



Mary Jane Walling

December 10, 1934 - August 19, 2016

Mary J. Walling

Traverse City – Mary Jane Walling, age 81, of Traverse City, passed away Friday, August 19, 2016 at Traverse Manor in the loving care of her family.

Mary was born on December 10, 1934 to Roy and Clara (Teall) Wheeler. Mary was born and raised in Mesick, MI where she graduated from Mesick High School. She worked as a draftsman in the Engineering Department of Michigan Bell Telephone Company for five years before moving to Florida for a short while. Upon returning to Michigan, she worked for Lear Siegler as an Engineering Secretary in their space program.

Mary married her high school classmate John Walling on Thanksgiving Day, November 1961. They lived in Minnesota, Iowa, Oklahoma, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, South Haven, Grand Rapids, and finally Traverse City. Together they loved to travel and take their children on camping trips. After her husband's death in 1975, Mary stayed in Traverse City and worked 23 years for Traverse City Central High School.

Mary was a strong, hard-working woman who made the raising of her children her priority. She loved her family and friends, and was always available to lend a hand, share a laugh or go on an adventure. She had a love of travel and visited most of the United States as well as Europe, Russia, Australia, New Zealand, and Japan. She liked to learn, and returned to college to earn a Management degree from Northwestern Michigan College after her children were grown. Some of her many interests included cross-country skiing, hiking, reading, knitting, and quilting. She had an amazing eye for design and has made many beautiful quilts, which she generously shared with friends and family. She loved her grandchildren and will be remembered for the fun times they shared.

Mary is survived by her children; Joe Walling (Robin Patton), and Julie (Rob) Hoyt. Grandchildren; Taylor Patton, Samuel, Isaac, and Finneas Hoyt. Mary's siblings; Alice (George) Wales, May (Bob) Fagerman, and Bill (Joan) Wheeler. Also surviving Mary are numerous nieces and nephews.

Mary is preceded in death by her husband John M. Walling, parents; Roy and Clara, siblings; Roy Wheeler, Jean Soukup, Lois Pahl -Cochrane, Betty Crawford and Donna Wheeler .

A visitation for Mary will take place on Wednesday, August 24, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home. Funeral services will take place on Thursday, August 25, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. with a visitation one hour prior. Graveside services will take place following the service on Thursday, at 1:30 p.m. at the Sherman Cemetery in Mesick. In lieu of flowers please direct memorials to the American Cancer Society, 525 West 14th Street, Suite 5, Traverse City, MI 49684. The family is being served by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Please visit the Reynolds-Jonkhoff website <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com> to share your thoughts and memories with the family.

Events

AUG 24 **Visitation** 04:00PM - 07:00PM
Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

AUG 25 **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM
Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

AUG 25 **Funeral Service** 11:00AM
Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

AUG 25 **Graveside Service** 01:30PM
Sherman Cemetery
Mesick, MI, US

Comments



“ Dear Julie, Joe, and loved ones, I am so very sorry to have missed coming to give you a hug and sharing in your loss. I was out of the country and did not know about your mom passing until I returned Sept 13.

Joe and Brent's hockey brought us together as friends but we became even closer after your dad passed. So many chats we had sitting around my pool as she faced her grief and loss. After I moved away for winters we kept in contact during my summers here and even shared a wonderful trip to Spain and Portugal together. We did not meet the last couple summers as I got involved with selling my cottage and enjoying grand kids but I sure wish I would have taken the time to give her a call.

Your mom, Elaine Summers, and I always got together each summer to share about our families, current life, and ole memories. I will miss our times together.

My sympathy to you and I sure would have been there to support you and all of Mary's loved ones during this time of loss.

With love to all, Bonnie Kelly

Bonnie Kelly - September 23, 2016 at 06:36 AM



“ MJ and I worked together for several years at the senior high. She always had a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eye. I know that she will be missed.

Foy Baillie

Foy Baillie - August 30, 2016 at 07:09 PM



“ Our family has been blessed to be neighbors with Mary for the past 28 years. She was a very caring and loving person, we will miss her dearly. In this difficult time we find comfort knowing she is no longer suffer and is now reunited with loved ones that passed before her. Our thoughts and prayers are with Joe, Julie, their families and all that had the privilege of knowing this wonderful lady. Love, Larry, Vicki, Ricky Hagberg & Jeanette Kania

Larry Hagberg - August 23, 2016 at 11:25 AM



“ Mary Jane was one of the first people I met when I started work at the senior high school in 1983....she helped me learn the ropes there in my early years as a secretary and continued to be there for me through the years as a co-worker and friend. Mary was always a positive, kind woman....I will always remember and cherish the years we worked together. She loved her job and was so very proud of Joe and Julie. My deepest sympathy to Mary Jane's entire family.

Diane Stachnik - August 23, 2016 at 10:58 AM



“ So sorry for your loss--Mary was a great gal. I will miss her and her friendliness! I will be out of state for her services and wanted you to know I will be thinking of you at this difficult time. With love, Loretta Ludka

Loretta Ludka - August 23, 2016 at 07:56 AM