



## **Mrs. Jeanne St. Julian**

May 28, 1934 - September 25, 2023

Mrs. Jeanne St. Julian, 89, of Peoria, IL, transitioned to her heavenly home at 3:02 am on Monday, September 25, 2023 at Carle Health Proctor Hospital.

Jeanne was born on May 28, 1934 in Austin, TX to Rev. Benjamin and Lillian (Graves) Wood and raised in the Church of God in Christ where her father served as a reverend.

Jeanne received a Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics from Huston-Tillotson College in Austin, Texas and a Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling from Bradley University in Peoria. She also completed postgraduate hours at the University of Illinois, Western Illinois University, and Illinois State University. While an undergraduate student, Jeanne became a member of her beloved Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and continued as a member for 68 years, until her death.

Jeanne was an educator who devoted much of her career to the Peoria Public Schools, District 150 where she worked as a guidance counselor at Richwoods High School, an elementary teacher at Lincoln, White and Webster Schools, and a home counselor at Irving and Lincoln Schools. Prior to becoming an educator, she worked as a Children's Librarian at the Peoria Public Library, a service representative at Illinois Bell Telephone Company and a counselor for the Neighborhood Youth Corps Summer Programs. After

retirement, Jeanne worked as a study hall supervisor at Manual and Richwoods High Schools.

Jeanne's love and concern for children and the Peoria community in general are evidenced by her efforts to make a difference in the lives of those she touched. She served on the Catholic Interracial Council, the Urban League Guild, the Urban League's Tomorrow's Scientists, Technicians and Managers Advisory Committee, the Board of Directors of Women's Strength, and the Board of Directors of George Washington Carver Community Center. She was an NAACP Life Member and a member of the State of Illinois Right-to-Read Program. Jeanne's extensive community service led to her induction into the African American Hall of Fame-Downstate Illinois.

Jeanne was known for her creativity and exquisite sense of style. She was an excellent seamstress. Her sense of fashion led her to have an extensive yet tasteful wardrobe and jewelry collection. Jeanne's love of interior design gave birth to beautiful home décor. She was an avid crafter who loved bling. She was also a world-class shopper who could ferret out the best quality items for the least expense.

Jeanne's talents extended to acting and public speaking. She began acting in plays as a high school student and continued through college and beyond. As a young woman, she participated in the Texas State Ms. Bronze Pageant, placing third. She was also her high school and college homecoming queen. For many years, Jeanne was the mistress of ceremonies for Peoria's annual debutant ball.

Jeanne married the love of her life, Grant St. Julian, Jr., on December 26, 1955 in Beaumont, TX. They lived a beautiful life together which included their three children, Grant III, an attorney in Dallas, Texas; Andrea Renee, an attorney in San Diego, California; and Tanya Suzanne, a training and

development professional in Kansas City, Missouri. Jeanne met Grant at Huston-Tillotson College when the two were 19 and 22 years old respectively. Jeanne and Grant adored each other throughout their lives. In addition to being survived by her children, Jeanne is survived by her daughter-in-law, Judy St. Julian, her son-in-law, Michael Alexander, two grandchildren, Andrew (Paige) St. Julian and Stacie (Peter) Paciorek, five great grandchildren, and two brothers, James (Hannah) Wood and Michael Wood. She is preceded in death by her husband, parents, one brother, Benjamin Wood, Jr. and three sisters, Daisy Jackson, Marie Wood and Jackie Wood.

Jeanne's commitment to education and her community led her, along with her family, to create two local scholarships, the Peoria Tri-County Urban League's TSTM St. Julian Family Scholarship and the Illinois Central College Grant St. Julian "Keep Jazz Alive!" Scholarship. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to either scholarship.

Funeral services will be at 11 am on Saturday, October 7, 2023 at Star of Hope Full Gospel Church where Jeanne has been a faithful member for over 30 years. Bishop Joseph Johnson will officiate. The visitation will begin immediately before the service at 9 am. The Ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., will render their Ivy Beyond The Wall Ceremony at 10:30 am CST.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with the arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [SimonsMortuary.com](http://SimonsMortuary.com).

\*In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the family requests that everyone in attendance: wear a face mask and refrain from hugging, kissing and shaking hands (as hard as it is to see someone you care about and not touch them).



# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 7. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Star of Hope Full Gospel Church  
417 W. Romeo B. Garrett Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61605

## Funeral Service

OCT 7. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Star of Hope Full Gospel Church  
417 W. Romeo B. Garrett Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61605

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Jeanne St. Julian*



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**Simons Mortuary** - October 10, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ *Mrs. St. Julian was present when I became a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Her daughter Tanya was on our line Exquistie Emenience. She was so gracious and kind to us. Tanya, I am so sorry for your loss.*  
*Sisterly,*  
*Lisa Harvey-London*

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**Lisa Harvey London** - December 22, 2023 at 06:50 PM



“ *Lisa London lit a candle in memory of Jeanne St. Julian*



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**Lisa Harvey London** - December 22, 2023 at 06:46 PM

AL

“ *Annette Lucy lit a candle in memory of Jeanne St. Julian*



**Annette Lucy** - November 20, 2023 at 04:28 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



**Francine Coleman** - October 09, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *This picture was taken in 2016 at Mom's birthday. I felt to lucky to be able to see both of your parents. So many great memories...*



**Francine Coleman** - October 07, 2023 at 06:34 PM

LA

“ *Leon Margie Aldridge lit a candle in memory of Jeanne St. Julian*



**Leon & Margie Aldridge** - October 07, 2023 at 11:34 AM

MB

“ To Jeanne’s beloved family, Our heartfelt sympathies go out to you on the passing of your very special Mom. As you know very well, your Mom was a gem of a lady, truly one of a kind - so wise, so talented, so gracious & dignified; so humble & so compassionate. She could take a stand on important issues and got involved in the community to do her part to make things better. She really embodied the essence of a true human being! I met your Mom at the old Lincoln School in the late 1970’s & got to work more closely with her when she was a counselor at Richwoods. The entire Peoria community is so much better because of the effort, energy, & positivity both your Mom & your Dad invested in it!!! We are so sorry for your loss! Mary Kay & Harold Berjohn

Mary Kay Berjohn - October 07, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Video Tribute



Simons Mortuary - October 06, 2023 at 02:02 PM

BT

So loved, so well remembered. Our love and prayers are with the family!!! 🙏❤️🥺

Beverly Leatherwood Travis - November 05, 2023 at 07:47 PM

BN

“ Sending my sincere condolences to the children and family of Mrs. Jean St. Julian. I came to know and respect Mrs. St. Julian as a volunteer and supporter of the Tri-County (Peoria) Urban League where I was employed for over 10 years. I will always remember her beautiful smile, warm personality, and genuine love and concern for our community. I pray that God’s love will comfort you and give you peace.

Beverly L. Nance - October 05, 2023 at 11:48 PM

FA

“ Mrs. St. Julian was my counselor at Richwoods. She always kept it real and spoke life into any situation. She was truly a beautiful soul.

Fabian - October 05, 2023 at 10:48 PM

LA

“ Mrs. Jeanne St Julian and Grant St Julian, two of the most beautiful people I knew. They were helpful in our children's further education out of high school and in to college. They came to our house and to our children's graduations. They had a love for the children in Peoria Illinois.

Jean is now an angel in Heaven with Grant. Sending love. prayers and condolence to the family from Linda Hardy Avondale Arizona.



Linda Hardy Avondale Arizona - October 05, 2023 at 02:10 PM

NC

“ I was so lucky to work with Mrs. St. Julian at Northmoor-Edison Primary School where she was a reading tutor during my tenure as principal. She will forever be one of my favorite ladies who I admire deeply. I will never forget her huge infectious smile, the way she truly listened and gave her full attention to others, the way she cared for children with such love and respect, and the way she dressed up every day. She was one classy lady! For years we exchanged holiday cards and kept in touch. I am a better person today because I knew her. My deepest condolences to the St. Julian Family. We are praying for all of you. May her memory be eternal.

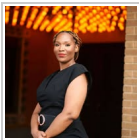


Nicole Couri-Malson - October 04, 2023 at 05:26 PM

SL

“ I was lucky to work with Jeanne at Lincoln School and I was blessed by her friendship. She was an amazing woman and a great role model to her students and peers. She will be missed. Sending my sincere sympathy to the St. Julian family.

Sue Larkin - October 03, 2023 at 09:28 PM



“ Sending our sincere condolences to the St Julian family. From Sean A. Kimble Sr. and family.



Ashley Kimble - October 03, 2023 at 09:03 PM

LC

“ Love, Catherine purchased the *Enduring Grace* for the family of Mrs. Jeanne St. Julian.



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**Love, Catherine** - October 03, 2023 at 10:00 AM

LC

“ Love, Catherine planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Jeanne St. Julian.

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**Love, Catherine** - October 03, 2023 at 10:00 AM

GG

“ Our sincere sympathy to the St Julian children and family. Jeanne and Grant were former neighbors of ours in Nassau Estates, and we enjoyed their beautiful flowers and manicured yard for many years. They always seemed so happy together, and I'm sure Grant is waiting for Jeanne with open arms. They were wonderful role models. RIP Jeanne. Rod and Gloria Gillette

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**Gloria J. Gillette** - October 01, 2023 at 03:35 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Jeanne St. Julian.



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September 29, 2023 at 05:23 PM

PE

“ My condolences to the family ...prayers as well... I remember some 50 plus years ago , Mrs. St Julian came to Webster School & told us 6th graders just how important we were as black students, That we are African Americans we too are valued, she taught us that we were not respectively [ Negro's ] which meant [ to never grow ].. But that we are people of value... Her kind words has resonated with me all these years...and I still pass on this to others especially to our youth and all who does not know the difference...I THANK GOD FOR HER WISDOM ... Peace be with you all... Phil Hickman

Phillip E.Hickman - September 29, 2023 at 07:49 AM

WH

“ I had the honor and pleasure of knowing my sorority sister Jeanne St Julian for close to 40 years. She was truly a nice person and a joy to be around. She had a beautiful smile and a great personality. Her manners were impeccable! And she was quite the perfectionist. She had a special touch getting things done in just right. She will be terribly missed because she touched so many people. And she supported lots of social and civic causes. Praying that God will comfort her family and friends during this period of grief. And May our Precious and Beautiful Sorority Pearl Rest In Peace!💕💚💕

Wanda Higgins - September 28, 2023 at 08:06 PM

WH

“ Wanda Higgins lit a candle in memory of Jeanne St. Julian



Wanda Higgins - September 28, 2023 at 07:53 PM

PV

“ I am a volunteer at ProctorPlace every Wednesday. Jeanne was such a special lady. She was always dressed to perfection and her smile lit up the activity room. I miss her.

Pat Vaughan - September 28, 2023 at 09:09 AM

RF

“ Rena Horton & Family lit a candle in memory of Jeanne St. Julian



Rena Webster Horton & Family - September 28, 2023 at 12:28 AM

JP

“ Jeff and Linda Peterson purchased the Comfort & Light 30" Sonnet for the family of Mrs. Jeanne St. Julian.



Jeff and Linda Peterson - September 27, 2023 at 09:34 PM

CP

“ Carolyn Parham lit a candle in memory of Jeanne St. Julian



Carolyn Parham - September 27, 2023 at 07:26 PM

MW

“ *Maxine Wortham lit a candle in memory of Jeanne St. Julian*



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**Maxine Wortham** - September 27, 2023 at 11:44 AM

BC

“ *My sincere sympathies to the members of the St. Julian Family. Jeanne served with me at the old Lincoln School the first several years after ! Was Appointed Principal there. She was a Super Partner, and was liked &, respected by the staff, community, and students alike. Jeanne and I also became lifelong friends after our days at Lincoln. She was a true blessing to have as a Counselor at Lincoln! God Bless her for all she did for others! Bob Carruthers*

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**Bob Carruthers** - September 26, 2023 at 10:45 PM

MG

“ *Mrs. St Julian you will be greatly missed. Rest in Heaven with Mr. St. Julian. Thanks for all you have done for the Peoria Community. Mattie*

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**Mattie Graves** - September 26, 2023 at 09:18 AM

PW

“ *Patricia Ward lit a candle in memory of  
Jeanne St. Julian*



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**Patricia Ward** - September 26, 2023 at 03:19 AM