



JoAnn Kuuipo Medeiros

NOV 12, 1945 - DEC 14, 2025



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



JoAnn Kuuipo Medeiros

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JoAnn Ku‘uipo Medeiros, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully on December 14, 2025. She was the devoted widow of Marlan P. Medeiros and lived a life rooted in faith, love, service, and quiet strength.

JoAnn had a rare gift for seeing the good in people and making everyone feel truly known. Her faith was lived rather than spoken. Through her compassion, steadiness, and hope, she reflected God in a way that was gentle and familiar, guiding others back to faith simply by how she loved.

A retired registered nurse, JoAnn lived her calling far beyond the bedside. In the early 1990s, she opened Ku‘u Home Assisted Living in Hilo, where she lovingly cared for members of the community with dignity, patience, and deep humanity. In our small Hilo community, she touched countless lives through her unwavering compassion. She later extended that same devotion to Kailua, continuing to care for others in the same unfathomable way. Those she cared for were never just patients to her. They were people she truly loved.

As the mother of seven, JoAnn loved expansively. She did not divide her heart; she multiplied it. She believed deeply in each of her children and often carried hope for them when they could not carry it themselves.

She lived for her 'Ohana. Her greatest joy was being with her children, her 18 grandchildren, and her cherished great-grandchild. Adventurous at heart, JoAnn traveled often to be with her children, never allowing distance to weaken the bonds she held so dearly. For her, home was not a place, but her people, her 'Ohana!

She met hardship with softness, held her faith with humility, and loved freely without ever keeping score. Her kindness, presence, and grace live on in all who knew her.



Obituary

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JoAnn is survived by her children: Darren Medeiros, Colleen Medeiros, Noelle Medeiros, Bridey Medeiros, Pua Medeiros, Mark Medeiros, and Joy Naiper, along with her grandchildren, great-grandchild, extended family, and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held in June 2026 at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Kailua, Hawaii.

She built a legacy of faith, care, and unconditional love and will be forever remembered.

Please sign the tribute wall located on this website.



Tribute Wall

JoAnn Kuuipo Medeiros

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Dawn Tillery posted:

When a friendship lasts for 35+ years, it's not possible to choose just one memory to share. But there is a definite theme that runs through those years: JoAnn was a faith-filled, joyous woman who taught me what it really means to be a friend. JoAnn made staying in touch a priority. During the Akolea days, that meant she would call me every morning at 5:30am, just so we could chat before the hecticness of getting kids ready for school. In more recent years, calls became less frequent but the connection was still there. Even when it had been several months since we last talked, our conversation would still flow in a natural, comfortable way. We invariably talked about our kids. We were able to rejoice together and give praise to our Heavenly Father whenever any of our adult children re-embraced their Christian faith. Can there be any greater blessing than that?

February 15 at 9:48 PM



Bridey Medeiros lit a candle in honor of JoAnn.

When she would come and stay with you for months, she was happiest loving the simple things, and her hearty laugh was never far behind. She loved her coffee, easing into the day with a cup in her hands, unhurried. Her music was always close too, the songs she loved playing softly in the background, filling the space in a way that felt like home. There was her singing and humming, never planned, just part of who she was. And then there were her TV series, the ones she followed faithfully. Watching together became its own kind of ritual. Sitting side by side, reacting to the same scenes, sharing quiet commentary, and laughing together made those moments feel full without needing anything extra. She settled into those days with such ease. There was no pressure to make time meaningful. Being together already was. The small routines, the shared shows, the familiar music, they all mattered because they were shared. Going to church together mattered to her, too. It was about presence and grounding, about something steady you could return to. She loved those stretches of togetherness. The ordinary days. The slow mornings and calm evenings. Her joy came from closeness, from showing up and staying. Her laugh, her music, her favorite shows, all of it still lives with you, woven into those memories of just being together.



January 7 at 2:19 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring JoAnn by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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