



## Margaret A. Purvis

November 13, 1945 - October 12, 2019

On October 12, 2019, Margaret Ann Purvis, (aka Margo), at 73 years of age, passed from this earthly plane after a long illness. Residing at Friends Fellowship Community she was comforted in this passing by loved family members, friends and caregivers. While we will grieve her loss, that feeling of loss is only there because of the gift she gave all of us by being who she was. Margaret was passionate about life and had a gift for living it fully. There was never a stage she wouldn't get on or a friend she couldn't make. And it was hard not to be her friend. In her last months she dominated every room with her smile and spirit. And she always gave much more than she received. She was energetic, funny, witty, a free spirit, full of enthusiasm. Some might describe her as flamboyant with a flair for things and never subtle. And she always seemed to embrace the joy and grace of life.

Margaret had a generous, kind, compassionate loving heart and a unique way of touching people's lives. Spend some time with her and you just came away feeling better. You could see this in her work at Dunn Center as a family and child therapist and a divorce mediator. She had a unique, intuitive gift for this. A gift that never left her.

She loved crafts and painting and took great pride in her yard and gardens. She loved to mow the yard. She was talented, had a gift for interior decorating and played several musical instruments.

Perhaps her greatest role was as mother, grandmother and wife. She loved her family. Daughters Stephanie (Kent) Roman and Elizabeth (Paul) Bryant

were her joy. She cherished every moment she had with them, and grandchildren Kalyn, Kadence and Dylan, and celebrated every success. They have had her unconditional love and devotion.

That same love and devotion was something she shared with her soul mate of 21 years, husband Gary Ratliff, with whom she shared a birthday, November 13. Gary brought to their marriage two sons, and three grandchildren, Doug Ratliff with Joe, and Brian (Elaine) Ratliff with Jackson and Xander. She welcomed them as if they were her own.

Raised in Hagerstown, IN, she graduated high school in 1963, and Ball State University, with a BS Degree, in 1967. After this she began a career long quest to improve the lives of children and struggling families as a teacher, probation officer, and child and family therapist. In her 30 years at Dunn Center, as a counselor and mediator, she saw her role as an advocate for children, helping to determine the outcomes of hundreds of custody/visitation disputes. Seeking common ground was her goal, and common ground was what was best for children. She was a "Bridge Over Troubled Waters". Having touched so many lives in this way was her legacy. Hope, grace and kindness have been her guiding light.

A list of her accomplishments are many, including Advanced Practitioner Member of the Association for Conflict Resolution; member of the Academy of Family Mediators; Licensed Social Worker; Special Education Mediator for the State of Indiana; developed the course "Helping Kids Cope with Divorce; developed a Peer Mediation Training Program; and was a driving force in the development of the Conflict Resolution Center.

Margaret was preceded in her passing by her mother and father, Betty and Guy Welliver, and her sister Mary Welliver. She is survived by her sister, Janie Welliver, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family members.

Arrangements are being handled by Culberson Funeral Home, Hagerstown, and a private graveside service will be held at the family's convenience. A Celebration of "The Life and Times of Margaret Purvis" will be held at Friends

Fellowship Community, Richmond, on Sunday, October 27, beginning at 2:30 pm. This will take place in the Community Room. There will be a brief open mic time beginning at 3:00 for you to share your memories and stories, both funny and touching. You might want to bring your dancing shoes.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the General Endowment Fund of Friends Fellowship Community. The Friends Fellowship staff have always treated Margaret with kindness and respect, and the family cannot thank the caregivers enough for their devotion and tenderness. They have been a shining star in a difficult time.

# Cemetery Details

## Brick Cemetery

5352 N. Brick Church Rd.  
Hagerstown, IN 47346

# Previous Events

## Service

OCT 27. 2:30 PM (ET)

Friends Fellowship Community  
2030 Chester Blvd.  
Richmond, IN 47374

# Tribute Wall



“ *Culberson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Margaret A. Purvis*



**Culberson Funeral Home** - October 16, 2019 at 07:24 PM

TS

*A lovely tribute to a beautiful woman. Pictures of her grandbabies at the end made me cry. She was such a vibrant and happy person and I know how much you girls and family will miss her. My deepest condolences. Tonya*

**Tonya Sparks** - October 19, 2019 at 12:48 PM

DJ

*I began working at Dunn Center's C&Y services in 1984 and got to know Margaret. She was witty, smart, caring, enthusiastic about her clients and work. She wanted what was best for her clients and worked tirelessly for them. You were a joy to be around and I learned alot from you. Thank you for your wisdom and for making me laugh. You are free now to ramble on, tell a humorous tale or just show others you care. My sympathies to Gary, your girls and sister.  
Doug Jamison*

**Douglas Jamison** - October 20, 2019 at 08:56 PM

AP

“ *Had a large part in what ruined a young family's life. I've been waiting for this for 20 years.*

**a good parent** - December 03, 2021 at 06:37 AM

WR

*Thanks for speaking out against this.*

**Wrath** - April 29, 2024 at 04:27 AM

JA

“ *Janie I'm so sad to hear about Margaret. She had a wonderful smile and always said hi to me even though she may not have remembered who I was. My heart breaks for her family and especially for you. Sympathy to you and your family. Prayers 🙏*

**Janet Ammerman** - November 09, 2019 at 06:15 PM

LH

“ *Loretta & Betsy Higgs-Longnecker purchased the Comfort & Light 30" Sonnet for the family of Margaret A. Purvis.*



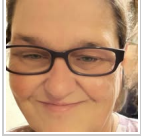
**Loretta & Betsy Higgs-Longnecker** - October 24, 2019 at 10:56 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Margaret A. Purvis.*



October 21, 2019 at 08:36 PM



“ Evelyn Dennis lit a candle in memory of Margaret A. Purvis



Evelyn Dennis - October 19, 2019 at 01:39 PM



“ I worked at welliver's for 14 years as a waitress before becoming a nurse. I remember Margaret so well- she would occasionally seat people in the mill room. I loved her-she always had a smile on her face.

I loved all her family; "Willie" her dad, her mom, mary, and janie ,along with the rest of their family.

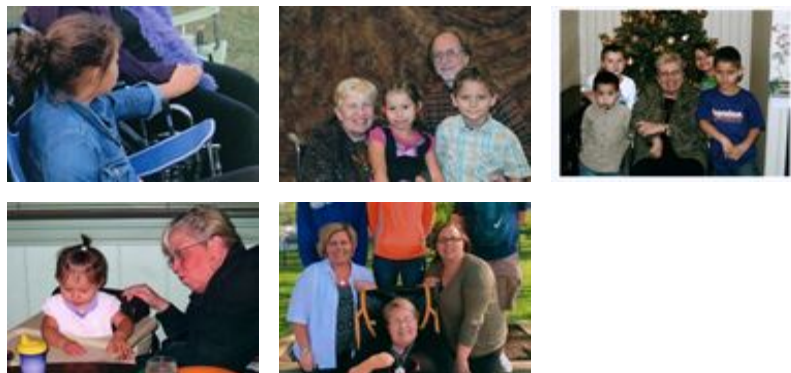
Welliver's will never be forgotten- it wasn't like working- we just all had fun.

I know she will be missed greatly. My thoughts and heart is with all of you.

Cindy Dishman - October 17, 2019 at 11:57 PM



“ 142 files added to the album LifeTributes



Culberson Funeral Home - October 16, 2019 at 06:15 PM

Rosiee  
Castillo

“ *Rosiee Castillo lit a candle in memory of Margaret A. Purvis*



Rosiee Castillo - October 16, 2019 at 05:45 PM

SD

“ *WOW! What a woman! Margaret you may have left the building but your Spirit will live on. I am so honored to have known you and called you friend.*

Sue Divjak - October 16, 2019 at 02:41 PM



“ *Stephanie, I thoroughly enjoyed reading about Margo! It sounds like she was an amazing woman in many ways! I am sure she will leave a hole in your heart that cannot be filled which is hard at times but also so sweet. It is no wonder your eyes lit up when you talked about her. Please know I am thinking of you as you go through these next few days and then begin the hardest part of finding a new "normal" for your life. Love you, sweet girl!*

Cindy Neal - October 16, 2019 at 09:04 AM

DS

“ *Margo was a friend of mine as we attended Ball State in 1963-1967. Her smile and vibrant personality are forever etched in my memory. May her family be blessed by wonderful memories.*

Dianne Sector Smith - October 16, 2019 at 07:19 AM

AD

“ This is what I'll always remember about your Mom...she was so smart. We always got in trouble for being loud when she was "dictating". She wore Cinnibar by Estee Lauder, and she smoked ciggarets so elegantly. She had great taste in clothing, some of which I still own. On the night we left for Utah, she said " you girls drive safe." She was wearing a blue shirt with flowers on it. When you got to Utah, she sent you a card with \$40 in it and said "the well is dry." Lol. You could send cash in the mail back then. And we drove across the country with your mom's fake sunflowers in the trunk, which you used to decorate your kitchen in Ogden Utah. She was always with you. And she will always be with me.

Aubrey Demonja - October 16, 2019 at 04:27 AM

TM

“ Teresa Mogle lit a candle in memory of Margaret A. Purvis



Teresa Mogle - October 15, 2019 at 11:43 PM



“ Liz Patrick lit a candle in memory of Margaret A. Purvis



Liz Patrick - October 15, 2019 at 11:05 PM

KB

“ *i will miss our conversations and your constant smile. Walk on with your new body and WOW them in Heaven.*

**Karen Bunch** - October 15, 2019 at 09:30 PM

SC

“ *I will always remember the sass that came with the smile when she came with Steph to our Mary Kay meetings. She was so much fun.*



**Samantha Cross** - October 15, 2019 at 09:13 PM

MO

“ *Margaret ann always smiled at me and she was so interesting. she will be missed by all. prayers for all., mary owens*

**Mary owens** - October 15, 2019 at 07:43 PM



“ *Patsy Davis lit a candle in memory of Margaret A. Purvis*



**Patsy Davis** - October 15, 2019 at 05:45 PM



“ Ronda Davis lit a candle in memory of Margaret A. Purvis



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**Ronda Davis** - October 15, 2019 at 04:09 PM



“ I fondly remember Margaret “back in the day”, along with her sisters. We were all career women. Margaret was always someone who’s advice I respected. We weren’t that close but you wouldn’t know that as she was just so nice and friendly to me. She had a way of making you feel special. The world has lost one of the good ones. I send my thoughts and prayers to her family and I pray for her soul. Pat Martin

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**Patricia Martin** - October 15, 2019 at 02:48 PM



“ Nancy Smith lit a candle in memory of Margaret A. Purvis



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**Nancy Smith** - October 15, 2019 at 01:20 PM



“ I worked at FFC. I worked for Margaret and Gary. She was always in good spirits and loved her arts and crafts. Gary, my heart is with you and my prayers are with you and family. Joyce Clarkstin.

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**Joyce C larkston** - October 14, 2019 at 10:52 PM

MM

“ I took care of Margaret for 10 years. We had a special friendship. When I would come to work I would go see her first and say hello mamma Margaret... She always said hi how r u and how was your day... Margaret will always have a special place in my heart and she will always be my mamma Margaret... My heart goes out to her husband and family...

From  
Michelle Michaels from 3rd shift at friends fellowship

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Michelle Michaels - October 14, 2019 at 09:16 PM

JR

“ Margret was so real and approachable. She was a great help to our family years ago. She has earned her wings !!! So sorry for your loss..



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Jayma Randolph - October 14, 2019 at 05:52 PM

WR

You're disgusting, Jayma

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Wrath - April 29, 2024 at 04:26 AM

WR

Darn autocorrect

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Wrath - April 29, 2024 at 04:28 AM

AD

“ Anita Doty sent a virtual gift in memory of Margaret A. Purvis



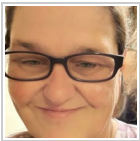
Anita Doty - October 14, 2019 at 05:26 PM



“ Jodi Warmoth lit a candle in memory of Margaret A. Purvis



Jodi Warmoth - October 14, 2019 at 05:21 PM



“ Beautiful lady.. She will be missed



Evelyn Dennis - October 14, 2019 at 11:56 AM

MO

“ So sorry.she was always nice to me,and smiling

Mary owens - October 14, 2019 at 11:49 AM

BD

“ *Bilinna Davis lit a candle in memory of Margaret A. Purvis*



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**Bilinna Davis** - October 14, 2019 at 10:31 AM