



## Dessa Sue Cassens

August 8, 1937 - April 14, 2013

Dessa T. Cassens was born August 8, 1937 in Dixon, IL and died April 14, 2013 in Naples, FL. Her parents were Forrest and Louise Trautwein, and she was the fourth generation to live in the 105 East Boyd Street house. Dessa attended North Central School in Dixon, Dixon High School and Indiana University where she received a B. S. in Medical Record Librarianship. She practiced her profession at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney, Australia and then at Mendota State Hospital in Madison, WI. and consulted locally. Dessa is survived by her husband Robert G. Cassens, their two children—Martha Elise and Martin Edward (married to Kristen Luoma) and their only grandchild Madelyn Grace.

Prior to their children being born, Bob graduated from the University of Wisconsin in Biochemistry/Muscle Biology. They lived for a year in Australia on a Fulbright Scholarship, and then traveled the world on their way home, creating a foundation of International, lasting friendships. Dessa raised the children, loved to entertain friends, started a small antiques business specialized in American Pewter and was active in the Pewter Collectors Club of America, before her disability made travel difficult; none-the-less, she liked to laugh and always had that irresistible smile on her face. Dessa made sure the children were well schooled, attended Church, participated in sports, had many good friends and respected their heritage. Major enjoyment was had by the family as they canoe-camped and skied together.

Dessa loved people and the flag of the USA. She had to have flowers in the house, and when we moved to FL her favorite flower was the Orchid with the Bromeliad second. She was active in the National Ski Patrol, PEO, DAR, GYRO, PIYC, Daughters of Demeter, Girl Scouts, and the Republican Party. Dessa's genealogical interest, inherited from her Mother, resulted in a book entitled "John Hughes and My Other Quaker Ancestors." At this time another book, dedicated to Dessa and her mother, is "in press," and under the title "BREWSTER LETTERS The Joys and Trials of a Pioneering Family from Maine to Illinois 1820 to 1906, and subsequently." Many trips were made to Wales, Pennsylvania and Maine to search records, find tombstones and locate family farms and homes. She believed in God and loved all of her friends. She will rest in peace at Palmyra Cemetery, near Dixon, IL, amongst several generations of ancestors. Donations may be made to Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church (Music Program), Naples, FL. or to The Salvation Army.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, April 19, 2013, at 1:00 PM in the Sugar Grove Church in Dixon with the Rev. Mike Jones, Pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Dixon, officiating. Burial will follow in Palmyra Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Friday from 12:00 PM until 1:00 PM in the church.

# Cemetery Details

## Sugar Grove

352 Timbercreek Rd  
Dixon, IL 61021

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 19. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Sugar Grove Church  
352 Timbercreek Rd  
Dixon, IL 61021

## Service

APR 19. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Sugar Grove Church  
352 Timbercreek Rd  
Dixon, IL 61021

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dessa Sue Cassens*

October 08, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *Dessa Sue Cassens*

December 31, 2022 at 02:40 AM



“ *Dessa and I were good friends all through grade school, high school and beyond. I am so glad I saw her at our High School reunion not long ago. From the tributes I have read, she hasn't changed one bit from the first time I met her.*

*She has always been the sweetest girl and lady, with that smile for everyone.*

*Bob and family, you have my deepest condolences.*

*Ron Sholders*

Ronald Sholders, D.D.S. - April 19, 2013 at 07:47 PM



“ *Bob, Martha and Martin, We were deeply saddened to learn of Dessa's passing. What a warm, wonderful person with such an infectious laugh and personality. Please know that we're thinking of you and will always cherish our memories of Dessa.*

*Ron and Alicia Russell*

Ron Russell - April 19, 2013 at 03:54 PM

DG

“ *Bob, Martha, and Martin,  
We were saddened to learn of Dessa's passing. We will always remember her as a friendly, caring person. She will be missed. Our thoughts are with all of you during this difficult time.*

*Deane and Joan Galloway*

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**Deane and Joan Galloway** - April 19, 2013 at 03:10 PM

VA

“ *Martha,*

*I am very sorry to hear of your mother's passing. Tomorrow I bury my dear 3 month old granddaughter—may you keep the best memories of your mother as I do of my dear smiling angel. I shed a tear when I read this—may God keep you and bless you.*

*Valerie (High School Friend)*

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**Valerie** - April 19, 2013 at 10:50 AM

JP

“ *Bob: Deepest sympathies to you and your family. Both you and Dessa were an inspiration to me when you were in Madison. I pray that God will give you the strength to bear your loss. - John S. Pinto, Madison, Wisconsin*

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**John S. Pinto** - April 19, 2013 at 09:37 AM

JH

“ *Bob, Martha and Martin,*

*Can hardly think of anything else this week, longing to be with you all on Friday. I'm comforted by the fact that my brother Dean will be at Sugar Grove. What a blessing that Dessa and I became close when we met at 14 and were soul-mates through all these years, though we were not together often enough. She leaves a huge hole in very many other hearts, I know, but she is surely with the Lord and loved ones. Dave and I will visit her grave site whenever we next get to Dixon - Sugar Grove has also been important to my relatives.*

*Our deepest sympathy and hugs, Jan Heindel*

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**Jan Heindel** - April 18, 2013 at 07:19 PM

SF

“ *Susan F. purchased the Full Heart for the family of Dessa Sue Cassens.*



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**Susan F.** - April 18, 2013 at 12:47 PM

BO

“ Dear Bob, Martha and Martin

*We were sorry to see that Dessa has died. Please accept our heartfelt sympathy. We enjoyed worship and other activities with Dessa, and your family during your years in Madison. Those memories of are a foundation of the love we share in Christ. May God bless you and comfort you.*

*Love, Burt & Darlene Olson and family*

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**Burt & Darlene Olson** - April 18, 2013 at 11:15 AM

JB

“ Dear Dessa was simply beautiful, inside and out! Her Madison home with its many lovely pewter pieces reflected a gentle woman making a warm, loving home. And how she glowed when talking about Martha and Martin! Our Gyro Club connection felt very much like family, and I'll certainly always treasure the time we spent together. I feel so blest to have known her and will honor her memory forever.



*Bob, Martha and Martin -- I'm thinking of you at this time of sorrow and hoping you will find comfort in warm memories of your beautiful wife and other.*

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**Josn Bloodworth** - April 18, 2013 at 10:48 AM

JL

“ *Dr. Cassens, Martha, Martin  
From de deepest of my heart I pray for you all.  
My life has been touched by the kindness of the  
Cassens Family to whom I will allways  
remember with love.*



*Jose Ramón Lozano  
Puebla-Mexico.*

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**jose ramon lozano** - April 17, 2013 at 11:20 PM



“ *Imagination Blooms was purchased for the family  
of Dessa Sue Cassens.*



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April 17, 2013 at 07:34 PM

JS

“ *Bob, Martha and Martin,*

*Annette and I are so sorry to hear about Dessa. We both remember  
her very fondly as a gracious, warm and wonderful person that we  
very much enjoyed seeing at the various occasions where we  
crossed paths. Annette, in particular, has looked up to Dessa as a  
role model since our time in Madison when we first got to know her.  
Please know that we will be thinking of you during this time.*

*Joe and Annette Sebranek*

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**Joe and Annette Sebranek** - April 17, 2013 at 07:24 PM



“ *Heavenly Sentiments Spray was purchased for the family of Dessa Sue Cassens.*



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April 17, 2013 at 07:05 PM



“ *We are very sorry to hear of Dessa's passing. Even though we are not in the immediate family group is always nice to be thought of as a part of the Cassen's family. Our best wishes and prayers. Mark and Dianne Preibisius*

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**Dianne Preibisius** - April 17, 2013 at 06:34 PM



“ *My sympathies to Bob, Martha, and Martin. Dessa was a beautiful person both outside and inside and she will be missed. Lovingly in PEO, Bobbie Johnson*

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**bobbie johnson** - April 17, 2013 at 05:34 PM



“ *Dessa will always be remembered by her ready smile and caring personality. We will all miss her greatly.*

*Harold and Betty Herring*

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**Harold Herring** - April 17, 2013 at 09:50 AM

BF

“ *Bob, Martha, and The Cassen's family.....*

*When talking of our Dear Dessa, where does one begin? She always had a wonderful smile as a greeting, she was always willing to talk and share an interesting story, what a pleasant, gracious Lady!*

*Dessa will be greatly missed, the good news in all of this is that she is with our Lord, and will have no more suffering and pain.*

*Rest in Peace, good friend!*

*We will continue to pray for the family, that, given time, the grief shall pass, and the fond memories of a wonderful Wife, Mom, Grand Mom, and friend, will be with us forever.*

*We love you all,*

*Bridgette and Gene*

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**Bridgette and Gene Foster** - April 17, 2013 at 07:44 AM