



Janet Margaret Cowgill Grambo

June 7, 1942 - March 14, 2022

Janet Margaret Cowgill Grambo, a lifelong student and teacher, passed away peacefully and surrounded by family in her home on March 14, 2022, at the age of 79. Born to Lewis Fremont Cowgill and Carol Louise Hand Cowgill on June 7, 1942, in Cleveland Ohio Cuyahoga County, Jan promptly showed her propensity for learning and teaching. By age four, she read books to her younger sister and brother, and she also graded all the assignments for her father's high school classes while attending the same institution.

She graduated from Parma Senior High School in 1959 after meeting her high school sweetheart and later husband Alan Arthur Grambo. The two wed on June 15, 1963, and built a life together for 59 years.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in education from Ohio State University in December 1963, Jan began her official teaching career with a class of fourth grade students at Rodoan Elementary School in Brooklyn, Ohio. She taught there for two years, and then went on to teach in Washington Township schools in Indianapolis for another two years. She believed in tailoring her education styles to each child's specific needs.

Jan continued her own education with her seven children, growing her skills and becoming proficient as both an editor and American Sign Language interpreter. She regularly taught ASL classes and frequently interpreted for Deaf clients in medical, business, academic, and religious settings. She enjoyed interpreting and editing because both occupations allowed her to

gather new information—she could learn new things from editing nonfiction works, glean medical knowledge from interpreting for doctor's appointments, and she never passed up a chance to share what she learned at home. She always played an active role in her family's education, even spending a few years driving 127 miles each way, every week to teach English and writing skills to her grandchildren and other homeschool students in Kentucky, creating her own curriculum based on wholesome literature.

Jan never went anywhere without a book and never limited her reading to any particular genre or subject. She considered literature a great teaching tool to help her family and loved ones and strove to help everyone discover a love of books and reading. Her children and their spouses often called her to ask for lists of books for their kids, and Jan always had individualized responses for each person, no matter the age. Each week, she picked up 10 books from the library and then wrote reviews online for readers so she could help even people she didn't know find books to enjoy, too.

Jan searched for truth and goodness her entire life, embracing it everywhere she found it. She carried and discovered the light of Christ in her life and steadfastly served as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for 47 years after choosing to be baptized in white on May 18, 1974. She raised six daughters and one son, all to be married in temples of the Church of Jesus Christ.

She fought cancer tenaciously the last four years of her life, battling for more time to spend with her family and more time to read books. Jan is preceded in death by her mother, father, and grandchild Timothy Charles Grambo. She is survived by her husband, Alan; siblings, Karen Erickson (husband Michael) and Charles Cowgill (wife Carloyn); children, Marcene Williams (husband Kenneth), Elaine Lee (husband Steven), Jeanette Watson (husband Val), Andrew Grambo (wife Janalyn), Cynthia Schofield (husband Christopher), Beth Ashton (husband Jeremy), and Karen Bell (husband Michael); 37 grandchildren; and four great grandchildren, who all possess and treasure many books from her.

The family will celebrate Jan's life with a viewing on March 25 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Shirley Brothers funeral home, 9900 Allisonville Rd. in Indianapolis, and a viewing on March 26 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. with funeral services to follow at 12:30 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 777 Sunblest Blvd. in Fishers. A funeral broadcast option is available for those with medical conditions or distance prevents attendance. Please contact a family member to receive the contact information to be added to the list of those who desire this option.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial gifts be made to the Humanitarian Aid Fund of The Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints (<https://donate.churchofjesuschrist.org/donations/church/humanitarian-services/humanitarian-aid-fund.html?cde2=475>) or the Hamilton Humane Society (https://secure.indyhumane.org/site/Donation2?1903.donation=form1&df_id=1903&_ga=2.62563500.124782668.1625083733-708836535.1623773442).

Cemetery Details

Union Chapel Cemetery

8306 Union Chapel Road
Indianapolis, IN 46240

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 25. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Fishers-Castleton Chapel
9900 N. Allisonville Road
Fishers, IN 46038
(317) 841-7878
info@shirleybrothers.com
<https://www.shirleybrothers.com>

Visitation

MAR 26. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Church of Jesus Christ Latter-Day Saints
777 Sunblest Boulevard
Fishers, IN 46038

Funeral Service

MAR **26**. 12:30 PM (ET)

Church of Jesus Christ Latter-Day Saints
777 Sunblest Boulevard
Fishers, IN 46038

Tribute Wall



“ *Please accept our sincere condolences on behalf of the Humane Society for Hamilton County. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jan's family during this devastating time.*

Jennifer Hatcher - April 04, 2022 at 11:03 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Jan and ASL*



Ken Williams - March 24, 2022 at 08:37 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Janet Margaret Cowgill Grambo.*



March 24, 2022 at 10:38 AM



“ *EVANGEL CHURCH - PASTOR JODY BALLENGER purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Janet Margaret Cowgill Grambo.*



EVANGEL CHURCH - PASTOR JODY BALLENGER - March 21, 2022 at 11:30 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Janet Margaret Cowgill Grambo.*



March 20, 2022 at 11:03 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Janet Margaret Cowgill Grambo.*



March 20, 2022 at 06:43 PM



“ *We love Jan! I always remember how wonderful she was with the primary children. My kids were motivated to memorize articles of faith because of her. She would pass out candy from her pocket for each one they memorized. ❤️*

Annette - March 19, 2022 at 01:23 AM



“ *Unable to attend the viewing and funeral, I just wanted you to know what a wonderful friend Jan was to me. I am saddened by her death and am sending prayers for the family. Jan and I started sign language together but she just ran with it. We did Hershey chocolate orders and spice orders together. She made the trip to Martinsville several times to teach our young women....in the evening. Always going above and beyond throughout her life. Sure loved her!*

Kristine Briles - March 18, 2022 at 10:42 AM

MW

*Thank you Kristine,
I remember those chocolate orders! Good memories*

Marcene Williams - March 18, 2022 at 04:38 PM

AW

“ *Jan was an incredible woman. I'm so sorry for your loss.*

Amanda W. - March 17, 2022 at 04:31 PM