



Patricia F. Van Orden, of Fitchburg

April 14, 1932 - February 12, 2025

FITCHBURG: Patricia Faith (Jennison) Van Orden, 92, of Fitchburg, died Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at University of Massachusetts –Memorial Hospital, Worcester.

Her husband of 58 years, William J. Van Orden, Jr., died in December 2015 at 82 years old.

Mrs. Van Orden was born in Gardner, April 14, 1932, the daughter of the late Walter and Louise (LeBlanc) Jennison and raised by her mother and step father James Norris. She has resided all of her life in Fitchburg. Before entering the Highlands Nursing Home a little over a year ago she lived at 15 Arlington Street, Fitchburg, MA for almost 60 years.

For fifteen years Mrs. Van Orden worked at the Herbert Lipton Mental Health Center in Fitchburg, retiring in 1996. From 1974 - 1987, Mrs. Van Orden worked as the House Mother at Burbank Hospital School of Nursing in Fitchburg. For many years she dedicated herself to the commitment of being a Foster Mother to children in need of a home.

She enjoyed crocheting/knitting, playing cribbage, reading a good mystery book, and spending time with her cats and dogs. She attended St. Bernard's Parish celebrating at St. Camillus de Lellis Church in Fitchburg.

She leaves three daughters, Michelle E. Mills of Fitchburg, M. Renee Polakowski and her husband Philip Polakowski of West Boylston, Nicole A. LaDouceur of Milford, NH; her son, Matthew J. Van Orden of Ashburnham; thirteen grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her son, William J. Van Orden III who died November 2013, her grandson Robert B. LaDouceur who died March 2020, and her brother Walter Jennison of Lunenburg who died December 2007.

Her funeral Mass will be 11 AM Thursday, February 20, 2025 at St. Bernard's Parish celebrating at St. Camillus Church, 333 Mechanic Street, Fitchburg.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph's Cemetery

Fitchburg, MA

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

FEB **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Bernard's Parish at St. Camillus de Lellis Church
333 Mechanic St.
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Tribute Wall



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Patricia F. Van Orden, of Fitchburg.*



February 17, 2025 at 09:36 PM



“ *Michelle E. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Patricia F. Van Orden, of Fitchburg.*



Michelle E. - February 17, 2025 at 12:41 PM



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