



# Julia Alice Owen

MAR 15, 1920 - NOV 29, 2015



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# Julia Alice Owen

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**J**ulia Alice Owen, 95, of Decatur passed into eternal life on November 29, 2015, in St. Mary's Hospital surrounded by her loving family.

Julia was born in Lincoln, Illinois on March 15, 1920 to Coy and Ferne Barr Tuttle, growing up on a farm near McLean, IL. She attended Millikin University and graduated from the University of Illinois. In her first month at Millikin, she met the love of her life, Ralph Owen. They were married on May 16, 1942 while Ralph was on a three day pass from the U.S. Army. Julia remained Ralph's devoted partner as they raised four children and he developed Hobby House Toyland, Franklin Mall, Franklin Travel, and three condominiums on Lake Shore Drive.

She is survived by her children Bruce Owen (Cheryl), Decatur; Martha Eller (Denny), Jacksonville Beach, Florida; and Bill (Pat) Soca, Uruguay. She is also survived by eleven grandchildren: Nicole Thesz, Martin Thesz, Carrie (Owen) Kouadio, John Owen, Michelle Owen, Julie (Owen) Herrera, Mary Owen, Josh Owen, Jeff Eller, Kristin (Eller) Scott, and Meghan Estey, as well as seven great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, daughter Lucie Thesz, and her brother. She will be deeply missed by all who were lucky enough to know her.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Hima Atluri for her extraordinary care over many years, as well as the unfailingly kind staff at Imboden Gardens.

Services to celebrate Julia's life will be 11 AM Wednesday, December 2, 2015 in Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home. Visitation will be 10-11 AM Wednesday in the funeral home. Burial will be in Fairlawn Cemetery. Memorials can be made to Heifer International or First United Methodist Church.

The family of Julia Alice Owen is being served by the Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave. Decatur, IL. Please view the online obituary, send condolences, and share memories at [www.gracelandfairlawn.com](http://www.gracelandfairlawn.com).



## Tribute Wall

**Julia Alice Owen**

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MP

**Mike Peters** posted:

The Owen family was like my own. Mrs Owen was a great lady. I grew up in Christ UMC with them. Bruce and I were good friends. His Parents were always loving and kind to me. We lost touch after I left for the Marine Corps after High School. I have often thought about you since. I hope Bruce will friend me on facebook.

February 19 at 2:51 PM

BR

**Betty Roper** posted:

Julia always added interesting comments and ideas to our Sunday School class in the Chapel and we enjoyed her presence at Circle 1. Always sweet and smiling! I enjoyed knowing her. Betty Roper, First United Methodist Church

December 7 at 1:44 PM

BG

**Bruce A. Gebhart** posted:

Julia was the most gracious person I'd ever met as a child. She always acted like she was so glad to see me and made me feel special even though, I now expect, she did that for everyone she met. Bruce A. Gebhart

December 2 at 3:14 AM

CO

**Cheryl Owen** posted:

My favorite memories of Grandma show her support while we raised our large family. On the June day when we brought home our fifth child, we arrived at our house to discover that Grandma had managed to keep the house all spruced up while babysitting the other children. I took a photo of her exhausted self and forgot to take one of her with the baby. With so many children, things got a little rowdy. I remarked that our house was like a zoo. Grandma replied, "But don't you like going to the zoo?"

December 1 at 2:42 PM

JS

**Jim And Suzanne Schwarz** posted:

Your mom was a great lady and a wonderful person to have raised such remarkable children. We are sorry for your loss. Jim and Suzanne Schwarz

December 1 at 2:03 PM



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JG

**Joyce Galla** posted:

Dear Martha: My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. Joyce Galla

December 1 at 9:23 AM

AZ

**Andre Ziem** posted:

Dear Kouadio; My wife and I are sorry about the loss of your beloved Grandmother Julia Alice Owen. We send our deepest condolences to you and to your family. Please let us know if there's something we can do to somehow lessen the pain you feel in your hearts. We will always be there for you. Yvette & Andre Ziem

December 1 at 8:25 AM

AY

**Angela (Pullum) Yetter** posted:

To all of Mrs Owen's family, but especially Denny, Martha, Jeff & Kristen, she was a lovely lady, and I am happy to have known her through you. My heart goes out to all of you in this sad time.

December 1 at 3:42 AM

CW

**Cinda Armstrong-Williams** posted:

Lit a candle in memory of Julia Alice Owen

December 1 at 3:41 AM

KO

**Kathleen Owen** posted:

She always had a beautiful smile to share with family and friends. My deepest sympathies to your family. Kathleen Owen

November 30 at 8:55 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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