



## Joyce Janice Hofer

December 2, 1932 - October 6, 2020

Joyce Janice Hofer passed away peacefully in the early morning of October 6, 2020 in Rehoboth Beach, DE, at the home of her oldest son. She had been in hospice care there since September 30, after a brief hospitalization in Annapolis, MD. She was 87 years old. Prior to her hospitalization, she had been a resident at Spring Arbor, an assisted living and memory care facility in Crofton, MD, since November, 2019. She moved to Spring Arbor from Mountain Home, AR, after the death of her husband Sam.

Joyce was born in 1932 on her family's farm near Davis, SD, the third and last child of Christopher Jibben and Johanna Jibben, nee Nuttbrock. Her father, a veteran of WWI who served in France, died when Joyce was a child. Her family moved into Lennox, SD, where Joyce graduated from Lennox High School. She then completed her training as a registered nurse at Augustana University in Sioux Falls.

While working at Sioux Valley Hospital, she met a young minister, Samuel Hofer, who would become her lifelong companion. They married at a country church in Turner County on June 16, 1954, and remained a couple for 65 years until Sam's death in 2019. Together they moved to the east coast where Sam continued his education and served churches in the Philadelphia area, eventually becoming chaplain at Fredonia State University in upstate NY. Joyce continued to work as a nurse. Joyce gave birth to their first child, Paul, while living in Fredonia.

Together they moved to Nebraska City, NE, in 1957, where Sam would serve as minister to the First Presbyterian Church for the next 33 years. Joyce was active as Sunday and Bible School teacher, choir member, and women's group member. She enjoyed bowling, crafts, and her membership in the PEO sorority. She also worked as a nurse at Nebraska City Manor, a nursing facility, where she paid forward the care she herself would need in the last year of her life. While in Nebraska City, Joyce gave birth to two more sons; Chris in 1959, and John in 1966.

Following Sam's retirement from Nebraska City in 1990, they moved to Mountain Home,

AR, where Sam became part-time pastor at 101 Presbyterian Church in Gamalia, where he ministered for another 14 years. Joyce lived in Mountain Home with Sam until his death in September, 2019. She then moved back east to Spring Arbor, near her sons Chris and Paul. She was transferred to the memory care cottage in April, in the midst of the pandemic. Joyce loved food, but in September her appetite began to fail and she no longer walked on her own. After two visits to the Anne Arundel Medical Center for tests and observation, and in accordance with her living will, her doctors and family decided that transfer to hospice care at her son's home was the best remaining option.

Joyce was preceded in death by her beloved mother, Johanna, who died at age 103, and by her brother, Harold and sister, Iva. She is survived by her three sons: Paul, of Washington, DC; Chris and his wife Kelly Vinopal, of Crofton, MD, and granddaughter, Kate, a junior at Cornell University; and John and his wife Elisa Randazzo, of Los Angeles, CA, and their daughter, Verona, a fourth-grade student at the Waldorf School of Pasadena.

Joyce's body was cremated according to her long-standing wishes. She will be interred next to her husband and mother in the graveyard of Turner County Presbyterian Church, in the fertile fields of SD.

Please sign Mrs. Hofer's online guest book located on this site.

# Comments

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“ Our sympathy to your family. We had a unique relationship with Sam and Joy because we had names the same. We were both married in 1954. Both Joyce's were RN's . Both families liked to travel. The difference was in the middle initial. Samuel W and Joyce Hofer and Samuel H and Joyce Hofer. We had a lot of fun sharing this with family and friends.

We often met in SD at the Cousins Reunion. Also we met in each others homes for a visit in different states and places that we lived.

God's blessings to family and friends n this difficult time.  
Love, Samuel H and Joyce Hofer

**Joyce & Samuel** - October 11, 2020 at 06:41 PM

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“ Gwen & send our love & condolences to Paul, Chris, John & their families. Daddy (John P. Hofer) & Sam were cousins. I remember going to their wedding; not necessarily the ceremony but I know we were there. Grandma Mary (Joe A. Hofer) loved Sam & played a large role in young Sam's life - and that love was extended to Joyce as well. I can only imagine the Hofer reunion in Heaven!

Our lives didn't interact as much as I wish they had but fond memories of times we did. Sam & Joyce visited Mom (Adeline), Gwen & me on one of their trips to the California area when they attended a conference in Anaheim.

Our love & prayers to all the family members in your enormous loss of both parents so close together.

Vi Ann La Baron

**Vi Ann La Baron** - October 10, 2020 at 11:51 AM

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“ My grandma,Eva,,lived just up the hill from Joyce and. loved watching the Hofer family grow and loved Joyce as a daughter. She was ecstatic when she learned that babies were coming to Joyce and to me within a few weeks of each.other

She was such a good friend that she went dress shopping with us for my gown and was the stand in bride at the wedding rehearsal.

I wish you all comfort and peace. Seeing Joyce last fall was a clue to what, even then you were enduring.

You had a wonderful mother and you got a chance to show her your love and appreciation.

Love to you all,  
Tom and Janet

Thomas Hemphill - October 09, 2020 at 09:00 PM

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“ 10 files added to the album Memories Album



Paul J Hofer - October 09, 2020 at 05:49 PM

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“ The family of Rev. Jacob B.Hofer wants to express our deepest sympathy to John, Chris and Paul and their families.

We know losing your father in 2019 was very hard. Then losing your mother approximately a year later it's very hard when you are not fully over the loss of your father. We know that she is in a better place, and they can meet and rejoice. Our family was always glad to see cousin Sam and Joyce when they came to South Dakota to visit. There were many good times had by all.

Our blessings go with you, John, Chris and Paul and your families.

God Bless,  
Ron Hofer

Ronald Hofer - October 08, 2020 at 03:46 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Paul Hofer** - October 08, 2020 at 12:19 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Paul Hofer** - October 08, 2020 at 12:18 PM

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“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



**Paul Hofer** - October 08, 2020 at 12:17 PM