



## Janet L. Merdan

May 5, 1948 - September 29, 2025

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m., on Friday, October 10, 2025, at St. John's Abbey/University Church in Collegeville, MN for Janet L. Merdan, age 77, of Little Falls, MN who passed away on Monday, September 29th at her care home Diamond Willow. Visitation will begin at 8:30 a.m. and burial will take place at St. John the Baptist Parish Cemetery in Collegeville following mass.

Janet was born May 5, 1948, in Artesia, New Mexico to Benjamin R. Tinnin and Emma Skluzacek. She was a 1966 graduate of St. Cloud Technical High School. Janet married Leonard Ralph Merdan on August 20, 1966, and together had six children. Since 1967 she resided in Avon, MN living in six custom homes built by her husband for their growing family before moving to Albany in 2004. Upon her husband's passing in 2022, she moved to assisted living.

After many years as a homemaker, two of Janet's sons were in the St. John's Boys Choir and she provided the tailoring needs for multiple years and supported international performances in Europe, Asia, Bahamas and across the USA. That led her to becoming the St. John's Abbey community seamstress in 1988 making monastic clothing, celebratory banners, and liturgical vestments in the tailor shop in addition to regular clothing repairs and alterations until her retirement in 2015. Janet also caringly hosted with her

husband and family multiple international students that attended St. John's Preparatory School.

Janet spent countless hours in her sewing/quilting room at her home where she taught friends and family, with special enjoyment teaching her granddaughters her sewing skills. Janet participated in the St. Cloud Heritage Quilters Club, winning several awards for her quilts, along with attending many quilting retreats. She was skilled in all that she did from her leather work, calligraphy, drawings and oil paintings.

Janet was also a member of the Stearns County Pioneer Club, during the annual event she demonstrated her skills in the Quilt Shop.

Janet's journey with dementia began in 2018, gently changing the rhythm of her days and the ways she could care for herself. Yet even as the illness took hold, it could not diminish the love and creativity she poured into her quilts. Each piece she stitched was a gift of comfort and beauty, carrying her spirit in every pattern. May the quilts she so generously crafted continue to wrap her family and friends in warmth, and may they hold the memories of her hands and heart for years to come.

Janet is survived by her children, Kenneth (Bridget) Merdan, Dean (Susan) Merdan, Curtis (Laura) Merdan, Lyle, Taunya (Trevor) Poser, MaryAlice (Peter) Faust; 12 grandchildren: Addison and Nolan Merdan, Elizabeth and Nicholas Merdan, Abigail and Clara Merdan, Cole and Brooke Poser, Riley, Lane, Trace (Mabel) and Tyler (Fiance' Ava) Faust; and great grandchild, Westin Faust; stepbrother Mike Roering; many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard; parents, Emma Skluzacek-Roering and Benjamin R. Tinnin; stepfather, Ebehard Roering; stepbrother, Robert Roering

The family wishes to extend heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Diamond Willow for their sincere care and compassion for our mom, as well as to CHI Hospice for their gentle support during her journey. In lieu of flowers, memorials honoring Janet may be directed toward organizations supporting dementia care, ensuring that others walking a similar path may find comfort and help.

# Cemetery Details

## St. John the Baptist Parish Cemetery

Collegeville, MN 56321

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **10**. 8:30 AM - 10:15 AM (CT)

St. John's Abbey / University Church  
2900 Abbey Plaza  
Collegeville, MN 56321

## Mass

OCT **10**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. John's Abbey / University Church  
2900 Abbey Plaza  
Collegeville, MN 56321

# Tribute Wall



“ Wells Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Janet L. Merdan.

Wells Family - October 09, 2025 at 08:01 AM



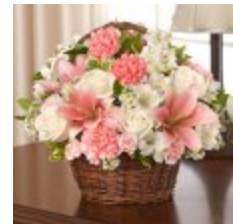
“ Wells Family purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for the family of Janet L. Merdan.



Wells Family - October 09, 2025 at 08:01 AM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Pink and White was purchased for the family of Janet L. Merdan.



October 07, 2025 at 09:14 PM



“ Multicolor Bright Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Janet L. Merdan.



October 07, 2025 at 08:57 PM

MF

“ I met Janet at the camp Lebanon quilt retreat and learned many things from her. I always loved hearing her stories about her childhood and all of her children and grandchildren who I know without a doubt were the one thing that made her the happiest. She was so proud of each one of them. I am sorry you lost her so young to that awful disease but I know she is in a far better place now.

Mindy Fountain - October 02, 2025 at 05:35 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Janet L. Merdan.

October 02, 2025 at 11:29 AM



“ Fields of Europe for Spring was purchased for the family of Janet L. Merdan.



October 02, 2025 at 11:29 AM

ST

“ Sadie T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Janet L. Merdan.

Sadie T. - October 02, 2025 at 10:06 AM

ST

“ I’m very honored to say Mama Janet introduced me as the ‘3rd daughter’. Her personality shined through her radiant smile supported by her sassy facial expressions and remarks. She made a mark in my heart. Allow her memories to bring peace during this time of loss.... Lots of Love to the Merdan Family.

-Sadie Terwey

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**Sadie Terwey** - October 02, 2025 at 10:04 AM

BI

“ Over the years Janet kept the monks in stiches...not just from being our seamstress but with a kind sense of humor for a bunch of men who needed help!

*Miss her and best wishes and prayers to all the family!!  
If you only knew the offspring you would be impressed by the work Lenny and Janet did! amazing!*

*I have enrolled her in our November All Souls daily prayers!!*

*Br. Isaac*

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**Br. Isaac** - October 02, 2025 at 06:19 AM

DM

“ Sweet and loving person family oriented 100%

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**Dave and Marilyn Moore** - October 01, 2025 at 05:10 PM