



## Janet Jones

November 9, 1937 - August 5, 2016

Janet Engwall Jones, 78, of Topeka, passed away on Friday, August 5, 2016, with her daughters by her side, after a long battle with Parkinson's disease.

Janet was born November 9, 1937, at Concordia, Kansas, the daughter of Andrew Francis (Babe) and Nina Uglow Engwall. She was a graduate of Courtland High School and Kansas State College (now University). In a hurry to catch that handsome man, she graduated from college in three years to marry Robert R. (Buck) Jones at Ada Lutheran Church in Kackley, Kansas, on June 8, 1958. She then taught school in Mankato for two years until she stopped in order to raise their children. She and Buck moved from Salina to Topeka in 1963.

Instead of celebrating their 8th wedding anniversary, Janet, her husband Buck, and daughters spent the evening of June 8, 1966, in the basement taking shelter from the F5 tornado which destroyed their home and possessions. Ever resilient, they rebuilt and recovered.

In 1974, Janet joined the office of the Kansas Revisor of Statutes and began a career in the administration of the legislative process in Kansas that would last for 34 years. Janet also joined the administrative staff of the Kansas House of Representatives that year beginning as the reader and serving in many other capacities before being appointed Clerk of the House in 1988. She faithfully

served at the pleasure of each Speaker of the House until her retirement in 2008.

During her tenure as Chief Clerk, she served on the Executive Committee of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries. In 2001, Janet earned the Legislative Staff Achievement Award of the National Conference of State Legislatures. Janet believed in the legislative process and endeavored to ensure that the rules were not politicized. Janet was “feared” and “revered” in her leadership role in the House, earning respect from both sides of the aisle.

Janet and her husband also owned and operated Topeka Boat Storage for many years. One of her hobbies in later years was preparing the monthly newsletter for the Miller’s Glen Homeowner’s Association. Janet was also an avid reader, belonging to book clubs and keeping a copy of the Bookmobile schedule in her car at all times. The library Red Carpet service had a hard time finding books Janet hadn’t already read. She was a member and former council member of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church; the Topeka Auxiliary of Kansas Engineering Society; and a member Chi Omega sorority.

Surviving are her two daughters, Colleen Jones Lippe and her husband David, of Topeka,  
and Monica Jones, Shawnee KS; and two grandchildren, Andrew Lippe and Allison Lippe.

Janet was preceded in death by her parents and husband Buck (2011).

Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. on Friday, August 12th at Miller’s Glen Village Hall, 2234 SW Village Hall Road, Topeka KS.

Funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 13th at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th Street, Topeka KS.

A private family inurnment will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library Foundation, 1515 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka, KS 66605; The Northeast Kansas Parkinson Association, P.O. Box 67432, Topeka KS 66667; or Grace Hospice of Topeka, 3715 SW 29th Street, Suite 100, Topeka KS 66614.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **12.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Miller's Glen Village Hall  
2234 SW Village Hall Road  
Topeka, KS 66614

## Funeral Service

AUG **13.** 10:30 AM (CT)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
2021 SW 29th Street  
Topeka, KS 66611

# Tribute Wall



“ Janet Jones

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ To Janet's Family,  
So very sorry to read of Janet's passing. When I was Journal Clerk, she was the reader and as such learned everything about the work just sitting next to me and that was for several years. When I became Chief Clerk in 1978, she was the one to be Journal Clerk and finally when I retired, I wanted her to for sure to take over as Chief Clerk. She loved computers so told her that was her opening to do lots more with computers!  
We, also, lived on 30th street when the tornado hit but didn't know your family very well then.  
You certainly have my prayers and heartfelt sympathy in your sorrow.  
Geneva Seward

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**Geneva Seward** - August 12, 2016 at 01:56 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to your family. I was supervisor of the document room at the Capitol and worked closely with Janet. I learned so much from her and enjoyed working with her immensely.  
  
Maggie Smith

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**Maggie Smith** - August 10, 2016 at 07:24 PM

LM

“ To the Family of Janet Jones:

*Janet was a remarkable woman! Both my husband, John, and I served in the House of Representatives with her. She worked so hard to keep everything "spot on". That was not easy with that many ego's and that many issues.... especially at the end of session when you were there for hours and hours and hours.*

*I Never saw her get mad, frustrated, or discouraged. She had such a beautiful, quite, and contagious demeanor that working with her was a joy. We spent many late night hours working on "stuff".*

*We shared several connections. I moved to Mankato in third grade, Brenda Morris (her neighbor) and I were in the same class. Brenda was the one that let me know today about Janet's passing.*

*And your Dad was the brother of Art Howell that ran against me 3 times.*

*I haven't seen her since 2002 so did not know that she had been battling Parkinson's. John's Mother died from the same. We are so sorry for your loss. She was loved by so many and will be greatly missed.*

*Representatives John and Laura McClure, Osborne, Kansas*

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**Laura McClure** - August 10, 2016 at 02:00 PM

GB

“ *Collen: Your mother was a true lady! She kept everything running smoothly in the House Chamber. I was fortunate to know her and to serve with her in government.*

*Blessings and peace to you and your family!*

*Representative Ginger Barr*

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**Ginger Barr** - August 10, 2016 at 02:48 AM

CM

“ *Colleen and Monica: We are so sorry to hear of the loss of your Mother. She was a dear friend for many years. We send our sympathy. Charles and Carolyn Middendorf, Olathe.*

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**Carolyn Middendorf** - August 08, 2016 at 07:44 PM