



Betty Louise Schichtel

May 27, 1927 - January 22, 2021

Betty Louise (Kaatz) (Meeker) Schichtel of Buckley passed away at her home January 22, 2021.

Betty was born May 27, 1927 in Richmond and raised on the family farm with her loving parents, the late William Adolf and Ernestine Louise (Woehlert) Kaatz. Farm life with her five siblings nurtured a work ethic that guided her many years. She was the last living member of her immediate family.

Betty was a 1945 graduate of Richmond High School with fond, lifelong memories of a senior Great Lakes trip. Following graduation she worked at Selfridge Air Force Base where she enjoyed the thrill of small aircraft that provided pleasure through her many years.

In 1947 Betty married Harlan Meeker of Romeo, Michigan, whose work took them across the country before returning to their home state. Their seven children grew up strong, independent, and deeply connected through many family celebrations. Over the years sixteen grandchildren and nineteen great grandchildren joined the extended family, bringing loving joy to all.

Following Harlan's death in 1978 Betty wedded Edward Schichtel of Traverse City in 1985. Before Ed's death in 2015, they enjoyed caring for their gardens and acreage, several winters in Arizona and a trip to Hawaii, as well as volunteer ushering at Interlochen Center for the Arts. They made their home in Buckley.

Betty is survived by her children Rosamond (Rev. David) Ostendorf, Dona (Paul) Jester, Elizabeth (Gary) Clous, Howard (Sally) Meeker, Doree (Joe Grabowski) Cook, and Steven (Lori Lopez) Meeker, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren living across the nation. Her daughter Mary Jane (Richard) Caster preceded her in death in 2019.

Betty enjoyed working at Grand Traverse Resort and many other jobs throughout her life. She especially loved her many years with Dr. Hanley at Cedar Run Eye Center, where she helped with patient care and made friends with many patients, thanks to her wonderful ability to listen. She worked at the Center till she was 90 years old, and shortly thereafter returned to the air in a two-seater flight over Lake Michigan.

As Betty cared for others, she so appreciated the care her friends and neighbors in and around Buckley gave her. When receiving her endless homemade cookies you knew you

were truly thanked for helping her live independently in her country home, where she died peacefully.

She was a devoted Christian and most recently attended Faith Lutheran Church in Mesick.

A celebration of Betty's life will be held Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the First Congregational Church in Traverse City. Please wear your masks and practice social distancing. To view the service online, please visit <https://vimeo.com/508595457>

Interment will take place in May at the Richmond Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions in her honor may be directed to Trinity Lutheran School in Traverse City or to The Mary Jane Caster Scholarship Fund.

To make a gift to the School mail a check to Trinity School, 1003 S. Maple St., Traverse City, MI 49684.

To make a gift to the Scholarship Fund mail a check payable to InFaith Community Foundation, with "The Mary Jane Caster Scholarship Fund" in the note portion to 600 Portland Ave, S., Suite 5100, Minneapolis, MN 55415 or visit www.infaithfound.org/make_gift to give online.

Cemetery Details

Richmond Cemetery

36725 Division Road
Richmond, MI 48062

Previous Events

Memorial Service

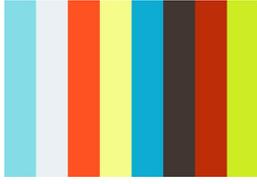
FEB 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Congregational Church
6105 Center Road
Traverse City, MI 49686

Tribute Wall

RJ

“ 1 file added to the album Memorial Service



Reynolds Jonkhoff - February 09, 2021 at 01:52 PM

KM

“ I always loved Great Aunt Betty. She was so kind and she had a genuine loving heart that seemed to not judge a soul. If not for her, I'm not sure I would have made it through my father's funeral. If only there were more Great Aunt Betty's in the world.

Karen Rose McEachin - August 21, 2021 at 01:01 PM

JN

“ I had the good fortune of working with Betty for 24 yrs at CREC. She was a remarkable lady. Such a zest for life, such class and style in her every action. Whenever anyone needed a good listener, she was there. She instinctively knew when a patient or coworker was carrying a burden that was so lightened by having her listen. Her own burdens never seemed to weigh her down, she was confident that the Lord was carrying them with her, as she freely stated. Betty loved life and knew how to live it! She will be so missed by all.
Our sincere condolences to her family.
Greg and Jean Noah

Jean and Greg Noah - February 09, 2021 at 12:07 PM

JN

“ Jean And Greg Noah lit a candle in memory of Betty Louise Schichtel



Jean and Greg Noah - February 09, 2021 at 11:41 AM

JR

“ We send lots of love to all of Betty's family. She was a kind, special person and will be so missed. Jennifer & Jason



Jennifer Read - February 08, 2021 at 09:13 PM

MM

“ Betty was a amazing woman, her presence would light up any room. She was loving and caring to all who knew and those who just met her. I worked with Bette at CREC and love her very much, we all did. R.I.P sweet Lady.

Mary Jo McDonald - February 07, 2021 at 05:09 PM

SM

“ Steven & Lori Meeker sent a virtual gift in memory of Betty Louise Schichtel



Steven & Lori Meeker - February 07, 2021 at 02:38 PM

SM

“ Steven & Lori Meeker lit a candle in memory of Betty Louise Schichtel



Steven & Lori Meeker - February 07, 2021 at 02:36 PM

MS

“ Betty was one of the warmest, most loving people I've ever known. Her zest for life was keenly apparent to all who knew her. She spoke often to me of her family and of how proud she was of them. She adored her children and delighted in her family's accomplishments.
Please accept my condolences. She will be greatly missed by many.
Maria

Maria Suomi - January 29, 2021 at 12:05 PM

ML

Betty was everyone's loving mother, friend, teacher, confidante and just the most caring human being that I ever had the pleasure to work with at CREC. I loved just to be around her, she was such a "people's person". I have so many wonderful, fun memories with her. I will truly miss this great lady. Mary Lindberg

mary lindberg - February 09, 2021 at 12:33 PM

EC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Elizabeth Clous - January 26, 2021 at 05:33 PM

EC

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Elizabeth Clous - January 26, 2021 at 05:20 PM

SJ

“ Shirley Jones lit a candle in memory of Betty Louise Schichtel



Shirley Jones - January 25, 2021 at 10:31 PM

EC

Thank you Shirley.

Elizabeth Clous - January 26, 2021 at 05:22 PM

BW

“ I had the extreme pleasure of working with Betty for many years at Cedar Run Eye Center. Betty was my hero, her work ethics were remarkable, her ability to put anxious patients (and employees) at ease was a true gift. I did experience those homemade cookies she was so famous for and begged a few of her recipes. They never tasted quite as delicious as hers though. She will be missed by all that knew her. Fly on the wings of angels Betty my friend.
Bridget

Bridget Williams - January 25, 2021 at 07:10 PM