



Ruth Ann Eccles

October 28, 1953 - March 28, 2006

Miss Ruth Ann Eccles, born Oct. 28, 1953 in Alton, IL, passed away suddenly of an apparent Heart Attack on Tues. March 28, 2006 in Frankfort, IL at 52 years of age.

She is daughter of Lelia (Down) Eccles of Florissant. She is also survived by her brother, Richard R. Eccles, Jr. of Alton, IL, and her sister Cindy Eccles of Florissant. Three nieces, three nephews, one grand-nephew, and one grand-niece. Her father, Richard F. Eccles, Sr., died 23 years ago.

Miss Eccles was coordinator and full-time faculty member of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Morton College, Cicero, IL.

Miss Eccles established many personal relationships with her students who recalled her gentle, kind and supportive nature.

She grew up in Alton, IL, and graduated from high school in Jefferson City, MO, earned a BA from the University of Missouri and a Master's Degree from the University of Indianapolis. Prior to joining the faculty at Morton College on a part-time basis, she had spent 18 years at various outpatient clinics, including Ingalls Hospital in Calumet City, Paulsen Center in Willowbrook, Silver Cross Hospital in Joliet and United Samaritan Medical Center in Danville.

Visitation will be 4-8 pm Wed., April 5, and the funeral will be at 12 noon Thursday, April 6 at HUTCHENS Mortuary, 675 Graham Rd., Florissant, MO 63031 Interment will follow at Valhalla Cemetery, Godfrey, IL. Memorial contributions may be made to Morton College, Physical Therapy Assist Club, 3801 S. Central Ave., Cicero, IL 60804-4398

Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth was one of my instructors in 96' at Morton College. I remember her great sense of humor, kind and caring manner. She was encouraging to everyone in my class as we nervously took on classes with increasing difficulty. She would smile and say you can do it. I am shocked at her passing and consider myself blessed for having crossed her path.##imported-begin##Mayra Pluta##imported-end##*

April 10, 2006 at 10:36 AM



“ *I first met Ruth through an online chapter of Beta Sigma Phi around 6 years or so ago. She was a lovely woman. I had the privilege of meeting her in person one afternoon in Baltimore. She was coming in town for a work related seminar and we met up for the day and toured several of the sites in Baltimore. We had a wonderful day together that I will always remember. Ruth was a wonderful person and a great sister and she will be missed. My condolences and deepest sympathy go out to her family and friends.*

*Mizpah,
Marnie Louk
Pasadena, Maryland##imported-begin##Marnie Louk##imported-end##*

April 09, 2006 at 08:46 PM



“ To Ruthie baby's Family

Please know that we are all hear for you > We hope to help you heal as Ruth would of wanted us all to do. The Morton College PTA program will continue to grow and thrive and it is all because of RUTH and her caring soul.

We know that she is looking down from Heaven and keeping an eye, as well as providing a gentle hand (or shove) to all of us who need her

We will continue to be the best therapists we can .

Thank you for sharing such a special person with us

Bless you all

*Carol Ann (the baby chick)##imported-begin##Carol Ann Everett
##imported-end##*

April 09, 2006 at 06:31 PM



“ Dear teacher'

I miss you very mach. It was great to have you as a teacher. You were the best teacher. YOUR STUDENT GOSPA##imported-begin##Gospa M##imported-end##

April 07, 2006 at 11:03 PM



“ As Bookstore Manager at Morton College, I had the privilege of working with Ruth and over the years we became more than just coworkers - we became friends.
Kind, supportive, empathetic - these are just some of the words that come to mind when I think of Ruth. I am crying as I write these words yet I know in my heart that Ruth is smiling down on us in heaven. Goodbye, Ruth - you made a difference in my life and countless others. To the Eccles Family, I am sending you my deepest condolences along with a heartfelt hug.

Love, Gene##imported-begin##Gene Suire##imported-end##

April 07, 2006 at 10:46 PM



“ To the family of Ruth, I give you my greatest sympathy. Ruth stuck behind me and my class, Class of 2005. She was a great mentor and will be missed.##imported-begin##Sarah Wynkoop##imported-end##

April 07, 2006 at 09:39 PM



“ Well Ruth I WILL miss you very much. You were more than a teacher and a friend you were my second mother. I will never forget what you have done for me. Watch over me and i promise I will make you proud. I wont let you down. God Bless You.
Scott##imported-begin##scott birmingham##imported-end##

April 07, 2006 at 01:10 PM



“ I had the pleasure to meet Ruth. I am sadden to the fact that I was not able to develop a more personal friendship. Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss. I know that she will be greatly missed at Morton College.##imported-begin##Erubey Diaz##imported-end##

April 07, 2006 at 11:30 AM



“ It has not been the same without you. I miss you every day, I have no one to greet me when I come in. Being able to share ideas and thoughts. Techér, mentor, friend. Thank you for being you. Don't think I told you that enough. You will me missed.##imported-begin##Linda Moore##imported-end##

April 06, 2006 at 07:01 PM



“ You may not know me, but I feel as if I know you. I appreciate what you did and kept doing through your life, and I thank you for this my dear sister and friend from afar.

Love,

Karen from TX##imported-begin##Karen Ing##imported-end##

April 06, 2006 at 09:55 AM



“Ruth was a very special person and I will miss her very much (and the great discussions that we had). Her kindness, warm smiles, gentle nature, and her commitment to her students will be sorely missed at Morton College. My deepest sympathy to the family for your great loss.##imported-begin##Michelle Pivonka##imported-end##

April 05, 2006 at 08:54 PM



“As a current student in the PTA program at Morton college I have spent the last 2 years with Ruth, she was a wonderful teacher who was very inspiring. She was a great listener and taught me so much throughout that time. I feel blessed to have known her. I will miss her greatly. My thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.##imported-begin##Erin K. Flounders##imported-end##

April 05, 2006 at 06:19 PM



“Eccles Family: I became acquainted with Ruth while attending Morton College for Massage Therapy. She was usually at her computer when I would come for class...always with a smile and time to chat. Her kindness and gentle spirit always impressed me.##imported-begin##Janet Stroup##imported-end##

April 05, 2006 at 06:12 PM



“I was saddened to learn of the passing. The event brought back many childhood memories where we grew up at Elm Street Church in Alton. My prayers go out to all of the family.##imported-begin##Greg Lister##imported-end##

April 05, 2006 at 03:24 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Ruth's family, friends, and students. Ruth was a very special person and I will miss her.##imported-begin##Scott Everett##imported-end##*

April 05, 2006 at 02:29 PM



“ *I worked with Ruth at Morton College in the PTA program. I will remember Ruth as always having a smile and a kind word to say. Sympathy to her family and all her friends and students.##imported-begin##Nina Edling##imported-end##*

April 05, 2006 at 10:47 AM



“ *SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOST AND OURS. RUTH WAS A GREAT FRIEND. WE WILL MISS HER ALWAYS.HER KINDNESS WAS ALWAYS A SMILE FOR MY DAY.##imported-begin##Nancy Bator##imported-end##*

April 05, 2006 at 07:33 AM



“ As a current student of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Morton College, Ruth has been one of my teachers for the past year and I'm grateful that I was able to have Ruth for a teacher. She brought joy and happiness to me in my worst times. She was always wearing a smile and treated everybody in a respectable manner. I could talk to her about any and everything and she would assist me with the best solution for every situation and somehow every situation worked out just fine. Ruth I just want to THANK YOU for taking time-out to work with me when I needed it. You're going down in history as one of the greatest teachers I ever had. Ruth you were ready because if you wasn't God wouldn't have came and got you. I was always taught everything that happens happens for a reason, so I'm not going to say you passed away I'm going to say you moved on because you are going to live through me and all the other PTA students you have worked with over the years. Ruth your legacy will live on forever So again I just want to THANK YOU SO MUCH and we will meet again. So long RUTH and I'll see you soon.##imported-begin##Renard Wayne Jones##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 09:07 PM



“ I am sorry to say that I have only spoke to you a few times, but in those few moments we spoke I knew that you had a pure heart and soul. We will all miss you deeply and I pray that you are rejoicing in heaven where you should be.##imported-begin##Nicole Boda##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 08:37 PM



“ It was a pleasure to see your smile around Morton College. It was my pleasure to assist you in the A/V department. May you rest in peace. My condolences to all of her family and friends. God Bless You!###imported-begin##Cynthia Piekos##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 08:10 PM



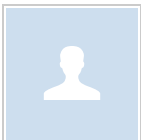
“ I knew Ruth a "Sister of Beta Sigma Phi" only thru email but she will be missed###imported-begin##Deb Wilson##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 07:44 PM



“ I had the privilege to meet Ruth on line through sorority. We also had the chance to be special sisters to each other. First her for me and then I got to return the favour. I will miss our internet 'talks'. Ruth, you will be missed but not forgotten. My heartfelt sympathy to her family and friends.###imported-begin##Liane Wobito##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 07:29 PM



“ Having worked with Ruth at Morton College I can honestly say, that I have never met a finer person. Ruth truly cared about people, which showed, seeing her chosen profession, physical therapy and teaching. She not only cared about the "physical" well being, but she cared about the soul of a person. We often chatted about our cats and the Wizard of Oz. Ruth reminded me very much of my older sister. In fact, they were the same age. She was a caring, honest and altruistic lady. She will be missed by each person she touched. One very special lady. God Bless!###imported-begin##Karen Piest##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 04:41 PM



“ *Ruth- You were loved dearly by all and will be missed greatly. May God bless your family during this time.*

Your friend

Lauri Joseph##imported-begin##Lauri Joseph##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 04:09 PM



“ *Often we don't fully appreciate a loved one until it is too late to tell them. Though I never met her in person I considered Ruth a wonderful friend who helped me through the rough spots when I had cancer. I could always get online with Ruth and whine about my health problems and before the end of the visit I was laughing and felt much better. She was a very considerate, patient, friend. She will be sadly missed by her many friends and family.*

Wanda M. Crusey

Online Epsilon##imported-begin##Wanda Crusey##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 04:02 PM



“one thing I could say about my teacher Ruth was that she always had a smile on her face even though she had some bad days like we all do. I enjoyed having her as a teacher because she was always positive, and she loved to teach. She meant a lot to me, she got me to where I am know. She always told me never to give up and to try my best in everything and to be there for my family. I will miss her a lot and I will never forget the fun times I had in her classroom, she was the best. I thank her for being there when I needed her help and for listening to my problems. My great teacher RUTH. I will always remember you and I will do my best in the PTA program. It was very nice of her brother and sister to come over to the college. I was lucky enough to meet them and socialize with them for a bit. They are very nice people to talk with as Ruth was the same way. My sympathy to Ruth's family, and friends. YOu will never be forgotten.##imported-begin##Maria I. Rodriguez##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 03:00 PM



“I am a member of an International Sorority,Beta Sigma Phi. We also have on-line chapters. I first met Ruth when she was a member of OLE (on-line Epsilon) and also got to meet and spend a day with her in Williamsburg, Virginia a few years ago. What a wonderful person she was! I am sure she will be missed by all who knew her. My condolences to everyone.##imported-begin##Betty Johnson##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 02:07 PM



“ *Ruth touched my life personally and I will always feel blessed to have had her in my life! I will miss her smile and her stories that she always shared with me, but most of all I will miss her kind heartedness and love of life and her passion for teaching. I will miss her greatly! I know that she is in heaven looking over us. My thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Elizabeth Romero##imported-end##*

April 04, 2006 at 09:33 AM

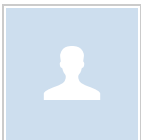


“ *Ruth was always kind and decent. I never heard her speak poorly of anyone. She would always thank me for setting up the union parties, which touched me.*

All to often we forget the simple, kind, and gentle words of please and thank you. Ruth was an example to us all.

Thank you Ruth. You were one of a kind.##imported-begin##Catherine Stukel##imported-end##

April 04, 2006 at 09:16 AM



“ *Ruth will be ever so missed among her sisters in Beta Sigma Phi. We will miss her kind words and encouragment that was always there for all. May her family enjoy her memory always.##imported-begin##Diane Hoy##imported-end##*

April 04, 2006 at 12:12 AM



“ Ruth,

We will miss you. Thoughts of you and your generosity will remain with us always.##imported-begin##Kentz and Sandra Morrical##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 11:34 PM



“ As a current student in the PTA program at Morton College, I have been fortunate to have Ruth as my teacher for the past year. Everyday she brought a smile, some laughs, and her passion for physical therapy into the classroom. She will be greatly missed, but not easily forgotten.##imported-begin##Julie Schaefer##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 10:22 PM



“ Mrs. Eccles, Rick, and Cindy,

How lucky all of us were to have known Ruth. The family she was raised in can certainly take credit for her kindness and devotion to others but we also know Ruth was a special unto herself. She will be greatly missed especially here at Morton College. We hope Ruth continues to guide the program she worked to diligently to create. Thank you Ruth!

*My deepest sympathy to you all,
Chris Martin##imported-begin##Chris Martin##imported-end##*

April 03, 2006 at 08:46 PM



“ *My symphaty to Ruths family. She was a very warm caring person. She will be sorely missed.##imported-begin##patti waner##imported-end##*

April 03, 2006 at 07:28 PM



“ *Ruthie Baby !!!!(My mother hen)*

I cannot tell you how much she meant to me. She was a second mom as well as my mentor and friend.

She was the most awsome person and I am lucky I got to have her in my life

Ruthie Baby !!! I will miss you !!!

Carol Ann (your baby chick)##imported-begin##Carol Ann Everett##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 06:39 PM



“ As Coordinator of Student Activities at Morton College, I worked very closely with Ruth in her activities as advisor to the PTA Club. But we were also friends. We ate lunch together often, and attended a number of Athletic Association sponsored outings together.

She was always positive, and hopeful, as well as happy and kind. Her students loved her.

She was truly one of the nicest people I have ever had the privilege of knowing.

My condolences to her family and friends.

Ruth will be missed, but never, never forgotten.##imported-begin##Louise Czuba##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 05:35 PM



“ As Coordinator of Student Activities at Morton College, I worked very closely with Ruth in her activities as advisor to the PTA Club. But we were also friends. We ate lunch together often, and attended a number of Athletic Association sponsored outings together.

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Ruth will be missed, but never, never foegotten.##imported-begin##Louise Czuba##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 05:35 PM



“ Youm will very much be missed by all.##imported-begin##James J Vlach##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 05:23 PM



“ My husband works at the college and I only knew Ruth thru the Relay for Life that was held at Morton College each year. I have to say that Ruth was a very sweet lady and I know she will be missed by many people. She had a very wonderful nature and a kind heart. Our sympathy goes out to her family and dear friends. She is now an angel to watch over us.##imported-begin##Cindy Sajatovic##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 04:07 PM



“ I recently started working at Morton College and was drawn to Ruth's calm and guiding spirit. My sincere sympathy to her family and all her friends.##imported-begin##Edie Fabiyi##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 04:00 PM



“ It was a pleasure to work with Ruth for the past few years at Morton College. She was a fun and loving person to be around. She always found a way to brighten everyone's day no matter how bad the situation. Ruth will be missed by all who knew her and this is a great loss to the Morton College community that she served for so many years. God Bless You, Ruth.##imported-begin##Scott E. Ulbrich##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 02:55 PM



“ *Ruth:*

May you find Peace and Eternal Rest. You will be missed.##imported-begin##Louis M. Kiriazis##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 02:39 PM



“ *I had the privilege of working with Ruth at Silver Cross Hospital. I remember her fondly for her happy smile and the gentle support she gave to all. She was terrific with both patients and co-workers. God Bless you, Ruth! I will never forget you! Love, Terri##imported-begin##Terri Tatroe##imported-end##*

April 03, 2006 at 11:12 AM



“ *Our heartfelt sympathy to the Eccles Family.*

Ruth's sisters in Xi Theta Pi.

Frankfort, IL##imported-begin##Chris Jarvis##imported-end##

April 03, 2006 at 09:05 AM