



Joan Valerie Jones

January 8, 1936 - June 9, 2020

Joan Valerie (nee Mulgannon) Jones passed away on June 9, 2020, at home, surrounded by her family. She is survived by her three children, Valerie Hollingsworth, Veronica McCord, Jason Hollingsworth, son-in-law, Gary McCord, grandchildren; Ashley Bradford, Samantha McCord, Kasey McCord, Maggie McCord, extended family, friends, and her loyal dog Ruger.

Joan was born in Washington D.C. on Jan. 8, 1936 to Howard & Marguerite (nee Taylor) Mulgannon. Joan and her brother Howard spent many years of their childhood together, though in transition. Joan spoke often of her deep love for her father. In her early teen years, she was sent to live in Portland, Oregon where Joan attended and graduated from Immaculata Academy. It was during this time that the difficulties she faced in childhood, shaped her self-determination, and inspired her life-long faith.

Joan embraced her life fearlessly. Known for her beauty and fashion sense, never one to back away from a challenge, Joan sought out and achieved success in many different areas of life. A lifetime advocate for women in business, Joan pioneered success as a National Account Representative for Kraft General Foods. Self-taught in investing, Joan retired early, then pursued a second career at Nordstrom, specializing in cosmetics sales. Again here, she achieved National Sales level success. Joan pursued traveling abroad, particular favorites were Italy, Ireland, Turkey, and Greece. Joan's bucket list

was long and she knocked many locations off of it in her travels - The Great Pyramids of Egypt, The Rock of Gibraltar, The Panama Canal, Niagara Falls, and most recently, the Great Wall of China. Joan took excellent care of herself and participated in competitive athletics & ballroom dancing. When asked about her biggest athletic accomplishment, Joan expressed that learning to play tennis at age 65. She went on to captain many USTA teams around the Seattle area. Joan culminated her tennis career with a National Championship finalist trophy. Upon moving to Cottonwood Heights, Joan transitioned to pickleball, participating in daily games, and competing in local tournaments.

Joan was brave, protective, and fiercely loyal to those she loved. When her spotlight directed to you, you felt it deeply. She served others with her strong organizational skills, a near-perfect memory, and outstanding communication skills. Joan particularly enjoyed mentoring other women, inspiring them, building up their self-confidence, sharing secrets to success for their benefit. The beautiful, powerful, matriarch of her family, lived her life as an example of excellence, self-determination, and devoted love, Joan will never be forgotten.

Cemetery Details

Larkin Sunset Gardens

1950 East 10600 South
Sandy, UT 84092

Previous Events

Funeral Service/Mass

JUN **15**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

St. Thomas More Catholic Church
3015 East Creek Road
Cottonwood Heights, UT 84093-6575

Interment

JUN **15**. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (MT)

Larkin Sunset Gardens
1950 East 10600 South
Sandy, UT 84092

Tribute Wall



“ *its been almost 5 years and it feels like yesterday, I miss you so much* ”

veronica mccord - May 25, 2025 at 10:48 PM



“ *Joan Valerie Jones* ”

October 05, 2023 at 07:49 PM



“ *Veronica Mccord sent a virtual gift in memory of Joan Valerie Jones* ”



veronica mccord - July 27, 2023 at 10:07 PM

VM

“ mom I'm really down today looking at you in the casket, your death cert and before you left your place for the mortuary. It just hit me today again like a brick!



Looking at your picture in the casket Imp hoping your eyes will open and tell me this has all been a dream and you were just sleeping like sleeping beauty. Why! Please ask GOD..

Please hold the cross we placed in your hands close to your heart. It was a necklace of mine so I feel like a part of me is with you always till I see you again.

I wake up look at the light in the shower hoping it will flicker again like the day after you died as a sign you hear me. If you can please make it happen again and again, this will make me feel close and that you hear me, I love you MOM!

God Bless you mom. I'll be back soon to send you another message. Hugs mom XOOOXXX

VERONICA McCord - March 08, 2021 at 05:18 PM

VM

“ VERONICA McCord sent a virtual gift in memory of Joan Valerie Jones



VERONICA McCord - February 16, 2021 at 09:56 PM

VM

“ mom I haven't talk to you lately here, although I talk to you and think about you every day. I miss you so much I still cant believe you are gone. I keep seeing your face in my mind and wait for your call then realize you wont be calling I know you are dancing in heaven and are my guardian angel i just miss you so very much! I love you so much. I will be back to write again soon. Please come visit me in my sleep real soon. XXXXXOOOOXX

VERONICA McCord - February 16, 2021 at 09:56 PM

VM

“ well mom tomorrow is your birthday, and well Trump finally lost the election, he didn't lose it was stolen from him! Boy I have been down since the election without you here.



I feel like you are on a trip and I'm going to hear from you soon. I just wanted to say Hi, going to visit you this weekend for your birthday, Boy why did GOD take you from me so soon. The only thing that saves me is knowing you are no longer hurting and no longer sick. Love you mom!

VERONICA McCord - January 07, 2021 at 06:56 PM

VE

“ Veronica sent a virtual gift in memory of Joan Valerie Jones



veronica - November 04, 2020 at 09:50 PM

VE

“ *Veronica sent a virtual gift in memory of Joan Valerie Jones*



veronica - November 04, 2020 at 09:50 PM

VE

“ *Veronica lit a candle in memory of Joan Valerie Jones*



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VM

“ *VERONICA McCord lit a candle in memory of Joan Valerie Jones*



VERONICA McCord - October 18, 2020 at 08:12 PM

VM

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VERONICA McCord - October 18, 2020 at 08:11 PM

VM

“ VERONICA McCord lit a candle in memory of Joan Valerie Jones



VERONICA McCord - August 21, 2020 at 05:43 PM

VM

“ VERONICA McCord sent a virtual gift in memory of Joan Valerie Jones



VERONICA McCord - August 07, 2020 at 11:02 PM

LT

“ My memory of Joan is from when I first started playing tennis and she was the captain. I affectionately nicknamed her Momma Bear, cuz she was super protective of me. We had great laughs together, and she would always tell me, Momma Bear will look out for you.

I hope you are resting at peace, and I will always remember your beautiful smile, kindness, and bold personality! God bless your family!

Linda Tjelle - August 06, 2020 at 04:02 PM

AA

“ ANNE E ALBAUGH sent a virtual gift in memory of Joan Valerie Jones



ANNE E ALBAUGH - June 20, 2020 at 08:26 PM

AA

“ ANNE E ALBAUGH lit a candle in memory of Joan Valerie Jones



ANNE E ALBAUGH - June 20, 2020 at 08:24 PM

MS

“Joan and I first met playing tennis in Bellevue Washington, back in 2004. We co-captained many teams together for several years. The most impressive was our senior team that went to Nationals in 2007, where we were the finalists. It was quite the accomplishment for a small team with no coach. In 2005, I traveled to Palm Springs with a friend to watch the Pacific Life Open Pro Tennis tournament. Joan graciously offered her two friends a place to stay for the week. It was a great week. I fondly remember that one morning she tried to kill me with a gigantic bowl of oatmeal! That was Joan, quite the hostess! We socialized and played tennis together until she moved to Utah. We kept in touch on Facebook. Sadly I did not see Joan again in person after that, but through Facebook it was nice to share the many things we had in common. I was so saddened when I realized she was so ill. I always remember how strong she was and how she took things head on, always preserving and giving her best. I know she did the same with the challenges she faced until the day she began her new life. I will never forget Joan, she was a part of my life for a very long time. Joan I know you are where your Lord wants you to be. I find peace in that. May God bless your family.

Marilyn Sundquist - June 14, 2020 at 10:54 PM

TH

Joan was a powerhouse of enthusiasm and had a can do attitude about everything. I loved playing tennis with her! She played with all her heart and was a great team player as well. I will always remember her as being full of life and vitality not just in tennis but also about her beliefs. She is missed.
May God bless all her family.
Lovingly, Toby Hurlburt

Toby Hurlburt - June 16, 2020 at 11:49 PM

VM

hi mom, missing you tonite, We sold your house and moved all your stuff out. Its like you are on vacation and I should hear from you soon. It's still hard to believe I miss you so very much! It was way too soon for you to be taken from us, I know you are my angel and I talk to you everyday. Kiss your picture and pray when I go to sleep you will come to me in my dream.

You have once and it was so real I woke up crying wishing I could go right back to sleep and have you some back. Mom I dont know how to deal with this loss. I am still seeing my therapist cuz I miss you so much. Listening to Trump rally right now and thinking of you.

I am going to sign off now. I know you're up there reading this i know you are my angel, please dont ever leave my side,

I wish I could see and hold you, But I dont think I'd ever let you go. I LOVE YOU! I'll be back soon, Hugs xxoxoo

VERONICA McCord - October 18, 2020 at 08:11 PM

VE

missing you mom! Well it was election day, Biden 264 Trump 214 but they are recounting as there is so much fraud. I know you are in heaven watching, Please talk to GOD. I am praying. I think I want Trump to win more for you than me.

I had another melt down today, Its still hard to believe I cant hold you! The holidays will be hard without you. Going to Maggie's games without you will be hard too. I just want to see you!

Think I'll go visit your grave this weekend, I cant tell how much I miss you! Its just no the same and still way too much for me to handle. No one seems to understand. I am still going to therapy, I need some one to talk to. I talk to you every day and kiss your picture on the fridge but its not the same as you being here! Well I'm off to bed.. love you.. come visit me in my dreams soon,, Please....

veronica - November 04, 2020 at 09:49 PM

LN

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lori Nelson - June 14, 2020 at 03:15 AM

LN

Joan and i lived in the same condo complex in Bellevue - Dogwood Lane. We enjoyed traveling whenever we could and loved the single dances around King County. Joan was so much fun and always the life of the party.

In Mykonos, Greece we visited a friend of Joan's who owned a Jewelry store and had several unique pieces. We walked out of there with \$25,000 worth of diamond & ruby rings by just leaving him our credit card numbers. He charged our credit card monthly until our Jewelry was paid! We thought we had made a great deal ... and we did!

Like I said, she was always so much fun and will be missed by many. My prayers go out to her family and many friends that will also miss her!! RIP Joan!

Love Lori Nelson

Lori Nelson - June 14, 2020 at 03:36 AM

MS

“Joan and I were starting our careers at the same time in Portland, Oregon. I was a stockbroker and she was a sales rep for Kraft. We became friends when I was studying for my exam when I was working part-time at Bill's Gold Coin as a cocktail waitress. One time we went together on a sales trip to Hood River. I tried to open new accounts and she stocked shelves in grocery stores. We later went to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands together after visiting my friends in Florida. I also went with her to visit her father in San Francisco. Another time she went to San Francisco with me when I was there visiting my boss in Marin County. I hung out in Lake Oswego with her and Jimmy Jones, her second husband. We had lots of good times together. When she moved to Seattle, we lost touch but after many years Facebook brought us back together. I sent her pictures of us that she greatly appreciated because she had forgotten so much of those years. I am glad that we reconnected.

Madalene Simons - June 14, 2020 at 02:27 AM

PG

“I knew Joan from tennis. We became good friends and she was such a help to me for many years, being supportive during my down times and my good times. We took a trip together along with our friend Pat Murphy to Italy. I will never forget that trip, she was such a good travel guide and dear friend. I will always have a place in my heart for her. We had so many great talks and shared many stories. I love you Joan ❤️

Phyllis Gill - June 13, 2020 at 08:43 PM

PO

“Joan is my dad's half sis, they shared the same mom. I met Joan when my dad also first met her in approximately 1971 when she accompanied their mom to visit our family, the first time my dad had seen his real mom since he was 3 years old. My mom and dad stayed in touch with Joan through the years. She came and visited them at their golf retirement community as well. I got on FB with Joan and we messaged back and forth often. I learned a lot about her, and what a wonderful person she is! RIP, dear Joan! May you be reunited with your half brother, my dad! Much love, and I so wish we had had more time together because I know you were special as my dad was too!!!

Patti O'Farrell - June 13, 2020 at 06:53 PM

JA

Patti who was your dad? I'm Joan's half sister (same father) I really only got to know her in fb ... we had much in common and I wish I had had a chance to meet with her...

janet.delcastillo - June 15, 2020 at 09:08 AM

TP

Down the middle solves the riddle! Joan's favorite saying on the pickleball court when she sent a zinger between the two opposing players. I still hear it today in my mind when I manage to hit the sweet spot. It will be with me forever. Joan was my early mentor when I started playing. She gave lots of advice and always knew the rules. When anyone questioned them, she pulled out the rule book she conveniently carried with her. Joan would never back down from a game, even when she was not feeling her best. She might need to take a little break, maybe even get a substitute in for a few minutes, but she would be right back at it as soon as she could. And she really only played to win! I will miss you my friend and the countless hours smacking balls together!

theresa penttila - June 15, 2020 at 10:35 PM

BJ

I met Joan in the early 90's when I became friends with her daughter Valerie. Joan loved to dance and we danced the night away on many occasions at the Red Lion in Bellevue. Even though it has been a long time since I have seen Joan, I will never forget what a beautiful, poised, and elegant lady she was. She always seemed to light up a room. I will always cherish those fun memories. Rest in peace Joan.

Barb Jantzen - June 16, 2020 at 12:46 PM

DH

I met Joan in 1968 in the ladies room at the Don Ho Show in Honolulu. We discovered we were both from Portland and exchanged information. It wasn't long before she got married and our paths didn't cross and then, she began dating a very good friend of mine, Jimmy Jones. What a charming lady. I was so fortunate to have known her.

Dorothy Herman - June 20, 2020 at 02:21 AM

VM

I miss my mother so much, She was my best friend and I cannot believe she is gone.

Mom, i want you to know I think about you everyday and love you so much! I know I will see you again. Until then I know you are here with me everyday beside me as my angel. Ciao Bella, until we meet again.

VERONICA McCord - August 07, 2020 at 11:01 PM

VM

I love you mom, we are getting your grave site issue taken care, the mortuary issue has been resolved. Maybe you can wear your silk panamas buried in the casket with you in heaven while sleeping. And one of your favorite lipsticks is in there too for you to use! I MISS YOU! YOU WERE TAKEN WAY TO SOON, I need a sign that you are ok. Love you!

VERONICA McCord - August 21, 2020 at 05:42 PM

VM

Mom I still cant believe you are gone. I think about you everyday. It helps me to write to you here. I hope you can see this message.

I talk to you everyday and visit your grave as much as I can. Your place sold. We are clearing out our furniture next weekend.

Don't be sad, your items will be in all of our homes, We will take care of them as you would and every time we look at them we will think about you!

We are also having your headstone set next weekend. You would love it.

I am going to touch basis with your travel agent. We are all going on a cruise to celebrate you.

Well I'm going to say good bye now. I will write again soon. I love you! I hope you and George are ballroom dancing and playing pickle ball in heaven. Hugs

VERONICA McCord - September 11, 2020 at 11:07 PM

VE

hi mom, just missing you today. Sorry I havent been to the cemetery lately promise I will be there soon. Wish you were buried closer!

Got back from cruise with Valerie, you were missed! Please visit me more in my sleep to give me big hugs!

Sure wish you were still here. Love you lots! hugs & kisses xxxooooxx

veronica - September 11, 2021 at 08:35 PM

VE

just a quick note to say thinking about you. Love & miss you lots!

veronica - September 29, 2021 at 09:38 PM

SP

I met your Joan at the Costco meat department just before the Holidays in 2019. She advised me to by the nicest prime rib for Christmas dinner, not the sale stuff at the grocery store. She then told me the secret to perfect temperature so I bought the thermometer that hangs out the door. We ended up talking for about an hour. I dress like a poor soul and often feel harried when at Costco and here was Joan, GLAMOROUS, talking to me like we were soul mates. We texted a few times but weren't able to meet up. She sent me a picture of your Christmas dinner and everything looked perfect, good, company, table setting and decor. She was a force and had a unique and bright energy. It says something that she occasionally pops into my mind in full color after only meeting her that one time. I'm thankful I got to.

sarah paulsen - August 02, 2022 at 12:41 PM

VM

Mom, thinking of you today. Had apt where you had cancer check-ups. I had eye apt for possible melanoma of the eye. I have to go back in two months, they say its pretty serious as it looks like the small spot may be growing. If in two months when I go back it has grown, they will have to 'dig' it out and use radiation to kill it as it can spread. All I can think about is you. Please pray for me in heaven. I love you and miss you. This is when I need my mommy. Please surround me with your presence and tell me its all going to be ok. I love you

veronica mccord - July 27, 2023 at 10:04 PM