



Marilyn O'Brien

April 1, 1945 - February 8, 2021

Marilyn (McGee) O'Brien died on February 8, 2021, at Mercy Hospice in Johnston, Iowa.

Marilyn was born on Easter Sunday, April 1, 1945, in Melrose, Iowa. She was the only child of William and Kay McGee.

Marilyn grew up in Melrose and graduated from Albia High School in 1962. She attended Ottumwa Heights, Northeast Missouri State, and received her degree in Education from William Penn University. She later received her Masters in English from Drake University.

Marilyn married David O'Brien (also from Melrose) on July 1, 1967. Marilyn and Dave had two children, John and Marcy. John was a Professor of Physics and Executive Vice-Dean of the University of Southern California School of Engineering. Marcy is an attorney in Windsor Heights. Marilyn and Dave were married until Dave's death in 2002.

Marilyn taught junior and senior high school English in Indianola for twenty-five years and then was Curriculum Director for five years until her retirement in 2007. Following retirement, Marilyn volunteered in the parish office at Christ the King Church in Des Moines for ten years.

Marilyn is survived by her daughter, Marcy O'Brien. She is preceded in death by her husband, David O'Brien; her son, John O'Brien; and her parents, William and Kay McGee.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held, 11:00 am Friday, February 12, 2021 at Christ the King Catholic Church (5711 SW 9th Street Des Moines) with visitation beginning at 9:00 am until service time at the church. Burial will be 1 PM Saturday, February 20, 2021 at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Melrose, IA.

The visitation and funeral will be live Streamed on Dyamond Memorial's Facebook page beginning at 10 AM on Friday.

Flower delivery may be delivered to the church on Friday morning after 7:45 am.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Calvary

Melrose, IA

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 12. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Christ the King Parish
5711 SW 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50315

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

Christ the King Parish
5711 SW 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50315

Graveside Service

FEB 20. 1:00 PM (CT)

Mt. Calvary
Melrose, IA

Tribute Wall



“ *Dyamond Memorial Funeral and Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Marilyn O'Brien*



Dyamond Memorial - *Burials *Cremations *Monuments - February 17, 2021 at 04:10 PM



“ *Dyamond Memorial Funeral and Cremation Services created a Webcast in memory of Marilyn O'Brien*



Dyamond Memorial - *Burials *Cremations *Monuments - February 17, 2021 at 04:09 PM



“ *Mrs. O'Brien was one of my favorite teachers! She inspired me to keep honing my writing skills and find my voice. She was genuinely kind and so supportive! She will be remembered.*

Danielle Vanderhoef - February 13, 2021 at 04:55 PM

JB

“ I am so very sorry to hear from my son, Paul, about Marilyn's passing. She was one of the sweetest people and loved her family so much. We spent many hours together sharing our sons' love of music and listening to their band, RUBICON. My love goes out to you, Marcy, and the losses you have had to endure. Janna Booher

Janna Booher - February 13, 2021 at 09:15 AM

NP

“ It was a joy for me to teach with Marilyn. She was full of good ideas and the techniques to put them into practice. She was smart!

The best thing was spending time with her and learning from her how to be the gentle, wise, and funny person she was.

*Wishing you solace, Marcy.
Norma Pullen*

Norma Pullen - February 12, 2021 at 01:59 PM

KB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Marcy. We enjoyed having your Mom (and Dad) as neighbors in Indianola and as a co-worker at ICSD. She was a truly lovely person.
Kim and Steve Baltes

Kim Baltes - February 12, 2021 at 12:29 PM

PN

“ I met Marilyn at Christ The King Church many years ago. She was a kind and gentle person and very devout in her faith. I enjoyed the many conversations I had with her and will miss her friendly smile and wave when we greeted each other at mass. May she rest in peace.

Patty Nichols - February 12, 2021 at 12:21 PM

KC

“ We were neighbors of Bill, Kay and Marilyn for many years in Melrose. My sister Margaret and Marilyn were best friends. Marilyn had such a kind and loving nature, with a beautiful smile. She was a very genuine and thoughtful person. My sympathy to you Marcy .
Kit Dinneen Crane

kit crane - February 12, 2021 at 01:49 AM

MB

“ Your mother was an wonderful friend to me. We talked about a lot of different things. My hert aches for you. I'm sorry for your loss.

Mary Berry-Rodda - February 11, 2021 at 02:39 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Marilyn O'Brien.



February 11, 2021 at 11:01 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marilyn O'Brien.



February 11, 2021 at 10:39 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marilyn O'Brien.*



February 11, 2021 at 08:23 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Marilyn O'Brien.*



February 10, 2021 at 10:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marilyn O'Brien.*



February 10, 2021 at 08:28 PM



“ *I have so many great memories from being in Mrs. O'Brien's class in Junior High. Even though I received many detentions for not being seated in my desk, I was usually standing with a knee in my chair :), I still looked forward to seeing her each day. She is one of the reasons I chose to become a teacher myself. Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers. So sorry for your loss.*

Diana Marron - February 10, 2021 at 08:33 AM

KS

“ *Marilyn was an incredible teacher! She always made time for me after class to answer English/writing questions, but we also shared a love for basketball, so Indianola hoops dominated many of our best (and longest) conversations.*

Karl Skinner - February 10, 2021 at 08:21 AM

EM

“ *ED MCGINN lit a candle in memory of Marilyn O'Brien*



ED MCGINN - February 10, 2021 at 07:48 AM

EM

MARILYN AND DAVE WERE CLASSMATES AT ALBIA HIGH SCHOOL PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY ,, , WONDERFUL COUPLE

ED MCGINN - February 10, 2021 at 07:53 AM

MP

Mrs. O'Brien was one of the best teachers I ever had. She was incredibly thoughtful and really cared about her students. I have fond memories of every class! I'm so sorry to hear about this loss and will remember all of you in my prayers, especially you, Marcy!

Michelle E Petrell - February 10, 2021 at 10:01 AM

LB

I so enjoyed working with Marilyn when she was our curriculum director in Indianola. What a caring, thoughtful, person! She was such a great listener and really cared about students and teachers! I am so sorry to hear of her death! Thinking of you Marcy at this very sad time! Linda Brice

Linda Brice - February 11, 2021 at 09:51 AM

PR

Marilyn is my sister-in-law, I've known her since childhood .She was a happy, smiling,kind person all of her life. We were so happy to have her in our family. Marilyn did have great sadness in her life, but she was strong to the end. We are proud of her and will miss her.

Pat and Bob Ross

Pat and Bob Ross - February 11, 2021 at 11:59 AM

MM

Marilyn was one of my favorite 4-H members. I can still remember loading up the desk she had refinished and taking it to the state fair where it received a blue ribbon. She was 13 years old and I admired her and her husband from then on. Love and prayers. Margaret Herring Mordan

Margaret Mordan - February 11, 2021 at 03:20 PM

SJ

I taught with Marilyn at Indianola Junior High for many years. Our rooms were just across the hall from each other. That made for good chatter while doing hall duty. I so enjoyed our visits and seeing her bright smile each day. Marcy, I am thinking of you at this sad and difficult time. Hold on to all of your good memories to sustain you now and in the future.

Sally Johnson - February 11, 2021 at 05:26 PM

MM

Marilyn was a school mate who happened to marry my first cousin Dave. I was so sorry to hear of her passing. Enjoyed having visits with her when we met at different functions, a wonderful cousin and person. May God hold her in the palm of ;his hand. and take care of friends and Marcy.

Mary Jo O'Brien Mitterer

Mary Mitterer - February 12, 2021 at 05:38 PM