



# Josephine Vernon Waterhouse March

December 10, 1931 - October 30, 2018

Josephine Vernon Waterhouse March, passed away on October 30, 2018 in Chester County Hospital. She was born December 10, 1931 in Germantown, PA. She was the wife of the late Robert Spencer March, mother of R. Spencer (Kathy), Howard (Bernadette), and Nelson (Emily), and grandmother of Tyler, Katie, Benjamin and Ava.

She was a graduate of Pennsylvania State University and the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Business Administration. She taught in elementary schools. In 1954, she was the youngest teacher accepted by the State Department to teach Air Force children in Japan. The following year, she taught in Germany.

The Waterhouse family were early New England settlers, arriving in Massachusetts in 1636. She was active in the Founders and Patriots of America, the New England Women, and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Services will be held privately. Condolences may be offered online by visiting <http://www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com>. Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc., Phoenixville, PA.

# Comments

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“ Miss Josephine Waterhouse was my fifth grade teacher at Flouertown Elementary School. It was probably 1957. She was a memorable teacher, encouraging and engaged, and thought of endless ways to keep us interested during a very important year (we didn't know it then, but it would be our last year in elementary school - we were headed to a consolidated school for 6th and 7th graders).

During the year with Miss Waterhouse she developed a program for us to become penpals in several places in the world where she had made contacts during her years with the State Department overseas. I wrote to three Japanese penpals for decades, and also wrote to a Thai girl and a girl in the Phillipines, all introductions arranged by Miss Waterhouse.

When Miss Waterhouse returned from a vacation in Vermont, she was able to obtain school sized samples of Maple Syrup products, tiny boxes with examples of maple syrup candy, with tiny brochures of information. It was a way for her to teach us about 'sugaring off' of Sugar maple trees in Vermont. She also somehow got us small boxes from Japan with silk cocoons inside, again, an opportunity to explain how silk is obtained, and spun via silkworms. She was endlessly thoughtful.

We had a great group reading and writing program. I think I wrote my first poems then, and we were all asked for short subjects weekly, along with spelling. Somehow there was time for her to read to us as well!

During the summer our family went away, and I think I saved my money until I could buy and send to her a truly gaudy bracelet made of different colored stones! What a riot. It was surely something she would never wear!

Most of all, she was an example of what was possible - a young single woman who had been to college and become a successful teacher.

I never forgot her. I only happened upon her obituary by accident, and I am so glad she lived such a big life with children and grandchildren.

My condolences to her family.

Linda Crowley Horger

Linda Crowley Horger - March 06, 2020 at 01:29 PM

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“ I worked with Jo for some time, helping with her gardening, cleaning, running errands, her beloved dog, Heather, and packing up her home when she moved. I loved hearing her stories about traveling, antique hunting and of course her boys and their families. She was a lovely lady and will be missed. Warm thoughts and prayers to her family. Kim Rose

**Kim Rose** - November 03, 2018 at 11:32 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Josephine Vernon Waterhouse March.



November 03, 2018 at 07:23 AM

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“ Jo was a remarkable woman - smart, fun, determined, optimistic, forward-thinking, gracious, charming, a dynamite hostess..... My sincere sympathy to the entire March family. Nancy Loane

**Nancy Loane** - November 02, 2018 at 08:26 PM

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“ I am so sorry to hear of your loss. "Jo" as we fondly called her was a neighbor and friend to my parents in Phoenixville for many years - I spent many times in the house taking care of her beloved pup. Sending thoughts and prayers to you all. Jennifer Casselberry

**Jennifer Epps** - November 02, 2018 at 07:48 AM