



Eileen A. Fitzenreiter

July 5, 1950 - September 10, 2022

Eileen Anne Fitzenreiter, 72, of rural Napoleon, Ohio met the Lord she loved on Saturday September 10, 2022 after a 2 year battle with cancer.

Eileen was born in Hudson, Michigan on July 5, 1950 to Berl and Mary Anne (Smith) Clough. She is survived by Karleen (Paul) Sternisha, and was preceded in death by her parents and sister Connie (stillborn). Also surviving are her husband of 52 years Thomas Fitzenreiter, children Heather and Toby (Jill) Fitzenreiter; grandchildren Emma St. Clair, William Fitzenreiter, Henry Fitzenreiter, and Eve Fitzenreiter; siblings-in-law MaryAnn (Rod) Creager, William "Bill" (Jennifer) Fitzenreiter; nieces Jennifer (Jason) Seiler, Lindy Baldwin, Whitney (Baldo) Fitzenreiter-Quintanilla; nephews Cole (Libby) Fitzenreiter, Andrew (LeAnne) Sternisha; and multiple grand nieces and nephews. Eileen's love of family was second only to her love of Christ.

Growing up on a farm in rural Fayette, Ohio, Eileen often reminisced about her happy childhood, and how her faith in Christ, which shaped her and created the love that she never was afraid to show others, began at the Fayette Church of God. After graduating from Fayette High School in 1968, she left to study pharmacy at Ohio Northern University. While there, she met Thomas (Tom) Fitzenreiter on a blind date, and she said she knew he was the one the day she met him. They were married at Fayette Christian Church on August 8, 1970. Tom and Eileen moved to Liberty Center and so began their life here in a community they both love and support.

Eileen and Tom worked at The Community Bank together until Tom realized

that desks were not his calling. Eileen went on to a 30-year career in an unpredictable industry where she quipped, “we could be bought and sold 10 times but never leave the building.” She loved the ability to “help people realize their dreams and make plans to get there”. As a strong female leader her commitment to the principle of servant leadership so Eileen invested her time and talents to the Napoleon Chamber of Commerce, the United Way of Henry County, the Center for Child and Family Advocacy, to name a few. Her love for God was the driving force for all things, and after having served on various boards and committees at St. Paul Lutheran Church Napoleon, she began a second career as a Gift Planner for the LCMS Foundation in 2007 until she retired on July 31, 2022. Eileen referred to this as her calling and her life in banking had led her to this work. She took great pleasure in helping other Christians advance the Church’s mission.

Eileen’s family was the heartbeat of her life. She was exceptional at planning and creating a happy, positive, loving space to celebrate the good and less than great moments of life with those she loved. Baking and putting up seasonal decorations with her grandkids, (and whoever wanted to join the fun), was a joy for all involved. Eileen always listened and made everyone feel as though she was present with an open heart in the best and worst of times. She loved God, Family, Fun, Laughter, and Joy. Buzzie’s heart will live on in all of her family and the “friends who have become family” whom she and Tom deeply treasure.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, September 16th at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio. Interment will be held at a later date at Morrison Cemetery, Liberty Center, Ohio.

A memorial gathering will be held on Thursday from 3-7 p.m. at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home and Friday from 10-11 a.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Henry County United Way, or ProMedica Hospice. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.rodenbergergray.com

Cemetery Details

Morrison Cemetery

Liberty Center, OH 43532

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

SEP **15**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Memorial Gathering

SEP **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul Lutheran Church
1075 Glenwood Ave
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Eileen A. Fitzenreiter.*



September 15, 2022 at 11:14 AM



“ *Eileen was so gracious and welcoming when I moved to Ohio. Always a smile. My heartfelt condolences 💔. May her memory be a blessing Carolyn Snedeker Kazdan*

Carolyn Snedeker Kazdan - September 14, 2022 at 08:43 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eileen A. Fitzenreiter.*



September 14, 2022 at 06:55 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Eileen A. Fitzenreiter.*



September 14, 2022 at 03:06 PM

VG

“ Eileen will be so missed. Know the angels sang with joy when she entered the gates of Heaven. May God wrap his loving arms around each of you in the days ahead. Eileen was a blessing to each of us and her friendship oh so special 🙏🙏
Vicki and John Glick

Vicki Glick - September 14, 2022 at 12:51 PM

WW

“ Tom, Heather, Toby, Jill and family You have our heartfelt sympathy Such a pleasure to have know her for so many years God's Blessings to all of you !!!! Will and Pat

will pat wagner - September 14, 2022 at 12:17 PM

PC

“ I have thought of her often over the years. She was such a sweet person.

Patricia Carrington - September 13, 2022 at 11:48 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eileen A. Fitzenreiter.



September 13, 2022 at 02:18 PM

ME

“ Sweet Buzzy. How we loved chatting with you! Your kindness and energy were always so welcoming and vibrant. You always greeted me with a hug and a laugh. The day spent in Put In Bay with you and Heather will live in my fondest memory banks forever. Love and condolences to the family.

Melissa, Rinny, Khloe

Melissa - September 13, 2022 at 01:19 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Eileen A. Fitzenreiter.



September 13, 2022 at 12:27 PM

AG

“ So very sorry to hear of Eileen's passing. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Tom and family! Gene and Ann Grime

Ann R Grime - September 13, 2022 at 09:09 AM

JC

“ My CCLSister ,Eileen will be so missed! Sympathy to her Family.

Judi cotter - September 12, 2022 at 05:50 PM

MC

“ She was a great lady! She will be missed. Hugs and prayers for everyone! 🙏

Mike and Judy Cote - September 12, 2022 at 04:08 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Eileen A. Fitzenreiter.*



September 12, 2022 at 03:29 PM