



# Josephine Marie Rhodes

JUN 1, 1933 - AUG 30, 2012



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5



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## Josephine Rhodes Obituary

Josephine Marie Rhodes (nee Copa.), 79, passed away peacefully in her sleep August 30th 2012. Jo was born June 1, 1933 in Lorain, Ohio, later moving to Elyria, where she raised her family and retiring in Oberlin Ohio. Josephine attended Lorain High School, Lorain County Community College, Michigan State University and Oberlin College. Her pleasures in life were based on helping friends and families deal with whatever in life they were faced with and always providing a soft touch and an understanding hand. No one was turned away. This commitment brought her to the role of a Foster Mother at Lorain County Children Services Agency, leading her to become a member and secretary for Lorain County Childrens Agency. Jo also served as chairperson with the Lorain County Child Abuse and Neglect Advisory Board and supported and worked alongside Lorain County Commissioner Mary Jo Vasi. She was a teacher of Native American Studies and member of Oberlin Friends of the Library. Jo was recognized as Elizabeth Coleman Women of the Year along with Women of the Year of First Community Interfaith Institute. She was a member of Universal Church of Prophets and a licensed minister and member of The Fraternity of Life Sufi Tradition. She was a devoted Mother and proud parent of nine children, 19 grandchildren and 12 great grand children, including sons: John Rhodes, James Anthony Rhodes, Christopher Rhodes and wife Linda, Michael Rhodes and wife Winna, daughter, Roseanne Rhodes, son, Joseph Rhodes and wife Kathy, daughter Marie Weimer and husband Denny, Patrick Rhodes and Nancy, brother Tony Copa and son of Amherst, sister Louise Cromwell and family of Sheffield Lake. Josephine was preceded in death by a son Mark Rhodes in 1971 and her Brother Al Copa in 2011. Josephine Rhodes was known as a great friend to all and committed to helping everyone that crossed her path. Always an open heart and strong shoulder to offer. A strong believer in family, lived life stronger than life itself. A beloved mother, best



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grandmother ever, great sister and treasured aunt. A true friend to all. Her love for everyone will be cherished and remembered forever. She was a true gardener of life. We will miss and cherish your memories. With all our blessing and love - your family. Friends will be received Saturday, September 8, 2012 from 2p.m. until the time of a 4:00p.m. memorial service at Dicken Funeral Home, 323 Middle Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035. For online condolences, visit [www.dickenfuneralhome.com](http://www.dickenfuneralhome.com)

To send flowers  
to the family or plant a tree  
in memory of Josephine Marie Rhodes, please visit our floral store.

[Read More](#)



## Tribute Wall

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MC

**Mr. & Mrs Rick Capasso** posted:

To the Rhodes families, our deepest condolences and prayers at this difficult time. Sorry we could not make it today, as we were out of town.

September 7 at 8:00 PM

SW

**Scott Williams** posted:

Sorry for your lose my thought and prayers are with your family

September 6 at 8:00 PM

SC

**Sharon Capasso** posted:

My thoughts and prayers go out to all the families.

September 6 at 8:00 PM

AF

**Amenhauser Family** posted:

Ms. Rhodes was a very special person. She had a way with people and flowers. She will be missed by all of us.

September 5 at 8:00 PM

CM

**Concord Manor** posted:

She will be missed by all her family at Concord Manor, She was loved by all.

September 5 at 8:00 PM



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NP

**Nicholas J Peterson** posted:

Deepest sympathy to the family on the loss of my Concord Manor neighbor Jo for these past six years. Jo was a dear friend. We shall miss her gentle friendship and her loving hall decorations and her care of the plants both in the hall and on the grounds. What a selfless, gracious lady our community has lost. Jo mentioned that she was attending a Catholic adult group meeting weekly in Elyria during the weeks before her passing. She also graciously handled the personal impact of a terrible car accident when, as a pedestrian, she was struck by a reckless driver on the downtown crossway in Elyria many decades ago. God bless and comfort all who remember and loved her. Jo was a saint to all of us who knew her.

September 5 at 8:00 PM

KO

**Kathlene Oconnell** posted:

Mary will always be in my thoughts and prayers. She was a great friend and a wonderful teacher. I will always love her very much. I don't think it can even be put into words what she meant to us all, or what the true effect she had on humanity. We are blessed to have known her.

September 5 at 8:00 PM

BL

**Barbara Lysaght** posted:

Mary had a light around her that drew me to her the moment I met her. She was warm hearted, and generous of spirit. I will miss her, of course, and I take much comfort knowing that she now soaring with the Angels.

September 5 at 8:00 PM

DS

**David And Victoria Strawn** posted:

We offer our sincere sympathy and condolences on the passing of a great light we knew as our beloved Spiritual Elder Murshida Mother Mary Inayat Rhodes, or simply, MaryJo, for whom this is another exciting journey, but for us it is a huge loss of a beloved friend and loving spiritual guide and teacher. We will look for her among the stars. Namaste

September 4 at 8:00 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Josephine by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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