

WAUKESHA

**Joan H. Keppen**

Jan. 3, 1931- March 5, 2003

Joan H. Keppen, 72, died Wednesday, March 5, 2003, at her home with her family by her side after a private and courageous battle with cancer. She was born Jan. 3, 1931, in Merrill, to Harold and Martha (nee Mueske) Holl.

She was a 1948 graduate of Waukesha High School where she played the trombone and the accordion and was involved in the Cardinal Star, Rec. Dance Committee, Social Committee, F.B.L.A., F.H.A., Mask and Wig, Orchestra, Pep Band and Y-Teens. After high school she played the accordion in a band, which played at many venues in Waukesha. On July 27, 1950, she married Donald E. Keppen at Trinity Lutheran Church. She had worked at Butler Bin and in 1958 she and her husband started Keppen's Kar Kare in Waukesha. She enjoyed taking ceramics class with many of her friends, enjoyed going to country music concerts and especially liked Alan Jackson. She was a member of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Pewaukee.

She will be greatly missed by her yellow Labrador, Sam, who was her faithful companion. She was the dear mother of Judith (John) Strecok of Waukesha and Daniel (Brenda) Keppen of Eagle; loving grandmother of Shannon Leigh, Dustin Matthew and Britany Elizabeth Keppen, all of Eagle; and great-grandmother of Taylor Shayne Merritt of Toledo, Ohio. She is further survived by her 107-year-old father-in-law, Walter H. Keppen of Fort Atkinson; granddogs Jackson, Jade, J.D. and Ami; and aunts, an uncle, cousins, other relatives and many special family friends. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Donald E., on May 2, 1991.

Friends may call from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, March 9, at Randle-Dable Funeral Home, 1110 S. Grand Ave. A second visitation will be held from 10 a.m. until the 10:30 a.m. funeral service Monday, March 10, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, 111 Prospect Ave. in Pewaukee, with the Rev. Richard Krause officiating. Entombment will follow at Wisconsin Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Regional Cancer Care Center, 725 American Ave., Waukesha, WI 53188, Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, or please volunteer your time to help a senior citizen in your community.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to The Caring Angels, especially Kim, for the wonderful care given to Joan.

For further information, call Randle-Dable Funeral Home, 547-4035, or visit online at [www.randedablefuneralhome.com](http://www.randedablefuneralhome.com).