



Jerilyn E. "Jeri" Simms

July 11, 1949 - January 21, 2026

Jerilyn E. "Jeri" Simms 76, of Crete, passed away Wednesday, January 21st 2026 at her home surrounded by her loving family. Jeri was born July 11th 1949 in Chicago, IL to John and Jennie (Kumm) Demes. Jeri married Peter Occhiuzzo in September of 1987 in Country Club Hills.

Jeri worked as an RN for many years and loved taking care of others. Jeri enjoyed gardening and researching homeopathic remedies. She loved animals. Jeri was also a very good artist.

Jeri is survived by two sons - John (Bonnie) Occhiuzzo of St Anne, IL, Charles Occhiuzzo of Crete, IL, one daughter - Katherine Richardson of Beecher, IL. One brother - Jack (Toni) Demes of Long Grove, IL. She is also survived by 7 grandchildren, Chanel, Matthew, Westyn, Abigail, Jeremiah, Jonathan, Anna, and 4 great grandchildren, Jaxon, Wolf, Noah and Sienna.

Jeri is preceded in death by her husband Peter Occhiuzzo on November 30th 2014, her parents and one granddaughter Lexi.

Cremation rites have been accorded, a celebration of life will be held at River Valley Christian Fellowship, 800 Cardinal Dr. in Bourbonnais, IL on Saturday, February 14th, from 10:00am to the time of the funeral service at 11:00am.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

FEB 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

River Valley Christian Fellowship
800 Cardinal Dr.
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Memorial Service

FEB 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

River Valley Christian Fellowship
800 Cardinal Dr.
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Tribute Wall

BT

“ I worked with Jeri at Ingalls Hospice and she was so sweet. Her beautiful smile always made my day. She brought comfort to her patients and to all of us. Rest in peace sweet lady. Wishing comfort to Kathy and all of Jeri's family and friends



Brenda Tinerella - February 01 at 02:36 AM

DT

“ I grew up with Jeri on Avers. We rode bikes, read Veronica and Archie comics on her front porch, go to the corner store to get an Italian ice and watch the guys play baseball in the street. We kept in touch on Facebook. I am so sorry for your loss. She was so proud of her family and loved you all so very very much. My deepest sympathies.

Debbie Taliani - January 29 at 10:31 PM

NR

I went to LHN with Jeri and we both enjoyed seeing life's journeys. May you RIP 🙏 dear friend

Nancy Ryan - January 30 at 09:04 AM

NP

Jeri and I were best friends for many decades. She was like a sister to me. We lived together, stood up for each other's weddings, I was her son John's godmother. She was a very kind and intelligent person and we always talked about the fact that no one on earth knew us better than each other. I could write a book about all of the many times we spent together. I loved her so very much. It is a real shame, a sin actually, that no one informed me of her demise. Rest in peace my dearest friend. I've been praying for you each and every night since your diagnosis. I guess I can stop my prayers, but I will never stop being your friend. See you on the other side. Nancy Partika 2/21/26

Nancy Partika - February 21 at 04:22 PM