



Joan Meekins

June 23, 1938 - October 2, 2020

It is with joy and tears we remember the life of Joan Ellen Krabbe Meekins, our mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend. On June 23, 1938, Joan was born to Winifred Rose Gamble Krabbe in Portland, Oregon. She graduated from Burlingame High School and attended Chico State. While living in California, she met her husband, Charles (Chuck) Meekins whom she married October 1, 1960 and with whom she would spend the next 55 years. Their son John was born in 1962 and Lisa followed in 1965. Then, in 1972, Chuck and Joan were surprised with twins, Lois and Heidi.

In 1977, Chuck and Joan packed up their family and belongings and headed east from their farm in Grenada, California to a farm in Wadena, Minnesota. There, Chuck and Joan proudly raised cattle for many years. It was here she honed her talent of raising and selling chickens (a task only Heidi and John were willing to take part in).

As the family grew, her love for her grandchildren showed in the cookies always ready for them, the warm holidays spent at her home, her attendance at sporting events, and her loving hugs each time they were together.

In 2015, Joan lost her husband Chuck, but did not lose herself. She continued “to look after cattle” by renting the pasture. Then, after some time, she hesitantly embraced a move “to town” where she developed a genuine love

for her new home and where she continued her hobbies of sewing and knitting for her family and friends. She also enjoyed traveling the country with her children and grandchildren: spending time on the sunny shore of Lake Superior, as a tourist in the streets of Washington, DC, visiting her sister Mary in Vermont, attending a stunning family wedding on the San Francisco Bay, and taking a road trip with her daughter to Medora. We feel privileged to have gotten these additional memories to carry forward with us.

Joan was always surrounded by animals. Ruby, Penny, Paisley, Sadie, Harley, & LucyLo, her “grand-pups,” were well-loved and spoiled. Often, their attendance at family events was mandatory. You might consider giving extra treats and pats to your dog as a way to honor Joan.

Joan’s legacy shines on vibrantly in those she raised and those whose lives have been touched by her strength and kindness: her sister Mary Krabbe Kerr of Vergennes, VT; her son John (Tina) Meekins of Port Orchard, WA; daughters Lisa (Butch) Meyer of Andover, MN, Lois (Chad) Croonquist of Alexandria, MN, Heidi Meekins of Wadena, MN; grandkids Tiffany Korver, Lesli (Minh) Meekins, Jackson (Jamie) Meekins, Hunter and Logan Croonquist, Cody, Katie, and Colton Dolezal, Alicia and Emily Meyer; great grandchildren, Kaiden, Calvin, Arthur, Izzy and Jaydyn.

Joan passed away surrounded by family on October 2, 2020 and was reunited with Chuck and family and friends who passed before her. Her life will be celebrated with an intimate family gathering.

Tribute Wall

GD

“ When Joan came to our wedding in San Francisco she spread new wings. She had a blast along with the rest of us. Her radiant smile was unforgettable. She got to see the west coast again. So sorry for your loss, she was vey fortunate to have all you with her when she passed. She was never alone and will never be. Such a sweet soul!



geoff & dan - October 11, 2020 at 12:43 AM



Thank you Geoff and Dan. I treasure this picture so much!

Lisa Meekins Meyer - October 12, 2020 at 01:29 PM

TS

“ Tom And Cheryl Speed lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins



Tom and Cheryl Speed - October 09, 2020 at 08:25 PM

SP

“ Sorry For your loss, Joan and I met at the Maslowski Center and that was when she told me about her moving in to Wadena after always attending her farm, animals, etc. Enjoyed our visits. Sandi



Sandi & Barry Pratt - October 08, 2020 at 01:40 PM

GK

“ So sorry for your loss. Joan was so special and her beautiful smile radiates the love she had for her family and life. We are so blessed to have had a memorable family evening together during the Washington DC adventure and before that, in San Francisco. Losing such an amazing person is so hard, so sad, and will take time for all the tears to turn into only beautiful memories of a life well lived. Our prayers to you ALL as you live through your loss and embrace the goodness she brought to so many. All our love, Gib and Diane Kerr 💕💕

Gib and Diane Kerr - October 06, 2020 at 10:58 PM

MH

“ Marladene Heinen lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins



Marladene Heinen - October 06, 2020 at 06:49 PM

AA

“ Arlys Andrews lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins



Arlys Andrews - October 06, 2020 at 04:34 PM

LB

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Your mom was such a sweet lady. I enjoyed our visits we had over the years. She will be missed by so many people! Prayers to your entire family. 🙏🙏

Londa Burgau - October 06, 2020 at 03:52 PM

SG

“ *I worked with Joan for over 20 years, she was always smiling and had a positive, uplifting spirit. She will be missed by so many.*

Sandra Gould - October 06, 2020 at 11:00 AM

KA

“ *Joan was such a kind heart! So sorry for your loss.*

Katie - October 06, 2020 at 10:22 AM

RB

“ *Our sympathies to the family. Joan was a great lady and a joy to work with at the grocery store.*
Dorothy and Ray Beyer



Raymond Beyer - October 06, 2020 at 10:04 AM

JJ

“ *Jon Johnson lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



Jon Johnson - October 06, 2020 at 09:56 AM



“ *Gladys Chase lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



Gladys Chase - October 06, 2020 at 08:30 AM

JE

“ I remember her coming into the MAS and how she walked inside and how she spoke so well of her Family.

Janet Eckman - October 06, 2020 at 05:51 AM

RN

“ The Sebeka School and Community has been Blessed 🙏 with the Meekins Family. The great support of Joan and her husband, Chuck has left a most positive Legacy. Thanks : 1: 🙏🙏🙏! Bob and Margaret Norman 💕💕

Robert E. Norman - October 05, 2020 at 11:56 PM

BH

“ Bob & Donna Haman lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins



Bob & Donna Haman - October 05, 2020 at 11:10 PM

BH

“ Bob & Donna Haman lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins



Bob & Donna Haman - October 05, 2020 at 11:01 PM

DI

“ *Dixie lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



Dixie - October 05, 2020 at 10:15 PM

JK

“ *Jean & Bruce Kinnunen lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



Jean & Bruce Kinnunen - October 05, 2020 at 09:58 PM

SW

“ *Sue White lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



Sue white - October 05, 2020 at 09:46 PM

IA

“ *Sat beside joan as we k itted on wed*

Ines Ashbaugh - October 05, 2020 at 08:24 PM

IA

“ *Ines Ashbaugh lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



Ines Ashbaugh - October 05, 2020 at 08:23 PM

GE

“ *Sorry to hear, Joan and Chuck were the best neighbors!! Greg and Mary Erickson*

Greg Erickson - October 05, 2020 at 08:16 PM

CO

“ *I so enjoyed visiting with Joan, during knit club. Prayers for her family.*

Carol A Osborn - October 05, 2020 at 07:39 PM

SB

“ *Sharon Boline lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



Sharon Boline - October 05, 2020 at 07:22 PM

CG

“ *Cindy And Lyle Goeden lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



Cindy and Lyle Goeden - October 05, 2020 at 05:27 PM

RK

“ *Rich & Mavis Kendall lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



Rich & Mavis Kendall - October 05, 2020 at 04:43 PM

VG

“ *Heaven gained a beautiful angel just look at that smile:) Celebrating Joan's arrival home and praying for strength for you all as you navigate this world without her. My sincerest condolences.*
Vicky Gehring



Vicky Gehring - October 05, 2020 at 03:48 PM

BB

“ *Betty Barr lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



Betty Barr - October 05, 2020 at 03:26 PM

DR

“ *David & Barb Rousslang lit a candle in memory of Joan Meekins*



david & barb rousslang - October 05, 2020 at 02:55 PM