



Sue Girard

April 19, 1942 - October 20, 2019

Susan Kay Girard, 77, of Traverse City passed away October 20, 2019 at the Grand Traverse Pavilions with her family by her side.

Sue was born on April 19, 1942 in Traverse City to the late Fritz and Gladys (Alger) Bloch.

Sue attended NMC where she earned her Associates Degree and then MSU where she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Education. While at NMC she met the love of her life, Cliff. They united in marriage on August 20, 1966 at the First Congregational Church.

Sue was a gifted teacher. She loved to share with her students her love of learning and love of reading. She taught at Willow Hill, Small World Nursery and Glen Loomis, retiring in 2004.

In her free time she enjoyed travelling with her husband to warmer climates and to Alaska. She also was a voracious reader and lover of puzzles. She was a reluctant camper, but cherished the time spent with family and friends in nature. Sue had a soft spot in her heart for animals and had many beloved pets. Sue was a member of the First Congregational Church and volunteered with TCAPS after her retirement.

Sue is survived by her husband of 53 years, Clifford; daughter Nicolle (Robert Kline) Girard and son Christopher "CJ" (Jennifer Ciolek) Girard.

Sue was preceded in death by her parents.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2019 from 5 to 7 pm at the Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home.

The funeral service celebrating Sue's life will be held on Friday October 25, 2019 at 1:00 pm with visitation beginning one hour prior at the First Congregational Church. Refreshments and cookies will follow in the fireside room.

Family graveside services will be held at Grand Traverse Memorial Gardens.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Cherryland Humane Society or to the First Congregational Church.

Cemetery

Grand Traverse Memorial Gardens

3575 Veterans Drive
Traverse City, MI, 49684

Events

OCT 25 **Visitation** 12:00PM - 01:00PM

First Congregational Church
6105 Center Road, Traverse City, MI, US,
49686

OCT 25 **Funeral Service** 01:00PM

First Congregational Church
6105 Center Road, Traverse City, MI, US,
49686

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home & Cremation Services - October 24, 2019 at 03:14 PM



“ I am so saddened to hear about Sue's passing. I enjoyed working with her in several capacities, as she taught for TCAPS. She always had an upbeat attitude and such a compassionate approach with each child. Every day was a good day for Sue and all of the students whose lives she touched.

In her later years, our paths crossed at various activities at the Pavilions, where my mom spent four years. It was obvious that there was so much love, patience, and sharing in her family circle, even when times were tough.

Cliff, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. May you all find peace in your many fond memories of Sue. We are so fortunate to have had Sue influence our lives in so many special ways.

Linda Barker

Linda Barker - October 28, 2019 at 09:26 PM



“ I can still remember admiring Sue from afar (actually next door) as a young girl. She was always on the go and loved the beach -- in her swimsuit all day long (and looking good!). As an adult, we watched for Sue and Cliff at the parade and enjoyed her enthusiastic waving as we went by in the DeSoto. She had such a warm and welcoming attitude toward everyone. She'll be missed by her friends, family and countless students. With fond memories, Kay Schichtel

Kay Schichtel - October 24, 2019 at 05:37 PM



“ to Girard Family i am so sorry. she was my old Neghibor next to my dad house we moved now so she was nice to me and i loved her dogs and Mr. Girard too. great Neghibors .

rest in peace Sue

from
Sarah Pobuda

Sarah Pobuda - October 24, 2019 at 04:54 PM



“ My deepest condolences to the Girard family.
I remember Sue as a vibrant and dynamic teacher at Willow Hill—full of smiles and tender care for the little ones. It was an honor to have been a colleague of hers many years ago.

Miss Brewer

Candiss Brewer - October 24, 2019 at 09:49 AM



“ What a great mom/human she was! Sad news. Love to the Girards.

jeremiah goike - October 23, 2019 at 01:07 PM



“ A woman who will be greatly missed. I'm so fortunate to have known her first as my children's teacher and later as a friend. She possessed an incredible talent for teaching young minds. She also taught courtesy and respect. The brightest smile, always feeling welcome in her presence and kind words for everyone. Grace, character, reverence. She's home.

Terri Hein - October 22, 2019 at 08:23 PM



“ I had the pleasure of getting to know Sue at water aerobics at the Pavilions. We always had a fun time reminising about her time as a teacher at Willow Hill where she taught my children. She will be fondly remembered for her smile and hugs when we would meet. My condolences to the family.. She will be missed!



Ginny Marrow - October 22, 2019 at 08:14 PM



“ Mrs Girard was our oldest son's first grade teacher at Glenn Looms. She was a wonderful, kind and beautiful woman inside and out. He used to get so exited when she would come back and be the substitute teacher. We all gained an angel as she is looking down and smiling.
Thank you Mrs. Girard for all your great wisdom and the HUGS.. OH she gave great hugs!

Tim, Ranee, Brody and Brayden Gates

Ranee - October 22, 2019 at 09:44 AM



“ A wonderful family I've had the pleasure of knowing since the 80s. I always enjoyed running into Mr and Mrs Girard while they were out and about in town at various sporting events, festivals or just gallivanting around. My heart swelled anytime I saw Mr Girard helping Mrs Girard navigate crowded areas in more recent times. A true love that was so evident. Sending lots of love to Mr. Girard, Nicolle and CJ as they mourn the loss of their sweet mom/wife.

Micki Durocher - October 22, 2019 at 08:33 AM



“ Growing up behind the Girard's and having the last name Girard as well was always so cool because I always got asked if we were related. Mrs Girard was so kind and patient. Prayers to Mr. Girard, Nikki and Chris.

Angela Girard Ward - October 22, 2019 at 10:20 PM



“ I remember seeing Mr. And Mrs. Girard so many times both at church at First Congregational and at church in the park with Central Methodist in the summer. They were always so kind. Sending all my condolences and prayers as the Girards mourn. How lucky we are to have had such a lovely person so long on this earth and now to have her in heaven to greet us with a smile and a book?

Liz Larson - October 22, 2019 at 06:31 AM



“ Mrs. Girard was on my mind for some inexplicable reason all weekend. I don't know how the universe works like this, but I am grateful to have been taught by such an incredible educator during the most formative years of my life. Her memory will live on in the minds she helped shape at Glenn Loomis My condolences to those who held her close.

Brynne - October 21, 2019 at 08:51 PM



“ Sue was a dear friend and Slabtown neighbor. Sue camped with the West Side families. She always had a game or a book to share with the children at the campground. Sue shared her love of books with others. We have fond memories of card games at the Girard home. Sue was a devoted teacher with a sweater for each holiday. Sue will be missed. Joe and Joanne Neihardt

Joanne Neihardt - October 21, 2019 at 06:34 PM



“ Oh her sweaters! Love that!

Betsy - October 21, 2019 at 10:11 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Sues' passing. She has been a friend since we both started kindergarten at Boardman school. We would only pass once in a while over the years but I was always glad to see her and remember the past. Such a sweet and gracious lady. Prayers to Cliff & children. R.I.P, Sweet Sue.

Helen Oatley - October 22, 2019 at 08:38 AM



“ I was fortunate enough to know sue through our water aerobics class, she was kind and caring. She introduced me to the Randy Wayne white books and I'll be forever grateful. My sincere sympathy to her family.

mary lou dotson - October 21, 2019 at 06:19 PM



“ I ’m so sorry for the family’s loss. Cliff and Sue were always together and their love and respect for each other was so evident. I’ll miss seeing Sue at the Concerts on the Lawn
Love, Anne Smith

anne smith - October 21, 2019 at 03:44 PM



“ A wonderful lady--great teacher--always bubbly!!!

Loretta Ludka and family - October 21, 2019 at 08:46 PM



“ Cliff , Nicole and CJ

We r so sorry to hear about Sue,

Her laughter always made me smile and when she grab my hands and gave me her hug it was the best feeling yet. She is now surrounded by peace harmony and beauty no more struggles or pain she will always be in our thoughts. Hugs

Jerry and Betty Leuenberger

Betty Leuenberger - October 22, 2019 at 11:08 AM



“ An important friend from early Sunday School and growing up through the grades at Boardman School, talking and walking home together after school to her house. I could even round her up sometimes with other neighborhood kids to come play softball in our yard at the other end of the block .I remember her smile.

Jim Martinek

Jim Martinek - October 22, 2019 at 03:39 PM