



Marie Joan Kreipe

May 27, 1919 - August 6, 2014

Marie Joan (Bourdon) Kreipe, 95, Tecumseh, passed away at her home on August 4, 2014. Marie was born May 27, 1919, in Topeka, the daughter of Anthony Cecil and Lenora Cecilia (Blandin) Bourdon. She attended Assumption Grade School and graduated in 1937 from Topeka Catholic High School. She attended St. Mary College in Leavenworth as well as Kansas State University. During her time at K-State she was a member of the Kappa Delta Sorority. On April 6, 1942, Marie married Edward V. Kreipe at Assumption Catholic Church in Topeka. Marie was a devout member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Marie was a member of many organizations including: the Daughters of Isabella, since 1940; the Topeka Kennel Club, where she was a groomer, breeder and handler and ZONTA International. She was a charter member of the Topeka Masters Swim Association. She also volunteered for over 75 year at the Red Cross. Marie was an avid swimmer, competing all over the world. She taught thousands of people how to swim. She volunteered and worked at the YWCA and the YMCA of Topeka; she trained the Tecumseh Fire Department in water rescue; she coached Seaman High School's men's and women's swim teams; she taught swimming lessons to the handicapped at the VA Medical Center and KNI, Capper Foundation and Kansas Institute for the Blind; she was a small craft instructor and merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts and she was an instructor trainer in swimming. Marie was instrumental in getting the Blaisdell Pool built. Marie was also a skilled huntress and one heck of a pistol shot. She enjoyed hockey

and loved the theatre. Her biggest passion in life however, was her eight children; she was very supportive of her children's endeavors. Marie was an excellent mother and will be dearly missed. Survivors include her children, Thomas Ivan Kreipe, Houston TX; Martha Anne (Jose) de Montaña, Waldorf MD; William Francis (Marvella) Kreipe, Tecumseh; Patricia "Pete" (Tom) Kelly, Denton TX; John Andrew (Kathy) Kreipe, St. Joseph MO; Joe Kreipe, Tecumseh; Mary Jane "Pudge" Wilson, Lawrence and Liz (Cedric) Devin, Lawrence; 13 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren. Marie was preceded in death by her husband in 1983. Family will greet friends from 1-4 p.m. and from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. The Daughters of Isabella will lead a rosary at 4 p.m. and a parish rosary will be prayed 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday at the funeral home. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Burial will follow at St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery in Big Springs KS. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Parkinson support group sent to NE Kansas Parkinson Assoc., PO Box 251, Topeka KS 66601.

Tribute Wall



“ *Marie Joan Kreipe*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Marie was a sweet lady. She taught my brothers and me to swim at her pool in Topeka. Her daughters assisted with the classes. My children had the good fortune to be able to take a few swim classes out at her country residence. She was 89 or 90 when my daughter had her as a swim instructor. She made sure that one learned to swim, no hanging on to the side of the pool and not participating was not an option. If it was your turn, out you went even if you was not in complete agreement. I remember trying to hang onto the side of a pool during a distance test, but Marie just pushed me away and encouraged me to continue. Because of her persistence, I became a good swimmer. I also remember the free swim with the toys and the small black inner tubes. I hope some of her daughters continue her legacy.*

Pam Bafaro - August 11, 2014 at 05:33 PM



“ *We returned from Austin late Thursday night. I'd been keeping Marie, all of you in my prayers and will continue praying. I knew she was slipping away but was a shock to read her indomitable, physical self is no more. I loved her and loved having her on the same planet with me. Peace, Sue*

Sue McKenna - August 09, 2014 at 06:11 PM

RL

“ Dear Kreipe Family, my condolences to you all. I took swim lessons from Mrs. Kreipe when I was 22 months old. I am now 41 (living in Arizona). Surprisingly to my mother, I can recount details from those lessons and I was not even 2 years old! I remember gleefully jumping off the diving board in the old black inner tubes to swim for toys at the end of each lesson. To this day I have a love of, respect for, awe of, and connection to the water - triathlon, scuba diving, open water swimming, surfing, paddle boarding, snorkeling. I owe the start of this to your amazing beloved. The smell of a wetsuit or a rubber inner tube takes me right back to "Mrs. Kreipe's Pool" and I always smile. I will surf a special wave for Mrs. Kreipe during my next Waikiki long board surf session. - Rachel Love

Rachel Love - August 07, 2014 at 06:01 PM

PB

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to all the Kreipe family.

Paul Buhler - August 06, 2014 at 11:09 PM

BR

“ Condolences and prayers for your family. She will be greatly missed.

Buddy and Melody Rill - August 06, 2014 at 06:19 PM

JG

“ Her job here was completed. Prayers for her upcoming journey and peace for the family. Honored to know her, if only casually.

JoAnne Grandstaff - August 06, 2014 at 04:18 PM

YT

“ Dear Kreipe Family,

Our heartfelt condolences on the death of your mother, Marie. She was a very special woman to the YWCA-Topeka.

Sincerely,

YWCA TOPEKA STAFF

YWCA TOPEKA - August 06, 2014 at 03:51 PM

HW

“ Kreipe Children,

Your Mother, Marie, was a very special lady. I will always remember the year at Holy Name when Marie and Ed were confirmation sponsors for the entire class. May God Bless you all and your many great memories comfort you. Helen Walsh and Family, Jerry, Rita, and Ed

Helen Walsh - August 06, 2014 at 03:31 PM

GS

“ Dear Sisters,

Sending love and condolences on the loss of your awesome mom. I can't be there in person with you because I am with PBP elders in MI at the Annual Gathering of Potawatomis.

Today, on a stop to be in the presence of Lake Michigan, we gathered for a prayer of thanksgiving. I especially remembered your mom and her special relationship with the water. While she will be missed, we now have her as a strong spirit guide. You and your families are close in my heart.

Gwen Shunatona

Gwen Shunatona - August 06, 2014 at 03:25 PM

KA

“ Kreipe family,
My condolences to you all. Marie will be missed but she has been released from pain and can now watch over all of you from heaven. She is not truly gone as long as she lives in your hearts. She left quite a legacy with all of you. I have talked to some former RR parents and one in particular wanted be to tell Joe their condolences (Bo and Kris Sundstedt). Marie made an impact. God Bless you all.

Karen Alexander - August 06, 2014 at 01:25 PM

MG

“ Our thoughts and prayers for your families

Marcia and Doug Givens - August 06, 2014 at 01:09 PM

RM

“ Tom and family. Condolences on the loss of your mom. She was quite a lady. Now she and my mom (Aileen Mccarthy Macfee) can get together up there and tell stories of their sons. They were good friends in high school at Hayden.

*Rich Macfee
Mckinney Tx.*

rich macfee - August 06, 2014 at 11:45 AM

BA

“ Dear Kreipe Family, Our condolences on the loss of your Mother and Matriach. Her presence will be missed by many. We know that she now walks in the love and light of the Creator, free from the constrictions of the physical world. There are never words that can assuage the grief of a loved one's loss. There is only the knowledge of life lived to the fullest with the love, care, and devotion to bringing joy and knowledge to many that Marie touched here.

Bruce & Dorothy Arvizu - August 06, 2014 at 10:01 AM

CB

“ To the Kreipe Family, My prayers are with you. My aunt & uncle, Mary Frances & Ted Welborn were Marie,s friends since childhood. Whenever we met(usually at the Shawnee County Allied Tribes Pow Wow at Lake Shawnee)Marie always made me feel special. I loved her quick wit & spunky attitude. She will be missed, but had a great life & has gone on to her reward in Heaven. Bless you, all. Chrystal Diffenderfer Brim

Chrystal Brim - August 05, 2014 at 11:47 PM

AM

“ Dear Kreipe Family,
Our sincere condolences for the loss of your Mother.
Truly enjoyed our relationship we had with her. She will be missed.
Sincerely,
Meier Family

Art,Ann,Todd,&Debi Meier - August 05, 2014 at 08:29 AM