — travelling together to the Panama Canal, attending the Oberammergau Passion Play, visiting the Dachau Concentration Camp, skiing in Colorado, and earning my Life Master in Orlando with Marilyn as my partner. Our friendship spanned five decades, filled with laughter, travel, and countless games of bridge. Marilyn’s kindness, sense of humour, and zest for life touched everyone who knew her. I will miss her deeply and will always cherish the wonderful memories we created together. Joan Norris



Joan Norris - November 10, 2025 at 07:48 PM

MC

“ We will remember Marilyn as we meet twice monthly in Lightner conference room for our prayer warrior meetings. Thank you dear Marilyn
Lovingly, your prayer warriors at FPC

Margaret Geiselman-Bals & Joyce Cowdrey - October 14, 2025 at 12:07 PM

CH

“ To Marilyn’s dear family, Marilyn was always an inspiration to me! She had such a positive attitude about herself, and gave so much to our community and beyond. She seemed to really be taken by my oldest grandson, Liam. We went for pizza together, and she chatted with him directly, making him feel right at home. She decided to take Liam, husband Art, and me, on an airboat ride at Lake Trafford... her treat! We went for lunch afterwards. Liam was quite taken by Marilyn. He’d had such a good time on that airboat! On a more recent note, I’ve always loved gardening. I finally joined the Naples Garden Club last year. We’d meet Marilyn for dinners on occasion, and when I’d told her I’d joined the club, she told me how proud she was of me to do that! All was right in the world when Marilyn said that. I looked up to her, kind of like a mom. I’ll never forget her. I have such fond memories.. Cindy Habighorst

Cindy Habighorst - October 09, 2025 at 11:29 AM