



## Joan McKernan

January 27, 1926 - December 16, 2022

Joan (Williams) McKernan, 96, of North Tonawanda, Friday, (December 16, 2022) in DeGraff Skilled Nursing Facility, surrounded by family. Joan was born on January 27, 1926 in London England to Reginald and Lucy (Andrews) Williams. Joan was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church and was retired from Trico.

Joan was raised in Walthamstow, North London, England. She survived the Blitz on London during WWII although her family's shoe repair shop & home were bombed. It was during the war that she met her future husband, American GI, John Needler at Covent Garden. She moved to America in 1947, followed shortly thereafter by her parents who moved to Canada. Joan became an American citizen but never stopped loving her homeland and traveled back to England whenever she could. She was later to recount her war years living in London during the Blitz for NPR's Story Corp.

Joan was an accomplished artist, loved gardening, danced well into her 80's with the 'Silver Foxes' and especially loved having her family over for a Sunday dinner with the traditional English roast beef and Yorkshire pudding. Joan was dearly loved by her family & friends and will be missed.

Joan was predeceased by her husbands, John F. Needler who died in 1975 and Donald F. McKernan, Jr. who died in 2016 and life-long friend, Doris Hayes. Mrs. McKernan is survived by her children, Malcolm (Patricia) Needler, Christopher (Suzanne) Needler, Kathleen Wells, Kimberly (Gerry) Youngmann. Grandmother of Kristin (David) Oakley, Julie (Scott) Eccleston,

Ninette Needler, Tony Wells and Mark Wells. Great Grandmother to Madison, Colin & Brendan Oakley.

A memorial service will be held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church at 61 Payne Avenue, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 on Wednesday, January 4th at 6:00PM.

# Cemetery Details

**Elmlawn Cemetery**

# Previous Events

## **Memorial Services**

JAN 4. 6:00 PM (ET)

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
61 Payne Ave.  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

# Tribute Wall



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joan McKernan.* ”



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January 01, 2023 at 11:07 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Joan McKernan.* ”



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December 19, 2022 at 03:19 PM