



Barbara Brennan

August 20, 1932 - January 26, 2014

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Barbara Craig Brennan, 81, long-time resident of West Copake, New York, died peacefully in Moraga, California. Born to the late Joseph and Alma Craig and raised in Apple River, Illinois, Barbara graduated from the Platteville State Teachers College in Wisconsin and later received her master's degree from the State University of New York at New Paltz. She taught elementary school for many years, first in the Hudson City School District and then at Roeliff Jansen and Taconic Hills. She and Edward Joseph Brennan were married in 1956 and moved to West Copake in 1963.

Edward died in 2002. Barbara was also predeceased by her grandson, John Robert Carrick, in 2010, and by her sister, Lois Slaght, in 2012. She is survived by her children Paul Brennan and his wife Annie, Mary Ann Carrick and her husband James, Sara Brennan and her husband Ed Gump, Patrick Brennan and his wife Anne Ferry, and Laura Brennan; grandchildren Edward Carrick, Richard Carrick, Grace Anne Carrick, Lucy Brennan and Gloria Ferry Brennan; great-grandson Laszlo McDowell; and her sister's daughters Suzanne Wright and Cathy Willis.

Those who knew Barbara will remember what a beautiful spirit she had, and with what loving kindness she smiled on everyone. There will be a memorial service at the West Copake Reformed Church (2692 County Route 7 Copake, NY) on Saturday, February 22 at 11:00, and the family will receive friends at the Brennan family home afterward.

Share a memory of Barbara – or of “Mrs. Brennan,” as she was known to the hundreds of students she taught over the years www.sacomcdonaldvalenti.com

Cemetery Details

West Copake Reformed Church Cemetery

2692 County Rte. 7
Copake, NY 12516

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 22. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

West Copake Reformed Church
2692 County Rte. 7
Copake, NY

Committal Prayers

FEB 22. 12:00 PM - 12:15 PM (ET)

West Copake Reformed Church Cemetery
2692 County Rte. 7
Copake, NY 12516

Tribute Wall

KD

“ I was thinking of my time at roeliff-jansen elem. Today and thought of Mrs. Brennan. She was my favourite teacher back in 1973. I could not remember her first name as it was a long time ago. So I Google her name and sadly found she had passed. She was a sweet person. She used to bring Nabisco Social Tea cookies to school and when the other kids were at recess she would offer me some. She won't be forgotten. Karen M Durant Highland NY

Karen M Durant - May 08, 2015 at 01:06 PM

LB

Thanks so much for sharing this, Karen. Sincerely, Laura Brennan

Laura Jean Brennan - January 13, 2019 at 08:08 PM

SP

“ Sally Piester lit a candle in memory of Barbara Brennan



sally piester - February 24, 2014 at 06:02 PM

LL

“ Mrs. Brennan was the best teacher I had in all of my years in formal education. I'm glad she was one of the first, because she gave me hope for those to follow - but I'm also a bit disappointed that they didn't save the best for last... no one lived up to the precedent that she set. I was a very active child (hyperactive, some may say) and Mrs. Brennan was never bothered. Instead of being punitive, she was creative in her method to keep order to her boisterous class. She set a "rule" that I had to keep one body part on my desk or chair at all times (excluding reading time, of course, where we all had floor time). Most of the time it was all I could do but to keep my toes on the farthest angled leg of my chair - she never corrected until I had separated from the furniture. I remember feeling appreciated by her at all times, and never was made embarrassed for there was never any negative attention brought to me by her. I am now a mother of a very active child (hyperactive, some may say) and do my very best to follow Mrs. Brennan's lead and treat my child with respect and kindness and appreciate his personality for what it is, instead of punishing him for standing out! Mrs. Brennan will be missed profoundly.

Loretta (Murphy-Goretsky) Longo - February 24, 2014 at 05:32 PM

LB

I remember you, Loretta. I appreciate your memory. Let respect and kindness prevail. Thank you so much for sharing. Laura Brennan

Laura Jean Brennan - January 13, 2019 at 08:07 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Barbara Brennan.



February 06, 2014 at 09:37 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Barbara Brennan.* ”



February 06, 2014 at 09:18 AM