



Joan Gillespie Gantner

August 7, 1939 - March 7, 2026

Joan Gillespie Gantner passed away on March 7, 2026, at the age of 86. She was born on August 7, 1939, and was a lifelong resident of Pine Bush, NY. Joan is survived by her daughter, Linda Doty and her husband Mark, and her son, Richard Gantner and his wife Carla. She is also survived by her four cherished granddaughters and their husbands Casey and Ryan Bannon, Amy and Brian Sullivan, Amber and Mack Kilkeary, and Chelsea and Len Lilley. She was also blessed with five great-grandchildren - Cole & Parker Bannon, Aisla & Shay Kilkeary, Finn Sullivan, and five foster great-grandchildren. Also surviving are her sister Lorraine Gihl and her husband Jim, several nieces and nephews and her beloved friend and companion, Richard Smith Sr.

Joan was preceded in death by her parents, Roland and Thelma Gillespie and her sister, Joyce Laurent.

Joan spent her life in service to her family, of which she was extremely proud. Watching her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren live loving and happy lives brought her immense joy. She was a longtime and active member of Hopewell Presbyterian Church where she served as a Deacon and in numerous other roles. In her free time Joan enjoyed sewing, crafting and doing crossword puzzles. In her later years Joan could often be found enjoying the sunshine on her porch and chatting with neighbors, friends, and family members who visited. Joan's love and friendship will be sorely missed.

A memorial service and celebration of Joan's life will be held on Saturday, April 11 at 11:00 am at Hopewell Presbyterian Church in Thompson Ridge, NY.

Arrangement of cremation and other support for the family is being provided by Dewitt-Martinez Funeral Home in Pine Bush.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hopewell Presbyterian Church
Thompson Ridge Road and NY 302
Thompson Ridge, NY 10985

Tribute Wall



“ I’m so sorry for your loss. The boys and I always enjoyed seeing Joan - whether it was a quick catch-up after church or running into her at the grocery store. She was such a warm and lovely person, always smiling and truly lighting up the room. She will be missed.

*With sympathy,
Wendy Lupinski-Beck, Stosh Lupinski, and Matthew Lupinski*

Wendy Lupinski-Beck - April 09 at 03:03 PM



“ Our sincere condolences Linda and Mark and the entire family for your loss. I did enjoy our quick conversations with Ruth at Goodwill!!

Julia Szulewski - April 07 at 03:36 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Joan Gillespie Gantner.



April 03 at 09:49 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joan Gillespie Gantner.

April 03 at 09:49 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Joan Gillespie Gantner.*



April 03 at 09:47 AM



“ *My wife and I moved to Pine Bush in 2023 and bought on Railroad Ave across the street from Joan. She was a terrific neighbor and friend and we spent many times chatting on that porch she loved so much. We will miss her very much.*
- George and Brenda

George DeHaven - March 19 at 11:54 AM



“ *I am so sorry, I am just seeing this now. Joan was such a great friend to my mom. They had so much fun together. I am sure they are reunited in heaven. Condolences from Paul and I to the family.*

Barbara Starr-Carroll - March 15 at 10:27 AM



“ *I lived on Finneran lane when she and her husband were there. She was a dear sweet lady and great neighbor. Me and my children will always have good memories of her and Loring.* ❤️🌹

Cathleen Ciaccio - March 14 at 08:52 PM

JG

So thankful for true neighbors like Joan! She welcomed our family to Pine Bush forty two years ago. Together we were water aerobic enthusiasts and pizza party participants afterwards. She was always ready for our kids at the door when trick or treat time came. She waved from her porch or hugged at the Post Office. My last memory of Joan was watching her enjoy this past year's Christmas parade in town. May God bless her family knowing what a blessing she was to so many.

Jan Ziegler Gordon - March 15 at 08:46 AM

MW

“*Joan and I were class mates and life long friends, lost track of each other 1955 when I left for the Air Force (I was asked to leave school ,was a terrible student dumb as a pile of rocks) never to see nor speak to each other until a chance in a life time we met again (over 50 years of absence) What a delight!, Joan told me I was her "first boyfriend" as she was my first girlfriend ! 5th or 6th grade or there about. I send my deepest Condolences to all Joan's family and friends, she will remain in our heart until we meet again across the Great Divide, may Joan sleep softly in the arms of the Angels. .*

Michael Winters - March 14 at 01:51 PM

JK

“*So very sorry to hear of Joan's passing. She was a lovely person that I'll miss.*

Jessica Kempter - March 14 at 10:59 AM

CM

“*So sorry to hear of Joan's passing. She was such a lovely person and dear friend. I will miss our conversations. I extend my most sincere condolences to her family. Carolyn (Edgar) Morgenthaler*

Carolyn J Morgenthaler - March 11 at 06:00 PM

LB

So sorry to hear of your grandmother's passing, always loved her and her sisters!

Lynn Roebuck Boynton - March 12 at 07:13 PM