



## Joann Ward

January 26, 1945 - July 16, 2023

Joann Ward (nee Rives), died at home surrounded by her beloved family on July 16, 2023. A native of New Jersey, Joann lived around the world before she retired to Middletown, DE. A vibrant firecracker of a woman, with quite possibly the largest of hearts, she will truly be missed by all who knew her. Joann will be remembered and missed for her giving and generous heart, her love of animals and her penchant for caring for the birds.

Joann was preceded in death by her loving husband of 49 years, Gordon Ward. She is survived by her children, Kim Rittenhouse, and Andrew Ward (Colleen); her grandchildren: Josh Grassi (Kimberly), Nick Rittenhouse (Kimberlee), Larissa Ward (Gregory), Rebecca Rittenhouse (Steven), Lauren Wagner (Drew), Dylan and Jake Taylor; great-grandchildren: Brandon Holotanko, Chloe Ramey, Owen and Noah Grassi, and Andy Wagner; brother, Oran Rives (Marta); extended family; and many cherished friends.

A visitation will be held Saturday, July 22, 2023, from 9:30-11 AM at Love of Christ Church, 2157 Bear Corbitt Rd, Bear, DE 19701, followed by a service in celebration of Joann's life at 11 AM. Burial will follow in Hickory Grove Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family request donations to the Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research, 170 Possum Hollow Rd, Newark, DE 19711 or the American Cancer Society, [www.donate.cancer.org](http://www.donate.cancer.org) For directions or to send an online condolence, visit [www.stranofeeley.com](http://www.stranofeeley.com)



# Cemetery Details

## Hickory Grove Cemetery

Port Penn Road  
Middletown, DE

# Previous Events

## Viewing

JUL 22. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Love of Christ Church  
2157 Bear Corbitt Road  
Bear, DE

## Service

JUL 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Love of Christ Church  
2157 Bear Corbitt Road  
Bear, DE

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Joann Ward.*



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July 20, 2023 at 11:26 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joann Ward.*



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July 19, 2023 at 11:47 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joann Ward.*



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July 19, 2023 at 11:47 AM



“ *Karen Madonna lit a candle in memory of Joann Ward*



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**Karen Madonna** - July 18, 2023 at 09:49 AM

LR

“ sorry to see this about Joann, years ago your family lived on South Street around the corner from me, remember you had a couple of German Shepherds that didn't like thunder!

Lana Robbins - July 18, 2023 at 06:36 AM

JP

“ She was a loving wife and mother, extremely kind and also very honest. I am glad I got to know her.

Jonathan Pease - July 17, 2023 at 11:38 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Joann Ward.



July 17, 2023 at 05:32 PM

BR

“ We are so saddened to lose our wonderful Joann. The only consolation is that we know Gordon has been waiting for her and now they are together. We will remember the good times in Medford, at the shore house in Wildwood Crest, on the boat cruising the Chesapeake to Baltimore and Annapolis. We will remember her laugh and her love for all.

Bob & Kathy Ragone

Bob Ragone - July 17, 2023 at 04:34 PM

BB

“ *I will miss our movie dates and wine lunches and all the laughs we had together. I love you bestie but I'm happy you are with the love of your life. Always in my heart. Betty* ❤️❤️❤️

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**Betty Bartz** - July 17, 2023 at 04:08 PM