



Col. Luvina (Joni) Triplett (USAF)

October 9, 1946 - August 21, 2019

Colonel Luvina (Joni) Triplett (USAF) (ret) went to be with her Lord and Savior Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at Meadow Lane Assisted Living of Bad Axe. She was born on October 9, 1946 in Bad Axe to the late Edward and Hazel (Bouverette) Wiederhold. Joni graduated from Elkton Pigeon Bay Port High School in 1963.

She graduated in 1967 from St. Mary's School of Nursing of Saginaw. Military academic achievements include graduation from both the Air Command Staff College in seminar in 1983 and of the Air War College in seminar in 1986. She received notification of her promotion to Colonel on January 7, 1993. She worked for four years as a nurse at Atascadero State Hospital. She served at the tactical headquarters at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia during Desert Shield/Storm.

During her reserve career she served with the 414th MSES Hospital at March AFB, the 68 AES at Norton AFB, the 67th AEF at Rickenbacher AFB, and the 146 AES at Van Nuys Air National Guard Base. She received her Chief Flight Nurse Wings while serving as a flight nurse.

After retirement from the Air Force, Joni continued her studies of Spanish. She used those skills as an interpreter for the government. She spent a year in China, teaching English at Nanjing University of Science and Technology. Joni loved children and went on numerous medical missions to Honduras, Guatemala, and Zimbabwe to treat injured children and to tell them of the love of Jesus. Above all Joni loved Jesus and never forgot Him!

Joni is survived by her siblings: Marjorie (Gary) Frei of Rhodes, Kenneth (Maria) Wiederhold of Florida, Larry Wiederhold of Elkton, Linda (Ken) Wymer of Pinconning, Robert (Roslyn) Wiederhold of Davison, Colleen (James) Holmes of Mayville, Sandra (William) Erwin of Florida, Marsha (Thomas) Halka of Davisburg, Gail Prill of Mayville, Fay (Kenneth) Ignash of Elkton, Mark Widerhold of Elkton, and many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents: Hazel and Edward Wiederhold, step-mother Allalee Wiederhold, her sister Betty Cox, brothers: Barry and Clark Wiederhold, sister-in-law Ruth Wiederhold, brother-in-law Paul Prill, two nieces, two nephews and one great niece.

Funeral Services for Joni will be Monday, August 26, 2019 at 11 am at Elkton Missionary Church. Burial will take place at Arlington National Cemetery.

Visitation for Joni will be at the church, on Monday, beginning at 10 am until time of services at 11 am. Arrangements are being handled by the Kaufman Funeral Home of Bad Axe.

The family wishes to express a special thank you to Residential Hospice and Meadow Lane Memory Care for the wonderful care she received.

Memories can be shared at www.Kaufmanfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

Elkton Missionary Church
220 N. Main St.
Elkton, MI

Service

AUG **26**. 11:00 AM.

Elkton Missionary Church
220 N. Main St.
Elkton, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Col. Luvina (Joni) Triplett (USAF)*

January 28, 2023 at 01:32 PM



“ *Joni was a dear friend during her time here in the Lynden, Washington area. I remember one of our first outings together. We both boarded the church bus to attend a combined service at an out-of-town church. A distinguished, much older, widowed gentleman from our congregation was also on the bus and we were his escorts the remainder of the evening...and he called us his girlfriends! It made his evening, and ours too!! Even though I knew him for a longer time, he remembered Joni the most. She was indeed an unforgettable person!*

The enclosed picture was taken at a "pool party" when Joni and her "guardian angel" Helene Ypma arrived after an appointment at the beauty shop. They both were so cute!

She shared herself with the world (literally) and with us, personally. We knew she had a loving family and we share our sympathies in your family loss.



Gail Assink - September 09, 2019 at 02:10 PM

AD

“ *Such a beautiful soul. Sending the family my deepest sympathy. Rest in peace, dear Joni.*



Alana DeGarmo - September 01, 2019 at 01:35 PM

BD

“ *Joni, you were an amazing person and an awesome flight nurse. I am proud to have served with you. Fair winds and following seas, my friend.*

Bernardine Donato - August 28, 2019 at 02:46 PM

RC

Joni, you were always a great person Henry, Joe Leuridan and i used to kid around with you. We Love You!

Ray Cenicerros - August 28, 2019 at 07:31 PM

FI

Thank you, so much, for your kind words to Joni! Fay Esther (Joni's sister)

Fay Ignash - August 29, 2019 at 10:04 AM

RB

Joni,

*It was an honor to serve with you and the 146th AES, Van Nuys. Just learned of your passing on 4/23/2021. I distinctly remember the M*A*S*H re-enactment party the unit celebrated. Rest in peace!*

RICK Du BOSE, MSC, Ret, April 24, 2021 at 11:38 AM

RICK Du BOSE - April 24, 2021 at 11:39 AM

MK

“ I was very blessed by meeting and caring for Joni. She loved to praise and worship the Lord, making sacrifices of praise when her body was weak. What an inspiration she was to me! She loved the Bible and we had many wonderful times together with Jesus. I am looking forward to rejoicing with Joni in Heaven, shouting, and jumping for joy with our new bodies. God bless and comfort her family. Marie Kiehl

Marie Kiehl - August 26, 2019 at 09:23 AM

FI

Thank you Marie!

Fay Ignash - August 29, 2019 at 10:05 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Col. Luvina (Joni) Triplett (USAF).



August 26, 2019 at 09:01 AM

FY

“ Fred and Helene Ypma purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Col. Luvina (Joni) Triplett (USAF).



Fred and Helene Ypma - August 24, 2019 at 11:10 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ingrid Havens - August 23, 2019 at 11:52 PM



Thank you Ping...LOVE this pic! Auntie Fay Esther

Fay Ignash - August 29, 2019 at 10:06 AM



Awesome picture.

Colleen Holmes - November 03, 2019 at 10:50 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Col. Luvina (Joni) Triplett (USAF).



August 23, 2019 at 03:47 PM

PL

“ *Joni came into my life at 9 years old as a camp counselor at the Nazarene Church camp at Indian Lake. I admired her so much and she was a big influence on my life. We wrote many years as she was serving her country all over the world.*

I lost contact of her when I had my first child. It was not until my 2nd husband's parents said they knew some Weiderholds in Saginaw and that is when we reconnected. I was so excited! I never knew her sister Fay lived in Muskegon for sometime so close to Grand Haven. I again saw her at Indian Lake when she was the camp nurse and that influenced me to go into nursing. I have loved my nursing profession for over 35 years.

She was an amazing woman and loved Jesus so much!

One of the funny things she did was during church at camp she made me take out my gum and put it on my shoe. At the time I did not really like it.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Joni's family and friends. She will be so missed.

Now she is at peace with no suffering walking with her Lord and Savior!

Pam Ledford

Pam Ledford - August 22, 2019 at 10:26 AM

FI

Thank you Pam! Fay Esther (Joni's sister)

Fay Ignash - August 29, 2019 at 10:08 AM