



Jane Ann Baker

April 6, 1943 - September 1, 2018

Jane Ann Baker, 75, died Saturday at home surrounded by her family. The daughter of Robert and Garnet Showalter, she was born April 6, 1943, in Muncie. Jane was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Bill.

Jane graduated from Royerton High School and received a Bachelor of Psychology from Earlham College. While at Earlham she met Bill Baker, and they married on June 27, 1965.

Jane was practical, thrifty, and gifted with enormous common sense. She could quote Consumer Reports, did the research, knew the side effects, read the small print and got things done.

She loved good books, a good bridge hand and thought everything from sweaters to cars should be in earth tones. She disliked cilantro, walnuts, and small-mindedness.

Jane was a Friend, a Quaker with an illuminating spirit which served as a beacon, and she was a friend, loyal and faithful and always dependable. She gave her time and talent to her church The First Friends Meeting, to installing life-lines in the county, and to reading stacks of scholarship applications.

Jane was a quiet force with a wicked-good sense of humor. When Jane

spoke, people listened. She kept confidences locked away. With great dignity, she taught the tough lessons: how to be a widow, how to wear a wig through a terminal illness, and how to end this earthly journey.

Jane was a member of the First Friends Meeting and served as its treasurer, Tri Kappa Associates, the Lilly Scholarship Committee of the Henry County Community Foundation, the Art Association of Henry County, Agenda Club, and the Bridge Biddies.

She was a loyal supporter of the New Castle-Henry County Library, the Henry County Community Foundation, the LifeLine program, and the “We the People” program of the Indiana Bar Foundation.

Survivors include: a daughter, Jill Smith (husband, Aaron), East Grand Rapids, MI; a son, Jay Baker (wife, Jody), Sullivan; grandchildren, William G. Smith and Emma Baker; step-grandchildren, Alexandria Thompson and Kayla Widing; sister, Judy Butler (husband, Jim), Blairsville, GA; brother, Dan Showalter (wife, Joan), Suttons Bay, MI; sister-in-law, Sharon Baker, Connersville; and, several nieces and nephews.

The family requests in lieu of flowers memorials be made to The Indiana Bar Foundation’s “We the People” program, 615 N. Alabama St., #122, Indianapolis, IN 46204; the First Friends Meeting; or, the Henry County Community Foundation, www.henrycountycf.org.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 3 pm Tuesday, September 4, 2018, at the First Friends Meeting with Pastor Rick Schoeff officiating. The family will greet family and friends in the lower level of the Meeting from 1:30 pm to 3 pm.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Sproles Family Funeral

Home. You may offer the family a personal condolence at www.sprolesfamilycares.com.

The Sproles family and staff are honored to serve the family of Jane Ann Baker.

Previous Events

Time of Greeting

SEP 4. 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

First Friends Meeting
503 S. Main St.
New Castle, IN 47362

Celebration of Life

SEP 4. 3:00 PM (ET)

First Friends Meeting
503 S. Main St.
New Castle, IN 47362

Tribute Wall

BB

“ Jay, my condolences and prayers go out to you and your family my old friend!



Bryan Burke - September 04, 2018 at 11:38 PM

PM

“ Jill. I have many great memories of your mom and her wonderful laugh! May that sound fill your memories forever! Peggy Manor

Peggy Manor - September 04, 2018 at 07:26 PM

EL

“ Jane and Bill took me into their home on many occasions to give me guidance about the We the People program, mentored me and always reminded me to keep my focus on the teachers. As busy as they were, somehow they were always available. A fixture in my professional life throughout my 20's, my time with them always left me smiling and feeling warm, and I have such wonderful memories of Jane poking fun at the stories Bill would tell. Jane was a beautiful soul, very kind and very funny, and she and Bill just sparkled together. They made my life better, as I know they did for countless others. I will treasure the memories, and my heart aches for the family. Thank you for sharing her with us, and to whoever wrote the obituary, well done. You captured her spirit so beautifully. I will miss you Jane Baker - thank you for making the world more beautiful in all ways. - Erin Braun Lewis

Erin Braun Lewis - September 04, 2018 at 12:59 PM

LJ

“ *Linda Johnson lit a candle in memory of Jane Ann Baker*



Linda Johnson - September 04, 2018 at 09:11 AM

LJ

“ *Our condolences to the family. Jane was a very sweet lady. Monty, Linda, Scott, Brent Johnson*

Linda Johnson - September 04, 2018 at 09:10 AM

MH

“ *You all have my deepest sympathies and heartfelt prayers for bearing this loss. Jane had my utmost admiration. My heart aches right along with yours.*

Mary Hillman

MARY HILLMAN - September 03, 2018 at 08:35 PM

ID

“ *Indiana Conservation Officer Detectives purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jane Ann Baker.*



Indiana Conservation Officer Detectives - September 03, 2018 at 11:37 AM

AM

“ Jane was a warm, caring, kind, and humorous person. My how she loved to talk about her children and grandchildren! She always had great advice when asked. She always had a smile on her face. She will be missed greatly.

Ann McGlothlin - September 03, 2018 at 05:50 AM

SS

“ Jane was a volunteer installer for the Lifeline program which involved going into people's homes to set up the equipment and instruct in how to use the service. She made wearing a button for the purpose of "calling for help" feel easy and comfortable. Jane always had a good word. Our conversations guided me as a Friend and as a friend. She has always been someone I looked to for leadership and she served as a wonderful example. What a Great Lady. Sandi Swann

Samdi Swamm - September 02, 2018 at 08:35 PM

JM

Jane was a true friend in every sense of the word friend. Her words were wise and full of compassion. I treasured her guidance through the years as she listened and kept my mind open to the realities of raising my two daughters. Her smile was contagious and her humor was always surprising! I'll see you again someday, my friend. ❤️

jill mixell - September 03, 2018 at 08:30 AM

JC

I'll miss you, Jane. I met and worked on committees with you in Agenda. Then we ran into each other at the cancer center occasionally. She was a strong woman with a positive attitude at all times.

judith Conley - September 03, 2018 at 02:02 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jane Ann Baker.* ”



September 02, 2018 at 08:40 AM