



## Marilyn Carroll Bennett

November 28, 1926 - February 25, 2021

Marilyn Carroll Bennett (nee Marilyn Carroll Kratt) left this world for her eternal home on Thursday February 25, 2021, at 94 years of age. Marilyn lived a life full of love, grace, leadership and genuine caring for those around her. She was a woman of immense faith throughout her life and until she was returned to her Lord.

She was born on November 28, 1926 in Toledo, Ohio to Clarence and Virginia Kratt. Marilyn grew up in Toledo graduating from Scott High School in 1944. She was the first of her family to attend college and received her Bachelor of Arts with honors in 1948 from the University of Toledo. There she met her future husband Milton Walker Bennett Jr. on a blind date. On March 21, 1948 she and Milton were married at the First Baptist Church of Greater Toledo. They shared 62 wonderful years of marriage, full of joys, challenges, and adventures. She was unfailing in her support of Milt's business endeavors and in their shared passion for their church, community service and charity work. Throughout their lives they travelled extensively around the world seeing all seven continents together. Milt and Marilyn also loved to take their entire family on trips where everyone could be together and experience new things as a close-knit group.

Marilyn was a member of First Baptist Church of Greater Toledo for 83 years. She was a leader within the church including serving as its Executive council president. She was a 50-year member of P.E.O. International and held several offices in her local chapter.

Marilyn was also an active member in the Masonic community. She was a Life member of Palestine Chapter #51, O.E.S. and served as Worthy Matron for the chapter several times. She also served as Worthy Grand Matron for the State of Ohio in 1992. This was a cherished experience in Marilyn's life and she continued to host her "Smooth Sailors Grand Family" for annual reunions up until 2019. She was dedicated to her O.E.S. family and friends always staying in touch, and sending cards to let them know they were in her thoughts and prayers.

Marilyn was "sharp as a tack" and couldn't help but stay busy and active. She was very "with the times" and stayed on top of technology including being a Facebook member, emailing friends on her Mac, and wearing an iWatch. She was an avid sports fan watching every game she could especially the Tigers and the University of Michigan...Go Blue! She was happy to talk sports with anyone especially her grandsons.

Though she was the only child of an only child, she became the mother of four children, grandmother to eleven, and a great-grandmother to fourteen. She once said, "it is a little bit overwhelming at times," but she lived her life surrounded by family and love.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her husband Milton Bennett and son Gary Bennett. She is survived by her son, David and his wife Gwen of Toledo, OH; daughter, Carol and her husband David Clarke of Toledo, OH; and daughter Susan and her husband Michael Dunlap of Denver, NC. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren: Robert (Kerri) Bennett, Allison Bennett, Stephanie Bennett, Melissa (Benjamin) Beckett, Elizabeth (David) Zaenger, Lauren (Matthew) Hadeed, Richard (Christine) Dunlap, Thomas (Ashby) Dunlap, Courtney (Mike) Brauer, Amanda (Justin) Schafer, Daniel (Johanna) Bennett.

Marilyn once said "God has been very good to me, He has given me a wonderful family, great friends, great health for the most of my life and so much more!"

The family will be holding a private service and burial and are making plans for a larger celebration of her life in the future.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the First Baptist Church of Greater Toledo, YMCA's Camp Storer, or the Ohio Eastern Star Home.

# Cemetery

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## **Toledo Memorial Park**

6382 Monroe Street

Sylvania, OH, 43560

# Comments

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“ Greg and I send our condolences to the Bennett family. Marilyn was truly an inspiration to all and she was a lady full of grace. We will miss those special stories she shared at our 1992 holiday get together.  
Prayers to you and yours,  
Karen (Woods) and Greg Schwab

**Karen Schwab** - March 14 at 07:24 PM

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“ I first met Marilyn when I joined First Baptist Church of Greater Toledo, several years ago.

I sing as a member of the church's Praise Team.

Marilyn was always smiling, during the Sunday Services and gatherings there as well!

Back before the pandemic, when we could actually shake hands and share hugs with one another, during that portion of the service, I always made my way to her seat to get my hug! And she'd ALWAYS compliment me on whatever songs we had sung, and how beautiful they sounded!.

Marilyn was that wonderful with ALL of us!.

She was on the "short list" of people who I am going to hug, when we finally can do that, safely again.

Now, she's graduated to the heavenly list, and I'm going to look her up, when I finally go home as well.

Prayers for David and Gwen, and all the Bennett family, during this time of sorrow, but also in celebration of a promise from her savior JESUS, to come back for her.

Thank you Marilyn for your love.

Shalom, John

**John Knapp** - March 01 at 01:07 PM

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“ My love and thoughts coming to the Bennett family each day. You mom was my role model - starting meetings with inspirational thoughts to set the tone. She shared many of them with me. Always fun and enlightening to talk with. She had her opinions and wasn't afraid to share them, but always with the why to support them. We were all lucky that her brain stayed sharp, conversations were meaningful and relations stayed intact through the last few years. Marilyn and you dad left a legacy of generosity, love, family, and service that I witness in each of you. Embrace those memories, take time to grieve. Love to. All.

**Becky Spencer** - March 01 at 08:08 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album Photos with Marilyn



**Susan B Dunlap** - February 28 at 05:40 PM



“ You two always beautiful and put together.

**Becky Spencer** - March 01 at 07:57 AM



“ Sue, What a beautiful picture to remember you and your mother. We both were so close with our mothers and will continue to be, jus in a different form now. So many of my memories growing up as a young woman are with your mom and dad and you and Rainbows. We were truly blessed to be raised by strong women who taught us to be strong women. May God bless and watch over you and your family during this time of transition.  
Mary Beth

**Mary Begley** - March 06 at 01:34 PM



“ Thank you Mary

**Sie Dunlap** - March 22 at 06:46 AM

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“ We met Marilyn through the Order of the Eastern Star. Marilyn was a friend to my wife, Virginia. I will always remember her grace and kindness and also, her enjoyment of a good story. We were blessed to have known this Christian lady. Our condolences to her family. We lift you in prayer.

John and Virginia Dunn.

John Dunn - February 28 at 10:00 AM

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“ My thoughts and prayers to Marilyn's family. She was truly a lady of grace and dignity. I was very fortunate to call her a friend. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Peggy Eberhardt - February 27 at 10:39 PM

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“ Mary and I send our sincerest sympathies to Milt and Family in your loos. Marilyn was a great and warm individual, Eastern Star has lost another royalty. God Bless

Thomas and Mary Mercer - February 27 at 06:45 PM



“ Harold and Julie Tucker are sorry to hear of her passing she was a kind and beautiful lady and will be greatly missed

julie tucker - March 01 at 01:13 PM

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“ Marilyn was always a kind a gracious lady. As a first-time Matron of Lotus Chapter #477, I had the nerve to ask the Associate Grand Matron to be my installing officer. She accepted, and did a beautiful job. That was just one of the first examples of her willingness to serve and do so with love and kindness.

Barb Newman

**Barb Newman** - February 27 at 05:53 PM



“ Dale and I were welcomed with open arms by Marilyn when we began attending FBCOGT. She was kind and smiling each Sunday afterwards. She will be missed by all.

**Lee Williams** - February 28 at 03:40 PM



“ I loved watching Marilyn on the Chapter Room floor. She preformed her work with poise and style. She was a beautiful lady inside and out. God Bless. Sharon Basil

**Sharon Basil** - February 28 at 11:48 PM