



Joyce (Elaine) Means Leacock

August 13, 1938 - February 8, 2022

Joyce (Elaine) Means Leacock, known to her friends and family as Joyce, Joy, Mom(my), Aunt Joy and/or Grandmom, was born on August 13, 1938 in Connellsville, Pennsylvania to the late Dr. James and Vera (Lambie) Means. She died on February 8, 2022 in Sarasota at the age of 83. A resident of Baltimore, Maryland until her marriage, she moved to Sarasota in 1958 immediately following her wedding.

She was hired by Sarasota Memorial Hospital as a radiologic technologist in 1958 and left that position in 1963 to raise her family. She returned to work in 1981 as a school health aide and continued her employment with Sarasota County Schools until her retirement in 2000.

In her later years, when she wasn't enjoying time with friends, traveling or cheering on one of her favorite sports teams, Joyce became an avid volunteer for both Gulf Gate Elementary School and the Auxiliary at SMH. She was named an outstanding senior volunteer for the school district and became coordinator of her volunteer group at the hospital. However, her greatest joy was her family. Her joy meant anyone in that realm was loved unconditionally and without reservation. Her friends, and her children's friends, quickly realized they were part of that circle as were many acquaintances and the numerous students, and parents, she helped during her time in the health room. Kindness and love were her trademarks.

Joyce was predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Gilbert J. Leacock and her sister and brother-in-law, Patricia and Robert Forsythe. She is survived by her two children, Deborah L. (Carl) Lacy and Rebecca J. Leacock, all of Sarasota; her two grandchildren, Caroline E. (Taylor Melendy) Lacy and Gillian J. Lacy, all of Tallahassee, Florida; her caregiver, Guivi Villalona of Bradenton, Florida; her sister, Marjorie (David) Preis of New Bern, North Carolina; three nieces, Vera Lynn (Rick) Purcell and Joyce Forsythe both of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Tyker (Rick) Gonzales of Cove City, North Carolina; one nephew, Jim (Karen) Preis of Cary, North Carolina; two great nieces, four great nephews and numerous cousins.

Joyce leaves a legacy of kindness, tolerance, generosity and, above all, love. Her family will continue to work to insure her many admired personal qualities live on in words and deeds for generations to follow. Visitation will be on Saturday, February 19, at 11AM at Toale Brothers (Orange Avenue, downtown), with a funeral service and graveside service to follow. As an alternative to flowers, please consider a donation to Tidewell Hospice, 5955 Rand Boulevard, Sarasota, FL 34238 or tidewellhospice.org. Please designate the Sarasota location as the recipient of your gift.

Tribute Wall

BB

“ Oh my God my Joyce, you were loving and caring! You was a great friend and I really enjoyed the time working around and with you. I enjoyed hearing you talk, watching you sit! You will never be forgotten. My sincere condolences to the family!

Blue

Blue, Brookdale - February 19, 2022 at 07:14 AM



Thank you for sharing your memories of my dear , sweet Mom. She will be missed.

Becky Leacock - February 19, 2022 at 06:58 PM

MF

“ Joyce will always be a sweet, generous soul in my memory. She always had time to listen and give such good motherly advice. She was calm, even as health issues arose with teachers, students, and parents, as she cared for us in the clinic at Gulf Gate Elementary School. She will be remembered as a very caring individual who was there for us all. Thank you so much for being you, Joyce!!

Mary Fielder - February 17, 2022 at 11:35 PM



“ A rare gem, always there when you needed her. Loved sharing stories with her and getting her straight forward take on life. Missed and Loved.



Patti Harrell - February 12, 2022 at 10:24 PM

LF

“ Joyce was a warm and loving person never judge mental of anyone. She was there when I needed her . I met Joyce in 1992 when my son start kindergarten at Gulf Gate , he is now 34. RIP my dear and wonderful friend.

Linda Fowler - February 11, 2022 at 09:07 PM

LS

“ I remember when Joy would babysit my brothers and me. She was always so soft spoken and kind, I am fortunate to be in a family full of cousins who I love deeply and Joyce was no exception. She will be missed. RIP

Linda (Greggs) Spangenberger

Linda Lee SPANGENBERGER - February 11, 2022 at 06:14 PM