



## Mrs. Marian A. Wheaton

August 29, 1920 - October 17, 2016

Marian A. Wheaton nee DeBender age 96 formerly of Chicago. Dear Wife of the Late Everett " Dutch " Wheaton. Loving Mother of Nancy ( Tom ) Thoss, the Late David ( Carol ) Storm & Cynthia ( the late Steven ) Philipp. Grandmother of 10 Great Grandmother of 15. Favorite Aunt Marian to many Nieces and Nephews. Visitation Saturday, October 22, 2016 from 10:00 am until time of Service 11:00 am at The Evangelical Church of the Good Shepherd 7800 W. McCarthy Rd. Palos Heights, Il. 60463 Private Interment Acacia Park Cemetery, Norridge, Il. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Alzheimer's Association Greater Illinois Chapter 8430 W. Bryn Mawr, Suite 800 Chicago, IL. 60631 or your favorite Charity would be appreciated.

For additional information please call Van Henkelum Funeral Home 708 448-3530

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

OCT **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
7800 W. McCarthy Road  
Palos Heights, IL 60463

### Service

OCT **22**. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (CT)

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
7800 W. McCarthy Road  
Palos Heights, IL 60463

# Tribute Wall

MM

“Great Aunt Marian! What a remarkable woman she was. Growing up in northern Wisconsin, far from the hub of the family-life in the Chicago area, Aunt Marian always made my brother and I feel welcome and loved when we came to visit for weddings and Christmas parties. I know she felt great warmth toward my father, her nephew who was just 11 years younger than her, and she generously extended that warmth to us. She believed in family. As she did for so many, she always sent a card for every birthday (I was still getting them long into adulthood!) When my grandmother, Marge, her older sister, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease, she was there for us. When I became my grandma's caregiver at the ripe old age of 24, she was a constant support for me and picked up the slack when I became overwhelmed or needed a break, which was often. She tirelessly visited her in the nursing home and kept on the staff about her care. Our gratitude for her unwavering dedication to her sister has no limits. Some time after my grandma was moved to Wisconsin to be closer to my dad, Marian and I went on a road trip to northern Wisconsin for a visit. During the 16 total hours of driving, she shared with me her memories and stories of growing up, the hard times she endured and overcame, and the life she built, along with a lot of wisdom about the world. She, (and my grandmother, too) was an example of loving generosity, perseverance, loyalty, and grit. She is the last of her generation. I'm so glad I knew her. I'm so sorry she is gone. I wish we could be there today to celebrate her life and grieve her passing. Warmly, Marielle Mershart

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**Marielle Mershart** - October 22, 2016 at 01:13 PM

KE

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Kerri - October 21, 2016 at 10:51 PM

KE

“ My grandma was a very special lady!! I was so blessed to have her in my life and call her "Gram". She had a huge heart and was loved by everyone! She remembered every occasion, big or small, for everyone. She was very crafty- the most memorable being candy dolls and mugs. She was always writing poetry, many of which were published. She had a great sense of humor -teaching her family little ditties that her and her brother would sing- "3 flies" being a favorite. She loved her coffee, at least a couple cups a day. Her friends and her family were very special to her and she to them. She will be missed greatly! I love you gram!❤️

Kerri - October 21, 2016 at 10:45 PM

KE

“ My grandma was a very special lady!! I was so blessed to have her in my life and call her "Gram". She had a huge heart and was loved by everyone! She remembered every occasion, big or small, for everyone. She was very crafty- the most memorable being candy dolls and mugs. She was always writing poetry, many of which were published. She had a great sense of humor -teaching her family little ditties that her and her brother would sing- "3 flies" being a favorite. She loved her coffee, at least a couple cups a day. Her friends and her family were very special to her and she to them. She will be missed greatly! I love you gram!❤️

Kerri - October 21, 2016 at 10:41 PM

AF

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Amy Flannery** - October 21, 2016 at 04:58 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of *Mrs. Marian A. Wheaton*.



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October 21, 2016 at 04:22 PM

DA

“ So many great memories of Aunt Marian. Quick to laugh and give you a tight hug, she always found a way to make you feel special. She was so generous to our family with gifts and love. We always looked forward to visiting her home in the city. We knew there would be fun, games and that huge smile when we walked in the door.... letting us know how happy she was that we were there.

*I admired her independence and her get-it-done attitude. She was always there when it was important, including traveling across the country for my wedding.*

*I regret that I can't be there for the service. I will hold my beautiful memories near and celebrate the life of this amazing women who touch so many of us with her abundance of love.*

*Love to all.  
Darleen*

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**Darleen** - October 21, 2016 at 07:27 AM

JJ

“ Aunt Marian loved family and family parties. I remember many BBQ's in her backyard in the summertime. Family parties especially Christmas Eve, Aunt Marian brought out her movie camera. Years ago it needed a light bar. I remember the lights were so bright and hot that I bet they could melt windows. She took those movies for many years. When I was in high school at Lane Tech I would stop by Aunt Marian's house which was only blocks from the school. She always had time for me to sit and visit for a while. For decades, she never failed to send a birthday card or anniversary card. It was so nice to be remembered. She was one of a kind. and she will be remembered and missed.

*John (Johnny Jeff) & Carol DeBender*

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**Johnny Jeff** - October 20, 2016 at 08:44 PM

JN

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Jeanne Waldack Novak** - October 20, 2016 at 07:43 AM

JN

*This is a childhood photo of Marian DeBender growing up in Chicago, taken in front of the family home.*

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**Jeanne Waldack Novak** - October 20, 2016 at 10:36 AM

JN

“ *Aunt Marian was an inspiring life force for all our family. She was my mentor from when I started babysitting for Nancy, David and Cindy, through my high school years working for her and Uncle Dutch at Lincolnwood Fairways in the Pro Shop and learning bookkeeping and office skills at Northern Golf Ball Company. After I went on to a career in advertising, I went back to working for her part-time to save for my wedding, later to make ends meet when my kids were pre-school age. She and Dutch gave my husband Vic a job at the driving range to help us get started after he was discharged from the Navy. She had such a giving heart, showed me by her example how to work hard, work smart, be creative, laugh and love people. Orphaned as a teen, she worked hard to earn her success as a businesswoman but was always so down-to-earth and kind to people. Family meant everything to her and she radiated such joy in sharing, giving the most exciting presents! For me, she gave of herself and helped prepare me for life. Much love goes with you on Angel's wings to heaven, dear Aunt Marian! - Jeanne*

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**Jeanne Waldack Novak** - October 20, 2016 at 07:32 AM

JD

“ There was no one quite like my Aunt Marian. She was smart and funny and independent way ahead of her time. She loved her family and had a love of life. Aunt Marian had an incredible gift for understanding people and making it easy to talk to her. She loved to make things with her hands. I remember her glitter on packages when I was a kid. How cool was that!! She was family but she was also my friend. I will miss her beyond words. By now she is decorating tables up in heaven. I am sure there are a lot of laughs going on at the family reunion going up there. She is finally at peace and it is well deserved. May God continue to bless her.

All my love, Jill

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**Jill DeBender** - October 19, 2016 at 01:06 PM



Jill, there's not much more I can say. Aunt Marian was so very, very special. Nancy, Tom and family .... you took such wonderful care of her. I will miss you, Aunt Marian, and will keep you close to my heart, forever.

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**Kathleen Kaeppler** - October 20, 2016 at 07:00 AM