



Joy Ann Mehrten

August 1, 1934 - July 16, 2025

Joy Ann Mehrten, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully just days before her 91st birthday. Born on August 1, 1934, Joy's life was filled with love, faith, and family.

Her name spoke for itself - it said it all. Joy brought light, warmth, and comfort to everyone around her, living a life that truly reflected her name.

She was the devoted wife of Lawrence Dale Mehrten, the love of her life. Together they shared 66 years of marriage, building a home rooted in faith, hard work, and unwavering devotion to one another and their growing family.

For 46 years, Joy and Dale ran Kaweah Marina, where they worked side by side and created a lasting impact on the community. At one point, all three of their daughters worked alongside them, learning firsthand the value of hard work, dedication, and family commitment. Kaweah Marina wasn't just a business - it was a place where character was shaped and lifelong memories were made.

Joy was the proud and loving mother of three daughters: Jeanne Howard (Brad), Laurie Lawson (Rob), and Julie Dragt (Ben). She was also blessed with eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, all of whom brought her immense pride and joy.

She is also survived by her three loving sisters: Clella West, Connie Odom, and Kathy Cominski (John), as well as her dear sister-in-law Marge Puder. She is also remembered fondly by many nieces and nephews who loved her dearly and were touched by her warmth, generosity, and gentle presence.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Marie and Clelle Puder; her brother, John Puder; brothers-in-law Joe West and David Odom; and her great-granddaughter, Rylee Bonnema.

A devoted member of Christ Lutheran Church, Joy's faith was the foundation of her life. She will be remembered for her gentle spirit, quiet strength, and the unconditional love she shared with everyone around her.

She leaves behind a legacy of grace, kindness, and steadfast devotion to her family, her faith, and her community. Joy will be dearly missed and lovingly remembered always.

Services will be held on Thursday, July 31st. A graveside service will take place at Smith Mountain Cemetery in Dinuba (42088 Road 100, Dinuba, CA 93618) at 9:30 AM.

Following this, a Celebration of Life Service will be held at Christ Lutheran Church (3830 W. Tulare Ave., Visalia, CA 93277) at 11:00 AM, with a luncheon to follow.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Previous Events

Graveside

JUL 31. 9:30 AM (PT)

Smith Mountain Cemetery
42088 Rd. 100
Dinuba, CA 93618

Funeral

JUL 31. 11:00 AM (PT)

Christ Lutheran Church
3830 W Tulare Ave
Visalia, CA 93277

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Joy Ann Mehrten*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - July 28, 2025 at 04:21 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Joy Ann Mehrten.*



July 25, 2025 at 04:29 PM