

## Celebrating Women's History Month

### Marjorie Heyduck and Erma Bombeck Authors, Columnists and Humorists



**Erma Bombeck**

Erma Fiste was born in Bellbrook, Ohio. She became an excellent student and an avid reader. She particularly enjoyed the popular humor writers of the time. In junior high school she began writing a humor column for the school newspaper. While in high school, she wrote a serious column, mixing in bits of humor and at the age of 16, she began to work at the Dayton Journal Herald as a copygirl. In 1943, for her first journalistic work, Erma interviewed Shirley Temple, who was visiting Dayton.

In 1964, Erma was writing for the local Kettering Oakwood Times with weekly columns which yielded \$3 each. In 1965, the Dayton Journal Herald requested new humorous columns and Bombeck agreed to write two weekly 450-word columns for \$50. By 1969, 500 U.S. newspapers



**Marjorie Irene Heyduck**

Marjorie Heyduck got her start in the newspaper business in the women's department of the *Dayton Herald* newspaper in 1936. Leaving that job, she worked for the *Dayton Press*, a weekly newspaper, and broadcast a daily human interest and woman's feature program over WING radio from 1939 to 1941. She rejoined the *Herald* as a general assignment reporter in 1943 and began her regular column which later gained fame as "Third and Main" a year later.

It was at that time that she began a feature column on wrestling for the *Herald's* sports department. Tales of her escapades as a reporter covering wrestling matches in Southern Ohio entertained hundreds of women at regular "Tea With Marj" occasions throughout the Miami Valley.

featured her "At Wit's End" columns and by 1978, 900 U.S. newspapers were publishing her column.

Erma Bombeck died on April 22, 1996. She rests peacefully in Section 201 Lot 395 near a large rock from the Phoenix, Arizona desert.

### Why we love Erma!

"The hippopotamus is a vegetarian and looks like a wall. Lions who eat only red meat are sleek and slim. Are nutritionists on the wrong track?"

"The Rose Bowl is the only bowl I've ever seen that I didn't have to clean."

"Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died."

"Seize the moment. Remember all those women on the Titanic who waved off the dessert cart."

"Never have more children than you have car windows."

"I am not a glutton - I am an explorer of food"

"When my kids become wild and unruly, I use a nice, safe playpen. When they're finished, I climb out."

Marj's affairs with hats were almost as legendary as her anecdotes. She seldom appeared in public without a hat and made a great fuss over them at her teas and in her column.

Marjorie Irene Heyduck died on September 15, 1969. She is located in Section 126 Lot 2.

### Why we love Marj!

Christine was a ringlet-topped confection whose parents were trying to teach her to say her own name, her parents' names and her address in case she ever wandered away from the yard and got lost. They wanted her to be able to give more help to the policeman so he wouldn't have to go out looking for someone named "daddy."

Christine was willing but she found her own name a mouthful to pronounce. Every day her mother clearly pronounced "Chris-teen" and every day Christine came up with a variation that was not understandable. After much effort, she finally made it. She said Chris-teen very well.

Her mother was so proud. She took her next door to a neighbor and said to the child: "Tell her what your name is, dear."

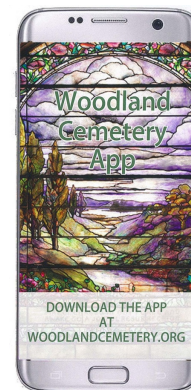
Christine took a deep breath and said, "Frank."

Visit the gravesites of Erma and Marj on the [Women of Woodland Tour](#) at the [Woodland Cemetery](#) website.

You can take your own walking tour at the cemetery or a virtual tour from the comfort of your couch by visiting our website at: [woodlandcemetery.org/tours](http://woodlandcemetery.org/tours).

From your phone you will be prompted to download our app. Take one of 12 walking tours we have available for your enjoyment at the cemetery. If you are on your desktop, laptop or tablet, you can take the tour right from the tour page. We will be adding more tours so come back often to learn about the men and women who made it Great in Dayton.

[Download the mobile app for your phone by clicking here.](#)



Memories of a loved one should last for generations.

Using our app, you can:

- Navigate to your relative or friend's grave using our GPS-based system
- Share stories about your family
- Upload photos and video
- Share memories with your family on Facebook

Your loved one's memorial page is automatically created when you make cemetery arrangements with our office. You may also share and upload information by using our burial database via our website ([woodlandcemetery.org](http://woodlandcemetery.org)). (please contact our office if you need assistance)



## A Woodland Milestone

To help us celebrate our 180th Anniversary, make a donation of \$180 or more to the Arboretum Foundation now through December 31, 2021 and you will receive a set of Woodland ceramic coasters. Limit one set per household.

For a limited time and while supplies last, make a donation of \$100 to the Arboretum Foundation and receive a Woodland face mask. Limit one per household.

Donate on our secure website by clicking below or click on the check to receive a donation form to mail in.



**Click Here  
Donate Now**



Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum | [Visit our website!](#)

