



## Julie Rae Weeks

November 2, 1957 - February 18, 2017

Julie's obituary will be found after the following information

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES: If you will be attending Julie's service AND reception following, please RSVP to [info@reynolds-jonkhoff.com](mailto:info@reynolds-jonkhoff.com) or call 231.947.6347 no later than March 13, 2017.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS may be directed to The Leelanau Conservancy, P. O. Box 1007, Leland, MI 49654 (<http://www.leelanauconservancy.org>) The Women's Resource Center, 720 S. Elmwood Suite 2, Traverse City, MI 49684 (or call 231.941.1210 for credit card donations) or the Glen Lake Community Library, P. O. Box 325, Empire, MI 49630.

TO VIEW THE LIVE WEBCAST OF JULIE'S SERVICE: (Do this in advance of the service) (Webcast will work on mobile or desktop) Make sure you have an updated browser and try to avoid WIFI if at all possible.

Visit [rjfh.tv](http://rjfh.tv) and setup a live stream account.

To create an account: - click login in top right (at [rjfh.tv](http://rjfh.tv))

Click join live-stream (blue text in box) bottom right

Enter an email address where a link will be sent

Goto that email and click the link that live-stream sends

Check your email and click activate my account

Enter your name and create a password (make note of this for the day of the service)

(You will use this email and password to login on the day of the webcast)

ON DAY OF THE SERVICE, visit <http://www.rjfh.tv> click on Julie's photo

Select login (blue text in box)

Enter the email address and password that you created press login and your in.

If you have any issues setting up an account, please call reynolds-jonkhoff at 231-947-6347 prior to the day of service. (Not on the day of service)

## RELATED LINKS TO VIEW TESTIMONIALS:

Leelanau Conservancy Blog(<http://leelanauconservancy.org/blog/2017/02/21/remembering-julie-weeks/>)

Womenable(<http://www.womenable.com/>)

## ARTICLES AND PUBLICATIONS:

Some of Julie's publications:

- "The American Express OPEN State of Women-Owned Businesses Report" (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015)
- Global Women Entrepreneur Leaders Scorecard (2015, co-author)
- "Loan Characteristics and Performance Among Women- and Men-Owned MSMEs in Ecuador: An Analysis of ProCredit Lending Data, 2001-2013" (2014, for IADB Multi-Lateral Investment Fund)
- Three chapters in the "US Roadmap to 2020," on strategies to accelerate women's enterprise development (2010, for Quantum Leaps)
- "Innovation and Women's Entrepreneurship: An Exploration of Current Knowledge" (2010, for UNCTAD)
- "Assessing Business-Enabling Environments: How Gender Changes the Equation" (2010)
- "Rwanda: Investing in the Empowerment of Women in Business" (2009)
- "Women Entrepreneurs in the Middle East and North Africa: Characteristics, Contributions and Challenges" (2007)
- "Mapping the 'Missing Middle': Determining the Desire and Dimensions of Second-Stage Women Business Owners" (2007)
- "The Performance, Progress and Promise of Women's Business Centers in the United States: A Summary of Three Research Studies" (2006)
- "Support for Women's Enterprise Development in the United States: Lessons Learned" (2002)
- "Women-Owned Businesses: Breaking the Boundaries, the Progress and Achievement of Women-Owned Enterprises" (1995)

Some of Julie's Selected Presentations/Major Addresses:

- Contributed to an International Think Tank event on global best practice and research, organized by Women's Enterprise Scotland and supported by the Scottish Government in Edinburgh, Scotland, May 2015
- Moderated a panel discussion among global awardees of Enterprising Women magazine

e's Enterprising Women of the Year award (2014 & 2015)

- Reflected on trends in the women's entrepreneurship movement in the United States on the 25th anniversary of the Women's Business Ownership Act of 1988 at the Women's Business and Enterprise Conference, Scotland, May 2013
- Testified on important trends in the women's entrepreneurship movement in the United States at a U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship hearing, November 2012
- Spoke to numerous stakeholders in the public, private and third sectors on women's entrepreneurship issues on a U.S. State Department-underwritten speaking tour in Kosovo and Macedonia, March 2012
- Participated in a panel discussion concerning policies and programs to encourage growth-oriented women's enterprise development at the "We Own It Summit" in London, June 2011
- Addressed a national conference of women's enterprise supporters and ambassadors on international trends in women's enterprise development at a conference organized by Tillväxtverket in Stockholm, Sweden, April 2010
- Presented the findings of a 5-country study on women business owners in the Middle East and North Africa at a launch event attended by Her Majesty Queen Rania in Amman, Jordan, June 2007
- Spoke and moderated a panel presentation focused on US best practices at the "Accelerating Women's Entrepreneurship Forum" held in conjunction with an OECD SME Ministerial meeting in Istanbul, Turkey June 2004

#### OBITUARY:

Julie R. Weeks of Empire, a leading advocate for women's rights and entrepreneurship in the United States and Internationally, died February 18, 2017 at the age of 59 as the result of brain cancer. She passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones, and guided by the caring hands of staff at Effie's Place in Leland.

Julie was born on November 2, 1957 to George C. Weeks and the late Mollie Rae (McKinley) Weeks in Lansing, and grew up there and in Arlington, Virginia before moving to Leelanau County where she attended the Glen Lake High School. In her senior year she attended the Leelanau School since the school millage failed in Glen Lake. She graduated from the University of Michigan with BA and MA degrees in Political Science.

On June 6, 1998 she married Walter R. Hoegy, a fellow graduate of the University of Michigan. They enjoyed 18 years of marriage, a union that was 'meant to be', both working in the Washington D.C. area where they shared their love for the outdoors - biking, kayaking, walking, orienteering - and music, theatre and band music. When both retired from the Fe

deral government in 2006, Julie and Walter moved to their dream log home in Leelanau County where Julie started her business, Womenable, with a mission to 'improve the environment for women-owned businesses worldwide'. Lovers of the natural environment, they became active supporters of the Leelanau Conservancy which they had joined 5 years earlier.

Like her mother, Julie was a tireless campaigner for women's rights and she utilized her many skills to help propel and empower women both here and abroad. Julie brought a sense of humor and purpose to everything she did. Her work took her to many places including Rwanda and Liberia, where Julie met President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the first woman to lead an African nation. She worked in more than 30 countries.

Julie's strong sense of justice, combined with the skills she gained at U of M in politics, public opinion, economics and especially in research methods, led to her being a valuable asset and well-respected leader in her long career. After graduation she worked in Detroit at Market Opinion Research as V. P. of the Political Group, and Market Strategies as V.P. of Politics and Public Affairs. She was then called by The White House to work for the Small Business Administration as the Deputy Chief Counsel for Statistics and Research. When a new President came into office, Julie switched to the non-profit sector, where she served as Managing Director and Director of Research at the Center for Women's Business Research. Another change in Presidents found Julie back in Federal service as the Executive Director of the National Women's Business Council, which advises the U. S. Congress, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and the President of the United States. As President and CEO of Womenable, Julie's national and international activism led her to Board positions with: The Association of Women's Business Centers, for which she served as Chair; Enterprise Women Magazine; Global Banking Alliance for Women; International Council for Small Business; International Journal of Gender and Entrepreneurship; the National Association of Women Business Owners; and WEConnect International. She also served as a Strategic Advisor to Quantum Leaps and more recently, to its FutureForward initiative. Near and dear to Julie's heart was her work on the boards of the Leelanau Conservancy and the Leelanau Peninsula Economic Foundation.

A highly respected professional locally, regionally and globally, Julie has researched and authored numerous articles and publications pertaining to women's entrepreneurship and empowerment. Her work extended far beyond the borders of the United States and has impacted hundreds of thousands of women worldwide. At the forefront of women's entrepreneurship policy development at home, she was also influential in the growth of women's enterprise in the United Kingdom and Europe. In 2004, she was invited to advise the UK government's Small Business Service in the implementation of its women entrepreneurial strategy, and was a frequent keynote speaker and presenter at seminars and conferences throughout Europe.

The national women entrepreneurial community is organizing an initiative to continue Julie's legacy, both in the U. S. and internationally, and as a result, Julie's work with her company, Womenable.com will not stop, but continue into the future.

Julie was a daughter, a loving wife, a stepmother to Walter's four children, a super grandmother to nine grandkids, a friend, a mentor, a lover of nature and music, a social rights activist who spent her lifetime and career helping others.

Her mantra, quoting Margaret Mead, was: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Julie Weeks was one of those people. She was loved, and will be missed, by many locally, in the U. S. and abroad.

Julie is survived by her husband, Walter Hoegy, her father, George Weeks, four step-children, nine grandchildren, aunts and cousins. She was preceded in death by her mother, Mollie and brother, Donald.

Julie sincerely appreciated her family and extended family of friends, the expertise of the team at the Cowell Family Cancer Center for their help navigating her fight with brain cancer. We thank Orchard Creek for therapy, and help from Munson Hospice in helping the staff at Effie's Place.

A memorial service celebrating Julie's life will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 18 at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, 305 Sixth St., Traverse City.

Rather than flowers, Julie specifically asked that she be remembered through memorial contributions to The Leelanau Conservancy, P. O. Box 1007, Leland, MI 49654 (<http://www.leelanauconservancy.org>), The Women's Resource Center, 720 S. Elmwood, Suite 2, Traverse City, MI 49684 (call 231.947.1210 with credit card donations) or the Glen Lake Community Library. P. O. Box 325, Empire, MI 49630.

Please share your thoughts, memories and photos of Julie with her family by visiting <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>.

The family is being served by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Traverse City.

# Cemetery

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## Maple Grove Cemetery

South Dune Highway at M-22

Empire, MI, 49630

# Events

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**MAR** **Celebration of Life** 11:00AM

**18**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home

305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

# Comments

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“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



**Susan Hoegy Britt** - February 07, 2018 at 12:46 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name

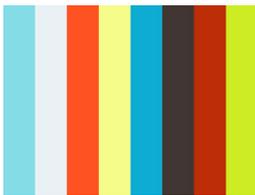


**Susan Hoegy Britt** - February 07, 2018 at 12:42 AM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Webcast** - March 21, 2017 at 03:10 PM

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“ Julie is gone, but her zest for life and generosity of spirit will continue to inspire us forever.

Bob and Debbie Gilbert

**Robert Gilbert** - March 17, 2017 at 06:57 PM

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“ What an amazingly wise and compassionate woman. She has been an inspiration to us all. Love to the family.  
BJ and Tom Christensen

Tom and BJ Christensen - March 17, 2017 at 05:52 PM

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“ I knew Julie for many years through our common professional interest in women entrepreneurs, and we became buddies quickly. I'll always remember her warmth, enthusiasm, dedication, and thoroughness in her work, and I will miss her Christmas letter. It's good to know that her work will carry on.

My sincere condolences to Walter and all Julie's family. - Mary Barrett, University of Wollongong, Australia

Mary Barrett - March 17, 2017 at 05:05 PM

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“ My condolences to the family of Julie Weeks. I worked with Julie at Market Opinion Research. I fondly remember Julie and I delivering food to needy families at Christmas time. She was an advocate for the less fortunate. I looked forward to receiving a Christmas card/letter from Julie with pictures and updates of the past year. Julie will forever hold a special place in my heart.  
Rest in peace, my friend!

Marie Pritchett

Marie Pritchett - March 13, 2017 at 09:34 PM

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“ George and Family, I was saddened to learn of Julie's passing. She was one of those rare people who manage to be both strong and charming, and I will miss working with her. We are grieving with you.

Tom Ulrich  
Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore

Tom Ulrich - March 13, 2017 at 11:40 AM

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“ My sympathy to the family. I'm praying for you. I enjoyed my visits with Julie at Effie's and will miss her. Julie knew and loved the Lord. PTL Julie is now at peace with the Lord.

Pastor Rick Kiekintveld  
Chaplain  
Baruch Senior Ministries



**Pastor Rick Kiekintveld** - March 02, 2017 at 09:06 AM

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“ There are just a few people you meet that are magical and exceptional, Julie Weeks was just such a person. She engaged fully with everyone she met and knew, bringing her knowledge, her warmth, and her friendship to each of us. We will miss our dear friend, but she will live on in our hearts and minds forever.

**Barbara Kasoff** - February 27, 2017 at 03:43 PM

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“ Barbara Kasoff is following this tribute.

**Barbara Kasoff** - February 26, 2017 at 07:51 PM

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“ I have such fond memories of Julie when we were both at SBA. She was wonderful to work with, always upbeat and enthusiastic and extremely capable. She also was very professional and worked well with both sides of the political spectrum.. I was so sad to read about her passing in the Washington Post. Harriet Fredman

**Harriet Fredman** - February 26, 2017 at 04:04 PM

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“ My thoughts are with you, George.

Tom BeVier

Thomas Bevier - February 26, 2017 at 09:56 AM

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“ Dear George Weeks.

Back in the sixties, you and your family hosted me at your home for several weeks of a Senate internship with Robert Griffin, and I got to know Molly and Julie and Don. You all made me feel welcome, and it was wonderful to spend evenings and weekends with you. Thank you again for all your kindness. Your losses are many, and I am so sorry.  
Trudy (Gordon) Carpenter

trudy - February 26, 2017 at 09:01 AM

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“ Julie was a very special woman full of knowledge, devotion and love. She touched so many lives in many ways due to her talents and warm smile. She also had very special parents who contributed so much to our society. Her relationship with Walter was also very special. My condolences to family and friends. Barbara Siepker

Barbara Siepker - February 24, 2017 at 10:38 AM

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“ My heart aches at the thought that Walter no longer has his beloved Julie by his side during his walks. That I no longer have my friend to laugh and cry with. Working together just after graduation from U of M, we became fast friends, political junkie buddies. In the days before the internet and cell phones we'd be on the phone until the wee hours on election nights, adding our own running commentary to the talking heads. We've been friends ever since, sharing a love for Glen Arbor, good wine, interesting restaurants and Michigan football. I don't know anyone who has as many friends as Julie and it's no surprise. She traveled to places I had never heard of. And, she was smart, witty, dedicated, caring. I will miss you Julie. Walter and George you have our deepest sympathy.

Mary Ann Victor - February 23, 2017 at 04:12 PM

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“ It still seems surreal that Julie is gone. It's left an empty space in our hearts. I was privileged to spend last week with Walter in Empire, and we went to see Julie every day at the hospice - she was in such good spirits on Wednesday, we dared to believe she might be with us longer. But it wasn't to be. I first met Julie when she came to Scotland in 1998 through a mutual passion for supporting women's entrepreneurship (on either side of the Atlantic), and our friendship grew over the years - with Tony and Walter also becoming best buddies. We called them doppelgangers. We shared great times in many different places, including Stockholm, Dublin, London, Istanbul - and wonderful holidays in Scotland, Canada and Michigan. Julie loved our soccer team - St Johnstone - and bought one of their track tops to wear when we visited in October. She even subscribed to a TV station which showed their games live. We shared our love of tennis from afar - Julie texting her support for Andy Murray, even when he was playing a US player. We could combine our interest in women's enterprise, with a love of the outdoors, watching BBC drama series (and of course Nordic Noir) and eating cloutie dumpling - all with a sense of genuine camaraderie, love and humour. Julie was unique, gifted and a natural leader. She combined a keen intellect and quick intelligence, with a brilliant sense of humor - and she had the most amazing ability to get on with everybody she met. We send Walter, George, Janet, Debbie and all of Walter's family our sincere condolences and best wishes. We're also thinking of their dear friends, Bill and Sally. Walter is in our thoughts every day and we both love him very much.

Jackie Brierton & Tony Troon



Jackie Brierton - February 23, 2017 at 03:52 PM



“ Thank you for being such a wonderful friend to my dear friends. I know Julie was comforted by your presence.

Mary Ann Victor - February 23, 2017 at 04:00 PM



“ Vale dear Julie

Shirley Kaye Randell - February 24, 2017 at 08:07 AM



“ So sorry to learn that Julie's life was cut short. However, her wonderful contributions and friendships will be remembered forever. Rest in Peace. Karen Kienbaum

Karen Kienbaum - February 23, 2017 at 03:32 PM



“ TOWANDA! dear friend! You will be missed.

Joann - February 23, 2017 at 03:31 PM

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“ Dear Walter and family

We are so saddened to learn of Julie's passing. Allan and I are thinking about you and all the others who love and who cared for Julie. Always positive, passionate and kind, I have many memories of her leadership and intellectual contributions. When speaking at an APEC meeting or to a group of entrepreneurs, in our private correspondence about a research project, or in spearheading the women's enterprise division of ISBE – her message was clear. We can do so much more. Her message, and now her legacy, will continue to inspire me, and others across many nations. Our condolences to you and to the family.

Barbara Orser - February 23, 2017 at 02:10 PM



“ I am so so sad! Nice words Barbara

Bianca - February 23, 2017 at 02:28 PM

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“ Julie was my best friend ever, bar non, and I have had very few close friends in my life, beyond my close family. We spent a scarce two years together in middle school. She saw something in me and showed me the courage to ride a bicycle on city streets. She showed me how to use the public library. We could talk and laugh for hours and I knew that she loved me very much. I loved her even when I lost contact for 30 plus years!!!

Thanks to Martha Wagner we got back in touch.

My deepest, deepest sympathy for Walter Hoagy and Julie's father.

May Julie's life and accomplishments never be forgotten.

Maria-Rosa Germain

Maria-Rosa Germain - February 22, 2017 at 10:30 PM

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“ I met Julie through her wonderful husband, Walt. Julie was a beautiful woman that always made you feel accepted and always met you with a smile. Bless you Julie on this new journey. You have been a special lady and fought this fight with courage and positivity. Everyone you touched will miss you deeply. Joan Post-Brown

Joan Post-Brown - February 22, 2017 at 08:34 PM

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“ I first met Julie through the NWBC and I admired her passion and hard work to forward the stories of women entrepreneurs world wide. Her advocacy, articles, blogs and work will forever be remembered. A great loss for all. Candida Brush

Candida Brush - February 21, 2017 at 12:33 PM

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“ Julie and I shared lovely chocolate moments in my little shop. She was a regular customer. Later we realized that we both loved Nordic Noir shows and she sweetly would bring me CDs she had purchased and seen.  
She helped support an Ecuadorean woman start up a business and she partook in Women's Circle meetings where she contributed to social justice.  
I do miss you Julie! I would have loved to spend much more time with you in years to come. You had an influence on people way beyond your years. You have been and will remain a big inspiration to so many. RIP JULIE!  
Mimi Wheeler

mimi wheeler - February 21, 2017 at 11:13 AM

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“ I just cannot imagine a world without Julie! Words escape me and my heart breaks for Julie, Walter and your whole family. Rest assured that we who knew her, know how special she was and if it is any comfort, she shall not be forgotten. Some people are very special and make a big difference in the world and Julie was one of them.  
Andrina Lever

Andrina Lever - February 21, 2017 at 09:54 AM

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“ I met Julie through NAWBO and quickly discovered her amazing wit and grasp of situations. I admired her greatly and know that she touched so many lives. My prayers to Walter and family. Just know that she was so loved by so many people.

**Lola Kakes** - February 21, 2017 at 09:46 AM

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“ On one of our many visits to Mi from Ma ,our sons had some fun waterskiing with Julie. They took turns skiing, and enjoyed the lake at the Weeks homestead in Glen Arbor. They also took a trip on the dunes. Even though our times together were less frequent, our boys and later their wives, developed a bond with Julie. She had a personality that welcomed all. We all loved her and will miss her. Cousins and loved niece forever!

**joan mckinley** - February 20, 2017 at 04:54 PM

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“ Julie was a shining example of passions taught her by her mother, Mollie. Julie and Mollie shared a passion for women's rights, long before it was given much thought. I am proud to know we share a common thread through blood. Julie will sparkle in Heaven as a bright light!

**Connie Turner** - February 20, 2017 at 12:56 PM



“ A beautiful tribute to my friend Julie R. Weeks. Julie was a true leader in the Small Business Community. We met in DC in the 1980's when I began WBE advocacy work & Julie was with the SBA. Julie nominated me along with 4 other women being honored at SBA's 50 anniversary celebration. It was a very special DAY. Julie will TRULY BE MISSED but her legacy will live on with WOMANABLE & all the small businesses she has supported over MANY years. PEACE JULIE

**christine bierman** - February 23, 2017 at 02:19 PM



“ Over the many years of our friendship, Julie was the one who (many times quietly) accomplished so much. She was always my role model. We are all better for having had Julie in our lives.

Susy (Heintz) Avery

**Susy Heintz Avery** - March 05, 2017 at 12:17 PM



“ It is difficult to put amazing Julie into words. Her passionate empowerment of women has strengthen us and will continue to do so in many years to come. Her research on women and women entrepreneurs created a strong solid foundation of knowledge and support. Equally important is Julie herself.

Warm, caring, brilliant, fun, joyful, honest, loving, respectful, and a powerful love with Walter. I have very fond memories of the many parts of the world we traveled together for presentations and conferences. Now Julie is on a new journey, but she remains forever in our hearts. Dear Walter, we share your grief while treasuring her many gifts.

Mary Riebe

**Mary Riebe** - March 10, 2017 at 10:50 AM