



Mary Jo Mathison, daughter of Lloyd and Lorena (Menning) Brown, was born March 13, 1948, at Canton, South Dakota. She grew up on a farm near Inwood, Iowa. Mary attended a one room country school until it closed. She then attended West Lyon School until 1964 when they moved from Inwood to Rock Valley. Mary was a graduate of Rock Valley High School in Rock Valley, Iowa and later attended Western Iowa Tech in Sioux City,

Iowa where she graduated as a licensed practical nurse (LPN). She worked for two years at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Mary was united in marriage with Ben Mathison on June 8, 1972, at the Pioneer United Methodist Church in Rock Valley. Mary became a “military wife” as she and Ben lived in many different locations throughout his years of service. They lived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Oak Harbor, Washington, Sioux City, Iowa, Monterey, California, Ft. Hood, Texas, Frankfurt, Germany, Ft. Meade, Maryland, Colorado Springs, Colorado, and finally they settled in Rock Valley, Iowa in 1992.

Mary enjoyed quilting, crocheting, sewing, puzzles, and playing games. She spent many years as the Sunday School superintendent at the Methodist Church in Rock Valley. More recently, Mary became a member of the First Community Church of Hope in Doon, Iowa. Mary passed away Monday, May 6, 2024, at Pleasant Acres Care Center in Hull, Iowa at the age of 76.

Mary is survived by her husband of 51 years, Ben; 2 daughters, Heather (John) Walbran of Liberty, Missouri and Michelle Mathison of Rock Valley; 2 grandsons, Cameron and Calvin Walbran; brother, Wayne (Rogene) Brown of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and 2 sisters, Sylvia (Kent) Pruismann of Rock Valley and Jan (Ray) Witte of Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lloyd and Lorena Brown; daughter, Sylvia Mathison; and brother, Don Brown.

In Loving Memory
Mary Jo Mathison
March 13, 1948 ~ May 6, 2024

FUNERAL SERVICE

2:00 PM, Tuesday, May 14, 2024
First Community Church of Hope
Doon, Iowa

OFFICIANT

Pastor Jim Sweers

ACCOMPANIST

Robin Te Slaa

SPECIAL MUSIC

“On Eagle’s Wings”
Jacob Sweers, soloist

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

“The Old Rugged Cross”
“Here I Am, Lord”

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Wayne Brown ~ Calvin Walbran

PALLBEARERS

John Walbran ~ Cameron Walbran
Robin Mathison ~ Chuck Mathison
Kent Pruisman ~ Ray Witte ~ Randy Porter

INTERMENT

Valley View Cemetery
Rock Valley, Iowa

Mary’s family invites everyone for a time of food and fellowship, downstairs, in the church fellowship hall, immediately following the funeral service.

*God saw she was getting tired
And a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around her
And whispered, "Come with Me."*

*With tearful eyes we watched her suffer
And saw her fade away,
Although we loved her dearly
We could not make her stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating
Hard working hands to rest,
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.*

