



Marijean Gillgannon

January 1, 1953 - September 15, 2009

Marijean Gillgannon, 56, Topeka, after a courageous three year battle with cancer left her home for her new home in heaven, Friday, Sept. 11, 2009. Marijean was born Jan. 16, 1953 in Topeka, the daughter of Thomas and Maxine Evans Lowe. She graduated from Seaman High in 1971 and the next day went to work for Santa Fe Railroad, now BNSF, where she has been employed for 38 years. On May 1, 1976, Marijean and Patrick Michael "Mike" Gillgannon were married. He survives. Also surviving are her children, Mindy Gillgannon and her son, Bradyn; and Troy Gillgannon, his wife, Becky, and their children Jesse and Kyler; her mother, Maxine Lowe; brother, John Lowe, his wife, Mary Jo, and their son, Thomas; uncles, Mark Lowe and wife, Hermie, and Vern Evans and wife, Jean. She was preceded in death by her father in 1977. Marijean spent her life-time helping others. She participated in fund raising drives in support of finding cures for children's diseases and a cure for cancer. She was a member of Mater Dei Parish. Marijean is dearly loved by her family and friends. Visitation is from 6 to 8 p.m. Tue. Sept. 15, 2009 at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd, Topeka KS 66614, where a parish rosary will be prayed at 7:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Wed. Sept. 16, 2009 at Mater Dei Holy Name Church. Burial will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery. Memorial contributions are suggested to Heart of America Hospice and TARC sent in care of the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Marijean Gillgannon*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Mike and Mindy - Our prayers are with you and your family during this time of loss of such a loved one.*

John and Rhonda Schneider - September 16, 2009 at 01:59 PM



“ *Mike, Mindy and Family: We are very sorry for your loss. MariJean was the most courageous lady I've ever known. Please know you're in our thoughts and prayers.*
-Scott Miller

Scott, Rose and McKenna Miller - September 16, 2009 at 12:49 PM



“ *Mike - I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Last year, my youngest sister was diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer - and I was able to use the information that I learned from Marijean's battle to give her hope - and time. I know that you have a very deep love for your wife. You and your family are in our prayers.*

Melinda Cowin - September 16, 2009 at 09:14 AM



“ *Dear Mindy & family: We are very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.*
Justin & Angie

Justin & Angie Jacquinot - September 15, 2009 at 05:16 PM

DO

“ Mike, Mindy, and Troy, we are so sorry for your loss. MariJean was a true saint. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Mike, call me if you need anything. Doug

Doug & Rhonda Otto - September 15, 2009 at 01:41 PM

PK

“ Mike - Brad and I were so sorry to read of the loss of your wife. I hope that memories of a joyous life will bring you comfort. Please know that we are thinking of you. Brad and Pam Kemper

Pam Kemper - September 15, 2009 at 01:26 PM

BP

“ Dear mike and family : Please accept my con dolences on your loss . Marijean was a true friend to everyone and what a joy to be around.I know that you are all suffering now but take heart that she is in no pain and truly is in a better place.

Bill Pointer - September 15, 2009 at 08:23 AM

CD

“ Please accept my most heartfelt sympathies for your loss...my thoughts are with your family during this difficult time.

Christina Dodd - September 15, 2009 at 08:06 AM

JM

“ TO: John, Maryjo & family , Mike & family

Joyce and I will always remember the many times that Maxine and Tom and my family would go camping and Marijean and my girls would be running laughing and playing. As Marijean got older she never changed she always had that happy go lucky laugh and sweet smile. Marijean and John have always been like one of my own children. I would get after them as well as mine own. When God made Marijean he made one of the world's most precious people,yet she had such inner strength. I always admired Marijean so much for being so strong with all her trials and tribulations. We will all miss Marijean more than you know as Marijean and I would have some heart felt talks in the kitchen while mother and Maxine would have their little visit's. I no it helped me. I can only pray they helped Marijean as well. We would wipe the tears from our eye put on a happy face and go in the front room with the girls. God bless your family's and I do hope that if there is anything that I can do for any one of you Please! feel free to call anytime.

Joyce Dickerson & Audrey Maust - September 14, 2009 at 03:41 PM

JS

“ *Mindy and family I am truly sorry for your loss. My grandmother passed away from colon cancer when I was 15. I know Marijean fought long and hard, and now is in no more pain. My prayers are with you and your family.*

Janet Starnes - September 14, 2009 at 02:44 PM

“ Mike, Mindy & Troy,

We want to tell you how sorry we are for your loss and that our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Marijean was one of those rare kinds of people that come along in our lives that embody all that the bible wants us to be. We always looked forward to attending family events because we knew Maryiean would be there and she would always make the event more enjoyable.

Marijean was always happy. She treated everybody as they were her best friend and never judged or looked down on anyone. No matter what mood you were in when she came around your mood would be lifted. She always offered herself to anyone in need and never asked of anything from anyone.

Everyone who had the privilege of knowing Marijean became a better person from learning from her. If all the people of the world could have her traits and personality this world would become a heaven on earth.

We truly believe God sent her to us to show us how he wants us all to live. When Marijean began her fight with cancer she never changed her ways. She was still as positive and upbeat and friendly as ever. She never complained when it was obvious she felt bad. She didn't want anyone to be concerned about her rather she was concerned about everyone else. The courage and fearlessness that she showed while fighting cancer showed that she was not afraid of it or death because she knew she was going to her reward either way.

Although we all feel the pain and sorrow of not being able to share our lives with Marijean anymore, we will never forget her or the impact and influence she had on our lives that made us be better people.

In human terms we all feel her life was cut short by cancer; however in God eyes her mission on earth was successfully completed. She showed us how to live and die with unconditional love in her heart and love in God.

She is sitting with our lord now and will forever be an angel to watch over you.

While you are hurting now always remember that you were blessed to have the privilege of having Marijean in your lives every day, while the rest of us only got to spend time with her for short periods of time.

We are thankful for the time we got to spend with Marijean and we are also forever in her debt for the way she showed us how to live.

We want to thank all three of you for sharing Marijean with us.

Steve & Dawn Hanrahan

Steve & Dawn Hanrahan - September 14, 2009 at 02:10 PM

JG

“*Marijean fought a courageous battle and is finally now at peace! Her amazing memories will live forever in the hearts of friends and family. God be with you and comfort you in this time of sorrow.*”

Janice Greenlee - September 14, 2009 at 10:39 AM

PG

“*Marijean was a schoolmate of mine and always shared her smile just like her picture in the paper. I'm so sorry to hear of her suffering and your loss. Sincerely, Peggy Gatewood*”

Peggy Gatewood - September 13, 2009 at 06:17 PM

KT

“ I am so sorry to hear about Marijean. I know she will be truly missed. As I remember our glorious (?) times at Curtis Junior High, I know that the Lowe's probably felt like they had adopted me, considering the amount of time I spent at their house. I think Marijean and I did just about everything together. I remember Maxine taking us both to get our ears pierced, paying for me as well as Marijean. (My father was NOT happy!) I remember being at their house when the tornado hit Topeka in the 60's. There are so many more memories that I could share (and some that I shouldn't) but I won't. Marijean will always be in my memory and my heart, as I know she remains in yours.

Kris (Grooms) Trimmer - September 13, 2009 at 02:20 PM