



## Joanne Happekotte Moore

November 13, 1941 - April 2, 2026

Joanne Happekotte Moore, an unwavering Christian servant and consistent prayer warrior, passed away peacefully to take her well-earned place with her personal Lord and Savior on April 2, 2026, following years of persistent diabetic health complications. She was 84 years old.

Born on November 13, 1941, in Los Angeles, CA, the daughter of Clarence and Wilma Happekotte, she married Rev. F. Vernon Moore on September 11, 1960, in Waterloo, Iowa, where they also celebrated their 48TH wedding anniversary before he preceded her in death in 2008.

Joanne graduated as a nurse in 1962 and dedicated herself to a 45-year-long profession as a nurse, nursing educator, and hospital administrator. During that span, she successfully balanced her characteristic caring nature between her chosen profession and her cherished responsibilities as the steadily reliable guiding hand and beloved family matriarch who exuded warmth and wisdom that touched countless lives.

Joanne's career spanned working in hospitals in Iowa, Missouri, Kentucky, and Wisconsin, where she combined her widely-recognized clinical expertise and reliable leadership with a passion for teaching and mentoring the next generation of caregivers while gracefully tending to those assigned under her watchful custody.

After a debilitating automobile accident and determined recovery in 1984, she stepped away from her position as the Director of Nursing at Missouri Delta Community Hospital in Sikeston, MO. She then effectively channeled her resilience, vision, and entrepreneurial spirit into first establishing and managing Lifestyles Unlimited (an initial part of St. Francis Medical Center's community outreach strategy) and then later Health Source, Inc. (which provided specialized food products, specialty dietary support and consultation and a physician referral network). These consecutive commercial ventures, located in the West Park Mall throughout the remainder of the 1980's, reflected her commitment to wellness and education beyond traditional healthcare settings. They also instituted her as a true pioneer and outside-the-box thinker, an incredible force in the Cape business community, and someone who believed deeply in giving back. These were traits that were clearly reflected in her participation in the inaugural "Leadership Cape" class conducted by the Cape Chamber of Commerce and reinforced through her natural ability to build lasting beneficial relationships.

Following those endeavors, she again returned to nursing administrations jobs, first becoming the Vice President for Acute Care Services at Crittenden County Hospital in Marion, KY, before accepting a position as the Director of Nursing at Lancaster Memorial Hospital in Lancaster, WI.

As a lifelong learner, Joanne pursued knowledge relentlessly and inspired those around her to do the same. She was known for her fostering nature and always being willing to lend a helping hand to family and friends in times of need. As a loving wife, mother, and grandmother, she found her greatest joy in nurturing and supporting her family, and created an environment exemplified by devotion and strength that will endure as her greatest legacy.

In her leisure time, Joanne enjoyed reading, quilting, and gourmet cooking. She was an active member of both the River Heritage Quilters' Guild in Cape

Girardeau, and the Bootheel Quilt Guild in Sikeston, Missouri, where she openly and infectiously shared her creativity and camaraderie with fellow quilting artisans in the region. Even into her early 80's, she served as an indomitable supporting force and mentoring business visionary for her daughter's decision to leave her own nursing career and open the Cotton Mill Quilt Company in Cape Girardeau.

Joanne is survived by her sister, Sandra Hein of Arvada, CO; her three children LTC (Ret.) Timothy Moore of Fayetteville, NC, Rebecca Moore, and Philip Moore (Suzan) of Cape Girardeau, MO; and two grandsons Zachary Moore (Kennedy) and Connor Moore, also both of Cape Girardeau. She will long be remembered for her compassionate heart, intellectual curiosity, and unwavering dedication to family and community. Her life exemplified service, learning, and love - qualities that continue to inspire all who knew her.

Visitation and funeral services will be held at Lynnwood Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau, MO, where she has been a member since 2004, on Sunday, April 12, 2026. Visitation is scheduled from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., and a celebration of life service will follow immediately thereafter. As additional options in lieu of gifts or flowers, the family suggests contributions to the following charities in her memory:

Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation headquartered in Bethesda, MD (1-800- / [www.diabeteswellness.net](http://www.diabeteswellness.net)) is a non-profit organization dedicated to finding a cure for diabetes and providing care to those affected by the disease through their research funding, community outreach, and wellness programs.

Southeast Missouri Area Agency on Aging headquartered in Cape Girardeau, MO (1-573-335-3331 / [www.agingmatters2u.com](http://www.agingmatters2u.com)) is a non-profit organization serving 18 counties in Southeast Missouri with the mission to provide quality

services that enhance health, safety, and well-being of individuals 60 and over, enabling them to live independently in their own homes for as long as possible.

Online condolences may be made at [www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com).

Ford & Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 12. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Lynnwood Baptist Church  
2935 Lynwood Hills Dr  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

## Funeral Service

APR 12. 4:00 PM (CT)

Lynnwood Baptist Church  
2935 Lynwood Hills Dr  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ I was not privileged to personally know Ms. Joanne Moore, but I know her son, Tim. We are neighbors here in North Carolina. I am a true believer of the old saying that fruit doesn't fall far from the tree. Tim is one of those rare, real neighbors. Looking out for you when you're out of town. He helps me and the wife with minor projects. The conversations we share are impacting with a fullness of information below the surface of just talk. I trust Tim and I believe he trust me as well. This type of attribute does not suddenly become part of our DNA. It is deeply imbedded from the roots of the family tree. Who Tim is today is credited to the upbringing Ms. Joanne provided. The my wife and I share in saying thank you, Ms. Joanne Moore, for using your God fearing beliefs that provided a great man. Greatness begets greatness and I am assured you were a great woman and a blessing to the areas of your life where God assigned you. Rest well in the arms of He who created all things.  
Rev Jeff Saffold, Sr. and Sharita Saffold.  
Raeford, NC

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Rev & Mrs Jeff Saffold, Sr. - April 11 at 07:57 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Joanne Happekotte Moore.



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April 10 at 12:44 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joanne Happekotte Moore.

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April 10 at 12:44 PM

JR

“ *Joanne and I shared a beautiful friendship. When we first met, it was through a program of visiting the homebound through our church. While I thought I was bringing some sunshine into her life, little did I know that she would be doing that and much more for me. I like to think that God blessed us both at the same time as we shared friendship, memories, the pains of getting older and the laughter of little things in life. Her friendship brought me much joy and I will miss it here but I look forward to continuing it throughout eternity. What a treasure she was and what a beautiful family she raised!* ”

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**Janice M Rau** - April 08 at 04:12 PM

JS

“ *She was a source of joy that comes with the comfort of abiding in the Spirit of God! It was my privilege to know her!* ”

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**jane Cooper Stacy** - April 07 at 04:41 PM

BC

“ *Our collective thoughts and prayers are with the family. She certainly raised a fantastic son. US Army Special Operations Command G2* ”

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**Byron Castleman** - April 07 at 10:43 AM

CP

“ *Joanne had such a sweet spirit & she will be missed greatly. She was one of my very favorite ladies I've had the pleasure of knowing.* ”

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**Carol Powell** - April 07 at 04:38 AM

KB

“ *Kim B-K lit a candle in memory of Joanne Happekotte Moore*



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**Kim B-K** - April 06 at 08:20 PM

JE

“ *Just want to say that I will never forget JoAnne's welcoming smile EVERY time I saw her. She was such a wonderful friend to talk to about anything. I will miss her! Jewel Eggley*

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**Jewel Eggley** - April 06 at 04:49 PM