



Margaret Louise (Stinson) Dennis

May 13, 1954 - February 27, 2023

Margaret Louise (Stinson) Dennis, age 68, joined the Church Triumphant on February 27, 2023 after a courageous battle with cancer due to Lynch Syndrome Disease. She was preceded in death by her parents, Kathryn Elizabeth (Wallace) and Lee Harris Stinson of Madisonburg, Ohio. She is survived by her husband of 37 years, the Rev. Eric E. Dennis and their sons, the Rev. Dr. Scott Dennis and Andrew J. Dennis. She is also survived by numerous relatives across the United States and Scotland.

Margaret graduated the top of her class from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, the University of Cincinnati, where she was certified in both vocal and instrumental music specializing in the Bassoon. Later she earned a MMEd Degree at VanderCook College of Music in Chicago, Illinois with continuing summer education classed at Villa Nova University in Eastern Pennsylvania.

Margaret played in a number of professional instrumental ensembles including the Ohio Light Opera Orchestra and the Lima Symphony Orchestra. She taught vocal and instrumental music in Ohio and Pennsylvania for a total of 44 years, having retired from the Elizabeth Forward School District in 2020. Margaret was a loving mother and wife, who enjoyed making music, cooking, baking, painting, playing games and spending her free time with her family at their home. She was playful, charming and had a wonderful sense of humor. Margaret will be deeply and sorely missed by all who knew and loved her.

Burial will be private; however, friends are invited to a Memorial Service at the Linway United Presbyterian Church in North Versailles at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 5th. The family has requested that memorial gifts may be made to Linway United Presbyterian Church, 600 Lincoln Highway, North Versailles, PA 15137 or the John Neba International Ministries, 215 Anthon Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

Arrangements handled by the Forgie-Snyder Funeral Home, 1032 Broadway, East McKeesport, 412-823-8083. For online condolences please visit www.snyderfuneralservices.com.

Cemetery Details

Grandview Cemetery

1301 Lincoln Highway
North Versailles, PA 15137

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 5. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Linway United Presbyterian Church
600 Lincoln Highway
North Versailles, PA 15137

Tribute Wall



“ *Margaret Louise (Stinson) Dennis*

October 07, 2023 at 10:37 AM



“ *Reading these tributes to Mrs. Dennis is so touching. She was my son's first instrumental music teacher. I am thankful that he learned from her in elementary school. Being a band member was a very good and needed school experience for him. May you rest in God's hands.*

Mara Pinney - March 16, 2023 at 01:55 PM



“ *Peggy was my cousin. I knew her for as long as I can remember. Even as a kid she was usually singing as i remember. The last time I saw her she was laughing remembering our lives a children. It will always be a great memory of all of us sitting around the table having fun. Everything is good now cuz. You earned it.*

jeff kerr - March 08, 2023 at 11:49 AM

AD

“ My Mother was an excellent musician, a gifted teacher, a patient director, a family anchor, a shoulder to cry on, a story teller, and much more. For me, all of the descriptions that were just given can be used in one word, Mother. The fact is her “Touch” can still be felt to this day.

When I was changing into my uniform to play my last basketball game, I noticed there was a piece of paper hidden in my shoe. It was a note from my Mother. Now for the record, she was not really into sports. She would be up on the stage with the pep band, telling the clarinetists to check their reed, tell the trumpets to be in tune, and not bother with the game. Nonetheless, the note she wrote described how proud she was of all the hard work that was placed into this idea of mine. She was elated that I was able to start making my own decisions, having “skin in the game”, but not forgetting who I really was. She always told my brother and me to, “Be Yourself.” She taught us to be true to ourselves, be courteous to others, and to walk away from people who do not have our best interests at heart or care for other people.

To conclude, this Honorable Lady, this Saint, is no longer in pain. She is not suffering anymore. She will be missed, but many people will remember her as a person of faith, courage, laughter, joy, passion, and selfless love.

Andrew Dennis - March 07, 2023 at 06:55 PM

SD

“ It is the Lutheran Pastor, Paul Gerhardt, in his *Passiontide* hymn, 'O Sacred Head Now Wounded', who pens the beautiful sentiment, "what language shall I borrow to thank thee dearest friend?" This helps explain my struggle to find the best words to thank Margaret for being not just my mother, but for being my Mom, my Momma, or as she preferred in his final days in this life, "Mommy." She was the reason why Andrew and I had the amazing, wonderful, loved-filled childhood we had. Mom was always fun; she loved to play games; she'd cook or bake just about anything we wanted almost at the drop of a hat; she was always up for an adventure, for making music for our listening pleasure, or painting something that would delight us. It took me years to find out that not everybody's Mommy was like mine – and it shocked me; and I know all too well now, that she was and IS totally irreplaceable! In this life, Mommy was my best friend; my most trusted confidante; my favorite and most valued advisor; my most ardent defender and cheerleader; the one who I knew, no matter what, she would never stop loving me, and I her; in short, Mommy was, and still is, my favorite person. Words fail to express the sorrow I feel in her passing; I wish we would have more time together. Yet, I am grateful beyond words for our time together; I am grateful that she is no longer suffering; I am grateful that I don't have to watch Mommy decline anymore. I am grateful that, shortly after I was appointed by Bishop Kusserow to my first Lutheran pastorate, Mom shared with me that, in her own words, as a small child she "fell in love with the Lutheran liturgy" at the Salem Lutheran Church, just down the street from her parents' home in Madisonburg, Ohio, which was reaffirmed within her as an adult at the Faith Lutheran Church in Ashtabula, Ohio, prior to her marriage to my father. During this season of Lent, I am grateful for her favorite color, purple. I am grateful for our last heart-to-heart, mere days before she passed, especially Mom's promise always to be with me and watch over me and those who are on their way. I am grateful for her last words; when I walked into her room on Wednesday, her eyes lit up, she smiled a huge smile and said, "Hi Sweetheart!" The last words she heard in this life were when I said, "I love you Mommy, now, always, and forever!" The message of Job

19 seem appropriate; that although cancer destroyed Mommy's body, in the resurrection of the dead unto life eternal, with her own eyes she shall see her Redeemer, Jesus. Therefore, I am grateful that Jesus, and not cancer, is the last word over Mommy's life. I cannot think of a better way to end my tribute to my Mom than the last words I spoke to her before she went home to glory: I love you Mommy, now, always, and forever!

Scott Dennis - March 07, 2023 at 04:13 PM

HS

“Peggy as she was called growing up, and I were close. I guess we had a typical brother sister relationship. One memory that comes to my mind was a birthday I had, my folks had been able to get to the store, but Peggy made me a present out of Marbles and little pieces of wood. She wanted me to have a present. I'll never forget that. I loved her and miss her.

Her Brother, Fred Stinson - March 07, 2023 at 01:19 PM