



## Joan Urbach

April 29, 1947 - June 5, 2025

Joan Ann (Gardini) Urbach, a devoted educator, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully on June 5, 2025, in Hudson, New Hampshire.

Joan was born on April 29, 1947, in Brooklyn, New York, to Joseph and Madeline (DeSena) Gardini. A proud graduate of St. Agnes Academic High School in 1964, she went on to earn her degree from Hunter College in 1968, majoring in French with a minor in Early Childhood Education.

Joan began her teaching career the same year, working as a substitute teacher in various Catholic schools throughout New York. In 1972, she began full-time teaching at Incarnation Catholic School, where her passion for education and deep care for her students left a lasting impact. After moving to New Hampshire in 1987 with her beloved husband, Bill Urbach, she continued her teaching career at Rundlett Middle School in Concord, NH, where she taught until her retirement in 2008.

Joan and Bill shared 53 loving years of marriage before his passing in 2021. Together, they built a life filled with love, learning, and laughter.

An avid reader, Joan could often be found with a book in hand. She also found joy in cooking, gardening, nature walks, cheering on the Red Sox, and—most

of all—spending time with her grandchildren, who affectionately called her “Nonna.” Over the years, she also cherished the companionship of her beloved dogs: Clancy, Chips, Bozley, Ransom, and Zeb.

Joan is survived by her loving son, Liam Urbach, and his wife Aileen; her cherished grandchildren, Bailey and Connor Urbach; her dear brother, John Gardini, and his wife Dawn; and many extended family members, friends, and former students who will remember her warmth, wit, and unwavering kindness.

Joan’s family extends heartfelt gratitude to the staff at the Inn at Fairview, who brought her joy and comfort in her later years, and to Home Health & Hospice for their compassionate care in her final days.

A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Wednesday, June 18th at 10am in St. Kathryn Church, 4 Dracut Road in Hudson. All may meet at church. A Chapel Service will take place later that same day at 2pm in the NH State Veterans Cemetery, 110 DW Hwy in Boscaawen. All may meet at the cemetery. In honor of Joan’s lifelong love of reading and teaching, donations may be made to the 2nd & 7 Foundation to support children’s literacy at [www.secondaandseven.com](http://www.secondaandseven.com)

# Previous Events

## MASS AT CHURCH

JUN 18. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Kathryn's Church  
4 Dracut Rd.  
Hudson, NH

## Chapel Service

JUN 18. 2:00 PM (ET)

NH State Veterans Cemetery  
110 Daniel Webster Hwy  
Boscowan, NH

# Tribute Wall

EJ

“ My husband Donald and I met Joan in 1974/75. Bill was Donald’s first boss at JC Penney. They hit it off and the four of us became fast friends. We often enjoyed a delicious dinner at their home, our home or evenings in Manhattan. They were both wonderful friends. We have so many wonderful memories.

Eilene/Donald Jacobs - June 09, 2025 at 04:02 PM

BR

“ I met Joan our first day of Hunter College. We’ve stayed friends all these years. She made a big impression on me and I will definitely miss her. I have wonderful memories of our time together. May she rest in peace.

Barbara Young Rosenstrauch - June 08, 2025 at 05:53 PM

JF

“ I had the Honor of having been a student of her Husband’s. She was a Patriarch of the family and had a very strong relationship with her Husband. I will always remember her for our trips with DECA and having her as my dear friend and Sister in Christ 🙏 REST IN PEACE FOR ETERNITY

Joseph Ferris - June 08, 2025 at 03:59 PM

JW

“ Friends since the 6th grade and a lifetime of years love friendship and laughter through high school days on the “the block” with the 266th street gang. Always in my heart farewell My dear “fwend” Love Jean Waite (Loney)

jean Waite - June 08, 2025 at 03:21 PM