



## Joyce Lucille Besase

June 17, 1943 - March 28, 2018

JOYCE LUCILLE (REED) BESASE 06/17/1943 – 03/28/2018

Joyce Lucille (Reed) Besase passed away at 2:34 P.M., March 28, 2018, from complications of breast cancer and ultimately of MDS, a blood cancer disorder. She survived for over 6 years. Joyce was the daughter of Bob and Shirley (Dague) Reed and she grew up in South Toledo on Nicholas Street and later on South Street. She attended Arlington grade school and is a graduate of the class of 1961 at Libbey High School and Davis Business College.

Joyce married Sam Besase on March 22nd, 1963 and they enjoyed 55 years of marriage. She met her husband while they both worked in the Administration Building of Kaiser Jeep Corporation. Joyce was known as the “worst” elevator operator and it is because of her lack of skill operating elevators that we have automatic elevators today. She parlayed her lack of elevator operator skills into an office job (typing 80 words a minute with no errors). Joyce worked at Jeep for about 5 years. She has lived in Toledo, Ohio (40 years) and South Bend, Indiana (4 years) and Quaregnon, Belgium (2 years) and Katy, Texas (20 years) and Rotonda West, Florida (8 years). She also worked as the secretary of Faith Lutheran Church on South Street and at Arco Refrigeration on Hill Avenue as well as the Nursing Home Unit at Swayne Field for Lucas County Welfare. Then she worked at the Katy schools for over 10 years as the secretary to the school counselors. She was known as “Miss Joyce” and the lady that ran the school.

The only job that Joyce ever wanted was to be a MOTHER and she excelled at this, raising two wonderful sons, Jeffery (Ellen) and Gregory (Lauryl), who survive along with her husband Sam along with 6 grandchildren – Brent Besase, Brent Collins, Jake Collins, Jeremy Irish, JJ Irish, Tiffany Irish and 3 great grandchildren and many loving cousins including Mary Lee (Nicholson) Grabowski and Mary Jo Reed. She is also survived by her sister, Janice and nieces Emily (Klingenberger) Walker and Sarah Klingenberger. Joyce loved camping and the family spent over 20 wonderful years camping all over Michigan and Canada including at Funny Farm in Pioneer, Ohio and Waffle Farm in Coldwater, Michigan.

Joyce’s lifelong friends (70+ years) since kindergarten were Joyce (Surtman) Mueller, Carol Lee (Wallington) Schlipf, Barbara (Taylor) Mather, Miriam (Bouganville) Thompson,

Barbara (Shinaver) Gall and Fran (Fuerst) Knack.

Joyce was an avid arts person, first as a renowned China Painter in the Toledo area with her longtime friend, Judy Schaarschmidt where they could be seen at numerous arts and craft shows. She was a 40-year member of the International Porcelain Artists. Joyce was also President of the 300 member Toledo Craftsman's Guild in 1989. Joyce took up quilting when she moved to Texas in 1992 and has exhibited her quilts in numerous quilt shows in Texas and Florida. Her friends Patti Villere and Elaine Strahan were her quilting buddies in Texas along with a group of about 6 more ladies. In Florida, her quilting bee includes Penny Berg. She has made many charity quilts for Hospice and Veterans and children. Joyce also belonged to the Xi Phi Gamma chapter of Beta Sigma Phi social sorority in Katy, Texas where she was named the "Sweetheart of the Year" in 1995. Joyce was a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Rotonda West, Florida where she served faithfully on the Altar Guild. She was also a member of the Moose Lodge in Englewood Florida and the Deep Creek Elks Lodge. Joyce was known throughout Toledo and then Katy Texas and then Florida for baking her famous Texas Sheet cakes for numerous events.

Joyce and the family would like to thank all of the nurses and staff at the Florida Cancer Specialists at the Venice Island office including her Oncologist, Dr. Noel Maun, and head nurse Michelle, and staff members CeCe, Sheila, Keysa and Michelle for their care and compassion these last 6+ years. We also wish to thank the staff of the Ambulatory Care Unit – 4th floor at Venice Hospital, especially Kathy, Renee, Shelly, Jennifer and Amanda. SPECIAL KUDOS TO HER SISTER-IN-LAW'S, PAT KARPINSKI AND JULIE SPEARS.

Joyce was preceded in death by her Mother and Father and paternal and maternal grandparents. She is survived by many Reed and Nicholson cousins especially Mary Lee and Mary Joe as well as special family friends, the Johnson's, Curran's, O'Connell's, Vorraber's, Velliquette's, Dans, and Stygles, families and all of her quilting friends in Texas and Florida.

Englewood Community Funeral Home with Private Crematory has been selected to handle arrangements. You may share a memory at [www.inglewoodfh.com](http://www.inglewoodfh.com)

# Comments

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“ My friend Joyce was one of God’s Angel’s. She was His special gift to me. I met her 12years ago while I lived at the Gulf Point Cove Villas. She was beautifying the common area with bushes, plants and flowers. That was Joyce, always giving of herself. She was an extremely person making the world around her more cheerful. When I needed a partner for exercise, she joined Curvers with me. Shopping, she was the Queen, always knowing where to go and what to get at a great price. We laughed often cried a few times, complained, exercised, and sometimes argued about things. Joyce was never shy about giving her opinion but we always loved the relationship we developed. I called her “T.J.” for Texas Joyce and she had a heart as big as Texas. She was bigger than life, sunshine everyday. She was generous, always doing for special causes like Appalachia, the Veterans, Homeless and just about anyone who needed help. She baked cookies and her Texas Sheet Cake for many events like the Englewood Orchid Society ( even when she wasn’t a member). About two years ago, at one of our luncheons, she said,” I may not have a long time left but I want to make that time as rich and full as possible”. I believed she did just that. T.J.was always optimistic, and with Sam by her side she fought her problems, smiled all the time, had a strong positive attitude full of hope. She loved Life, her family and her friends. I am proud to have shared the 12years with her and she will surely be missed. Joyce T.J. Besase was not only my good friend but my soul sister. I will always have a part of my heart missing now with passing. Be with God .I love you too Sam, Mary

Mary Commer - April 06, 2018 at 06:25 PM

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“ Joyce was a inspiration to us all. Strong,whitty and kind. We all miss her a lot. Sorry for your loss Sam.

sam harrison - April 04, 2018 at 04:35 PM

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“ Dear Sam,  
We are so sorry to hear about Joyce’s passing.  
Our sincerest condolences to you and all of Joyce's family. Joyce was a joy to be around! We know she will be greatly missed.  
You are in our thoughts and prayers. Please don’t hesitate to let us know if there is anything we can do to help you during this difficult time.

Your friends from Chase Bank at Katy, Tx

Martin Melnik - April 04, 2018 at 12:06 PM



“ We were so saddened to learn about Joyce. Our rug Hooking group in The Village of Holiday Lake will miss her greatly. Her smile and laugh added so much to our group. And her Texas sheet cakes will be sorely missed. Hugs to all her family.

**Julie Mattison** - April 03, 2018 at 09:18 PM

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“ Joyce and I met at Curves and later became quilting buddies. She was one of the happiest people that I have ever met. If I wanted to know how to do anything in quilting, she was always there to guide me. Quilt shows and retreats were always more fun when she was there. One of Joyce's best traits was her common sense approach to life. She will be dearly missed

Doris Levasseur

**Doris Levasseur** - April 03, 2018 at 11:15 AM

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“ Joyce has been in my prayers everyday and I will say prayers for Sam and the family. She and I met in one of our quilting groups and always had a smile on her face. She was a lovely lady with a heart of gold, willing to help and share her knowledge with anyone. Joyce will be greatly missed by many. At this special time of the year, I know she is at peace with the Lord.



**Ruth Fruhauf** - March 31, 2018 at 11:37 AM

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“ Such a great loss!! My prayers go out to Sam and family!



**Denise Stanley** - March 30, 2018 at 07:35 PM

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“ Joyce never knew a stranger and always had a smile for everyone. She was an absolutely priceless friend to my mom Pat Villere' (Patti). She will live on in our hearts and memories forever. Rest well sweet Joyce! You are loved!

**cheryl McGovern** - March 30, 2018 at 05:38 PM

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“ Luci Jordan lit a candle in memory of Joyce Lucille Besase



**Luci Jordan** - March 30, 2018 at 01:32 PM

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“ Sam,

To you, Jeff , Greg and their families we extend our condolences at this time of Joyce's passing. May her legacy of commitment to family, friends and those in need, her zest for life and her smile along with your treasured memories help to lift your spirits as you move forward in her absence. Her love will always be with you.

**Bill and Theresa Romp**

**Theresa Romp** - March 29, 2018 at 10:51 PM

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“ My deepest sympathy, prayers and love to the family!



**Katy Freeman** - March 29, 2018 at 09:55 PM

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“ I met Joyce at “Nifty Fifties” Quilting Group....The Evening Star Quilting Guild and Quilting Retreats. She was a wonderful lady and I liked her from the moment I met her. Kind and gracious, she was loved by all who knew her. Many prayers and much love to the family.

Karen Wiseman

**karen Wiseman** - March 29, 2018 at 08:43 PM

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“ Joyce was by far one of my favorite patients. She always came in with a smile and a fun story or a Texas sheet cake!! I will never forget how positive she stayed...even at the very end. I am fortunate to have had some very inspirational patients through out my career, but Joyce will be one that I will always remember and hold dear to my heart. My sincerest condolences to Sam and all of Joyce's family. I will hold you all up in prayer as you mourn the loss of such a beautiful person.

Sincerely,

Nicole McGrath (lab girl as Joyce would call me)

**Nicole McGrath** - March 29, 2018 at 08:21 PM

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“ Joan Eure lit a candle in memory of Joyce Lucille Besase



Joan Eure - March 29, 2018 at 08:09 PM

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“ Gary and Joan Eure purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Joyce Lucille Besase.



Gary and Joan Eure - March 29, 2018 at 08:07 PM

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“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joyce Lucille Besase.



March 29, 2018 at 07:22 PM

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“ Jim & Mona Everett purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Joyce Lucille Besase.



Jim & Mona Everett - March 29, 2018 at 03:46 PM