



Joyce Vanaman

January 21, 1929 - January 10, 2019

Joyce Vanaman, retired long-time reporter for The Press of Atlantic City, died Thursday evening, January 10, 2019. She was 89 years-old.

Joyce was pre-deceased by her husband of 41 years, Harold “Bud” Vanaman, and their son, David Keith Vanaman. She is survived by her sister-in-law Miriam Rhubart and husband Clyde of Florida, and a number of nieces and nephews.

A graduate of Douglass College, Rutgers University, where she majored in journalism, Joyce was a member of Kappa Tau Alpha, academic journalism society.

Prior to working for The Press, Joyce worked for the Somerset Messenger-Gazette in Somerville; Institutions Magazine in Chicago, and WWBZ in Vineland.

Joyce began her association with THE PRESS in 1961 as a correspondent; later became a staff writer, and retired in February 2006. She continued to write Community features for THE PRESS until the end of 2008.

During her career, Joyce received numerous awards including the Pride in Millville Award from the Greater Millville Chamber of Commerce; Distinguished Service Award from the Millville Jaycees; Liberty Bell Award from the Cumberland County Bar Association, and RSVP Community Service Award from the Cumberland County Board of Freeholders and the Office on Aging and Disabled.

Joyce was also recognized by the Cumberland County Planning Board, Millville Housing Authority, Shirley Eves Center, Cumberland County 4-H Leaders Association, N.J. Hospice & Palliative Care Organization, Millville Kiwanis Club, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties, Associate Alumnae of Douglass College, Millville Teachers Association, Cumberland Chapter of Zonta International and Cumberland County Disabled Advisory Council.

At the time of her retirement, she was honored by the Millville City Commission, Center City Neighborhood Group and Third Ward Advisory Committee.

A member of First United Methodist Church for more than 50 years, Joyce has been a volunteer in its SHINE outreach program. She was a member of the Millville Kiwanis Club, a life member of the Friends of the Millville Public Library and a member of the Associate Alumnae of Douglass College.

Since her retirement, Joyce has been a volunteer for Big Brothers/Big Sisters, including its in-school and community-based programs, and she served as a mentor at Wood School. She received the R.D. Wood School Community Partnership Award, and particularly treasured her association with the wonderful staff at the school, as well as with the children.

Her hobbies were reading, baking, traveling and knitting for the SPCA. She also enjoyed going to the Fitness Connection.

A Celebration of Life Service will be conducted on Friday, January 18, 2019 at 1 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church, 201 North 2nd Street, Millville. Burial will be private.

Memorial donations may be sent to the SHINE program of First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 116, 201 N. Second St., Millville, N.J. 08332; Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties, P.O. Box 2188, 1944 E. Landis Ave., Vineland, N.J. 08362, or the Millville Public Library, 210 Buck St., Millville, N.J. 08332.

Memories and expressions of sympathy for Joyce Vanaman may be shared on the Obituary Tribute Wall at www.christyfuneralservice.com.

Cemetery

Events

Private

JAN 18 A celebration of life01:00PM - 02:00PM

NJ,

First United Methodist Church
201 N. Second Street, Millville, NJ, US

Comments



“ I loved her dearly for many, many years as did all who knew her.
peggy metzler
boca raton, fl

peggy metzler - February 13, 2019 at 06:35 PM



“ I believe there are people who come into our lives for reasons that we can only imagine. I first met Joyce in the early 70's when she was invited to my classroom at Deerfield Township School to write an article for the Atlantic City Press. Little did I realize, that over a decade later, we I would be attending the same church and as a result, my admiration for her grew into a wonderful friendship.

Through the years, Joyce wrote various articles as followup to grants that I was awarded, She always amazed me! As I stammered through the interview, she had her notepad and pen out jotting down every word and always asking pertinent and sometimes penetrating questions. I would later think, "How in the world, is she going to be able to write-up this article?" Reading it later in print, I was always amazed! She seemed to get inside my head and convey everything I was trying to communicate in such a beautiful, eloquent way.

Last Thursday night, little did I realize that Joyce was going home. At about that time, a dear teacher friend called me and said, "Listen, I want to play something for you." As I listened, she played the song, "You Raise Me Up." Now as I reflect on that moment and those inspiring words, "You raise me up: to more than I can be" I realize they were sent to me for a reason. Joyce, did raise me up in so many ways. She was faithful and unwavering in her commitment to her community, her family, her church and her many friends. I am so grateful for Joyce and the impact she had on my life.

Bev Watts-Nalley

BEVERLY WATTS-NALLEY - January 21, 2019 at 09:18 PM



“ I met Joyce in 1970 while a 9th grade classmate of her son, Dave. In 1973-74 I worked for her husband “Bud” at Vanaman’s Feed Service. She’s always been a special person in my life. She often called me when writing articles about the water utility. It was always a pleasure to talk to her; so many memories!—aside from her kindness she was all business when writing an article.— I knew it was the facts and the truth before it said:
by Joyce Vanaman.
Peace my friend, Pat Ney

Pat Ney - January 17, 2019 at 09:56 PM



“ January 17, 2019
Ah! Joyce Vanaman! In my opinion, Joyce's name should be written in the history of Millville and Cumberland County. Joyce loved them both. Joyce was a WOMAN who was way ahead of her time. I shared my husband, Photographer Dom Rebeck Jr. , with Joyce for over thirty years and was happy to do so. Oh, they had their moments but the moments were gone by the next assignment. I always called Joyce the other woman in my husbands life. Our children greeted us with condolences as if Joyce was our mother. We felt that Joyce was a big part of our family. Our birthdays will never be the same because Joyce never failed to ask us what icing we wanted on our chocolate cake. I'm sure many people know what I'm talking about. Joyce was one of a kind. Her journey on earth was long and she handled it with grace. That was Joyce. Everyone who knew Joyce has a story. It would be nice to hear them all. Millville and Cumberland County lost a very loyal reporter but heaven gained a real journalist on January 10,2019. I pray that she realized what she meant to all of us. R. I. P. Joyce. Your friend, Lucille Rebeck.
Lucille Rebeck, Vineland, NJ, New Jersey

lucille rebeck - January 17, 2019 at 05:14 PM



“ Joyce will be sorely missed by the City of Millville and all who met her. She was a caring person and an exceptional journalist. Even now, I refer to her style of writing as the way articles should be written.

I observed firsthand the impact of her outstanding reporting on the community. Her detailed articles informed the public of good things happening in the Millville Public Schools and at the Millville Army Air Field Museum. This resulted in great benefits, including much-needed funding, for both organizations.

Robert Trivellini - January 16, 2019 at 12:21 PM



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Joyce was my first journalism teacher.

But she taught me much more than practical newspaper writing and editing basics.

She taught me about Millville – a LOT about Millville.

She also taught me about the glass industry, the farming business, local politics, Cumberland County history, and Millville.

(Did I mention Millville?)

Joyce was a mentor to me and to dozens and dozens of green and earnest reporters, photographers, bureau chiefs and editors.

She was patient. She was kind. She was generous. She was tenacious.

She had a wonderful smile that made it impossible not to smile back.

She had more than her fair share of personal loss and health struggles. But she never let them break her spirit.

She never forgot my birthday - or the birthdays of all the many men, women and children that she took under her wing.

Joyce made us all feel special – even if we forgot her birthday.

Even if we didn't live in Millville.

We will miss her always.

Paul Merkoski

Paul Merkoski - January 15, 2019 at 05:44 PM



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Lynne, Carl & Kiel Muhlig



Lynne A Muhlig - January 14, 2019 at 10:57 AM



“ Joyce was an inspiration to all of us in her professional career and as a member of our community. She worked tirelessly to help others and was a great friend to all.

Joyce also had a dedication to her faith and now she will be with our Lord and Savior.

Our good friend Joyce will never be forgotten for the wonderful things she did for Millville and South Jersey.

It was an honor to have Joyce as a good friend.

Ed & Marilyn Salmon

Edward Salmon - January 14, 2019 at 10:14 AM



“ Joyce was a dear family friend who I came to think of as my "other mother". I met her at age 4 and was so fortunate to grow up (way up---now I'm 62) with a continuous stream of encouragement, wisdom and kindnesses from her. She was a role model who showed me women grow up to have the job of their dreams and make their voices heard. She demonstrated that helping others is a fundamental, joyful part of life. Memories of her generous spirit, her no-nonsense take on issues big and small, and her many lessons will be with me forever.



Nancy Miller Vonk - January 13, 2019 at 09:17 AM



“ Joyce was an amazing women, she was an inspiration to me, gave me great advice but her kindness and thoughtfulness is something we are all going to miss along with her spunky and sassy sense of humor. Joyce you will truly be missed!

Denise Jackson

Denise Jackson - January 12, 2019 at 03:16 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Joyce Vanaman.



January 12, 2019 at 02:50 PM