



## Janice Kay Toopes

December 17, 1953 - December 5, 2023

Janice Kay Toopes, age 69, of Albia, Iowa, formerly of Centerville, passed away on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, under the care of EveryStep Hospice at Oakwood Specialty Care Center in Albia.

Janice was born on December 17, 1953, to Jack and Norma (Spradling) Petersen in Wagner, South Dakota. She grew up and graduated from Maplewood Academy High School in Minnesota before attending Iowa Western Community College where she received her LPN. In 1980, Janice was united in marriage to Robert Toopes at the First Baptist Church in Albia. Janice and Bob later divorced.

Janice had a huge heart, was very generous and compassionate, who devoted her life to taking care of others in her long career in the nursing field. She worked as an LPN in different long term care facilities in the area before going to work for the VA Hospital in Knoxville, Marshalltown, Iowa City, and Ottumwa. Janice was always very proud to help take care of veterans. She also volunteered to help those in need, even traveling to Mexico to assist those with cleft palate. Janice enjoyed watching Lifetime movies, drinking coffee and loved a good margarita. Above all else, Janice loved her family and her dog, Ruby.

Janice is survived by her 3 children, Travis Nagel, Trina Clark, and Amanda

Toopes; 6 grandchildren, Samantha (Jacob) Fuller, Ryne Fuller, Owen (Skylar) Fuller, Michael Fuller, Jacob Nagel and Jaxson Nagel; and 6 siblings, Meridel (Wendell) Folkerts, Michael (Annette) Petersen, Karen Morman, Terry Petersen, Jack (Lori) Petersen, and Reed Petersen; and her good friends, Margie Riemersma, Sherry Kass, Monica Ridout, Becky Gustafson, and John (Gail) Barnes. Janice is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Jack and Norma Petersen; a sister, Leann Petersen; and a nephew, Michael Petersen.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, December 8, 2023, at Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Janice's family present throughout to greet family and friends.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, December 9, 2023, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Pastor Terry Chapman officiating. A private family burial will be held at the Hiteman Cemetery at a later date.

A memorial has been established to the Welcome Home Soldier Monument in Albia.

# Cemetery Details

## Hiteman Cemetery

Hiteman, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 8. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home  
116 Benton Ave.  
Albia, IA 52531  
(641) 932-3129  
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

## Memorial Service

DEC 9. 11:00 AM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home  
116 Benton Ave.  
Albia, IA 52531  
(641) 932-3129  
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

# Tribute Wall

RR

“ I worked with Janice for several years when the Ottumwa VA clinic first opened. She became a very good friend. She showed such courage fighting cancer and the side-effects of treatment. This is a picture of the grand opening of the clinic, Janice and I are at the far left....



Rosalee Russell - December 09, 2023 at 08:41 PM

TR

“ All I remember is her telling me that I wasn't her son and the feeling and knowing that she never wanted me anyway.....what kind of mother tries to run her son over when he's got his back turned.....thanks to my my hero he saw her and realized what was happening and got the race car between me and her car not a moment to soon.....you saved my life.....I didn't have a mom I had a MONSTER

Travis - December 09, 2023 at 03:56 PM

SK

“ Sherry Kass lit a candle in memory of Janice Kay Toopes



sherry Kass - December 09, 2023 at 11:23 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Janice Kay Toopes.*



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December 07, 2023 at 09:44 PM



“ *It was a privilege and honor to work with Janice at the Ottumwa VA CBOC. She had a huge heart for veterans and would go over and above in providing nursing services. It was very evident she had a heart for the veterans she served. I was saddened and know it was a hard loss for Janice when cancer took away her ability to serve others through her nursing career. I know Janice loved her family because she spoke often and lovingly of them. Praying the LORD brings peace and comfort to each of Janice's loved ones during this time of sadness and loss. May her memory be a blessing!*

❤️ *Jana Simmons*

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**Jana Simmons** - December 06, 2023 at 12:34 PM

MR

“ So many good memories with Jan for the past 30 years. We connected from day one working together. She was a hard worker with so much experience, I learned so many useful skills from her throughout the years. Always giving to others, making sure no one went without. From coming over to hold and sing to my colicky baby when I was frustrated and wanting to give up, to making holiday meals together, the prayers, advice, support, the humor and the love could only come from a once in a lifetime special friendship, and I feel so blessed to have a friend that became family to my family. Although for my own selfish reasons I will miss you, I knew you were tired my friend. Now you have been made whole again, and for that, I am relieved. You spent your whole life preparing for this journey, your work is done here, so rest easy and be at peace. Love to the family, lifting you all up in prayer. Monica

Monica Ridout - December 06, 2023 at 05:43 AM



“ "God Has You" 21" Sonnet Chime was purchased for the family of Janice Kay Toopes.



December 06, 2023 at 05:06 AM

MK

“ Monica, Andy, Becky, Blake and kids planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Janice Kay Toopes.

Monica, Andy, Becky, Blake and kids - December 06, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Janice Kay Toopes.



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December 05, 2023 at 08:17 PM