

Jane Mullen

April 25, 1939 - March 29,
2026



Mary Jane Meerman Mullen, 86, passed away at her home in Manhattan, Kansas. She was a retired Registered Nurse.

Jane was born on April 25, 1939, in New Albany, Indiana, but lived most of her young life in Louisville, Kentucky. In Louisville she graduated from Presentation Academy in 1956 and from Nazareth College with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1960. She subsequently earned a Master of Science in Maternal and Child Health Nursing from Boston University in 1965.

Jane taught nursing at Children's Hospital, St. Anthony's Hospital and Nazareth College, all in Louisville. She worked as a staff nurse in Pediatrics at Children's Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska, and Coco Solo Hospital in the Panama Canal Zone. In Manhattan, she worked in the Newborn/Intensive Care Nursery at the former Memorial Hospital for 16 years and taught nursing at Marymount College during that time. After her first retirement in 1994 she was a Clinical Instructor for two years at Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, Kansas. She truly loved working with new mothers and their babies. She met her future husband Bob when he was a Second Lieutenant stationed at Ft. Knox, Kentucky. They were married on June 8th, 1963, a union that lasted almost 63 years. As a military wife she lived in six states, as well as the Panama Canal Zone and Bogota, Colombia. During their adventurous life together, they traveled extensively in the United States, Europe, Asia, and South America.

Jane was an active member of Seven Dolers Catholic Church and the Seven Dolers Catholic Women. She was a member and past president of the TPM Club. She was a life member of the American Nurse's Association and the Kansas State Nurse's Association where she held several offices in the local district. She was a proud member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. After retirement she gave classes at the Emergency Shelter for ten years. Jane always said that she loved the life of service in being a nurse. Jane loved sailing with Bob and was an enthusiastic member of the Blue Valley Yacht Club. She served as the Social Director for many years. In addition to sailing on Tuttle Creek Lake, Jane and Bob spent many summers cruising their 27-foot sailboat in the Pacific Northwest, Chesapeake Bay, Florida, and the North Channel of Lake Huron. They also chartered sailboats several times in the Caribbean and in the islands near Seattle.

Jane was a Girl Scout leader and an auxiliary in the Boy Scouts. She was a water enthusiast; enjoyed water skiing, loved swimming and cheering at her children's swim meets. Her love of cooking, reading, crocheting, bridge clubs and visiting friends and relatives was well known.

Jane is survived by her beloved husband Bob, and her three deeply loved children; Teri Johnson (Doug) Lincoln, Nebraska; Jennifer Martin (Wayne) Olsburg, Kansas and Jeff Mullen (Kelley) Houston, Texas; Grandchildren Sara (Derrick) Wiebe, Emily Sterup (Matt), Remy, and Nathanel Martin; great-grandchildren Carter and Kinslee Wiebe.

Also surviving are her dear brother, John Meerman, and her cherished step siblings, Mary Czarnik (John), Bill Wessel (Barb), Dan Wessel (Carol), and Patrice Wessel Elacqua (Jim), and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father John George Meerman and mother Leona Schuppert Meerman Wessel, stepfather Frank Wessel, and stepbrother Tom Wessel.

Visitation will be held on Sunday April 19th at 5:30 p.m. with a 7 p.m. Parish Vigil with the Rosary at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home in Manhattan.

Mass of Christian burial will be held April 20th at 10:00 a.m. at Seven Dolers Catholic Church with Father Leo Blasi as Celebrant. Interment will follow at Kansas Veterans Cemetery, Ft. Riley in Manhattan.

Memorial contributions may be made to Good Shepherd Homecare and Hospice or Seven Dolers Catholic Church, and may be left in care of Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502