



JoAnn Lewis Runyon

SEP 30, 1927 - APR 14, 2017



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
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JoAnn Lewis Runyon, a longtime resident of Tucson and Sierra Vista passed away on Friday, April 14, 2017. Born September 30, 1927 to William Lewis and Ferne Kemp, in El Centro, CA, JoAnn was an only child. JoAnn went to Sam Hughes Elementary (where her mother was a long-time teacher), Roskruge Jr. High, and graduated from Tucson High. She went to college at Arizona State Teachers' College (ASU), where she was a Sun-Devil princess. During the summer she worked as a Harvey Girl at the Grand Canyon. She began teaching in Morenci, AZ. While there she met and married John Runyon. Then it was off to the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska for a few years before returning to Tucson. John suddenly died in 1961 leaving her with two small children, Patricia and Michael. Soon thereafter she moved to Sierra Vista and began a long career teaching third grade for Sierra Vista Public Schools. After retirement, she volunteered for Flowing Wells schools for many years.

JoAnn was always kind, considerate, had an infectious laugh, forever had a smile, and never met a stranger. She had a bounty of friends, and was a keen bridge player.

She is survived by her son Mike (Carlene) Runyon of Yuma, son-in-law Doug Cline of Tucson, grandson Ben Cline of Tucson, grandson Kyle (Jacki) Cline of Rio Rancho, NM, four great-grandchildren, caregiver Mike, many friends and loved ones. She is predeceased by her husband John, parents, and daughter Patricia.

She requested no memorial service be held, but a family only service will be held at a later date. Her ashes will be interred, along with her loving companion Whitey at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to the Tucson Humane Society in JoAnn's Name.



Memories only last if you share them

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



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