



## Susan Lynn Lyman

September 9, 1949 - August 2, 2021

Susan Lynn Lyman, 71, of Traverse City passed away peacefully at her home on August 2, 2021 with her family by her side.

Susan was born on September 9, 1949 in Benton Harbor, to the late Donald Carl and Betty Jane (Woods) Swanson.

Susan grew up in Benton Harbor, loving the beaches and waters of Lake Michigan. On August 30, 1969, Susan married her best friend Gregory Alan Lyman in Benton Harbor. Living in Lansing, Susan received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Michigan State University.

Susan was an outstanding educator, teaching high school English, Literature and Health in Potterville for 36 years. After her retirement in 2008, Susan and Greg moved to their home on the Old Mission Peninsula overlooking East Grand Traverse Bay.

In retirement, Susan started a Polish Pottery business, which she operated in Traverse City for many years. She continued her interest in antiques and attending musical performances at Wharton Center and the City Opera House. During the summer, Susan enjoyed being at the lake with her children and grandchildren. During the winter, Susan was known for her legendary Christmas parties, replete with decorations and food.

Susan's annual trips to the beaches of Florida and Mexico were essential. She loved to travel and Susan fondly remembered trips to Hawaii, England, Italy, Brazil and Costa Rica.

Susan was a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, teacher and friend. As a strong advocate for her children and grandchildren, she was lovingly known as "a force to be reckoned with." Susan was strong and independent, yet loving and compassionate. She will always be remembered by her family and all who knew and experienced life with her.

Susan will be greatly missed by her husband of 51 years, Greg; her children, Bretton Lyman of Monterrey, Mexico; Megan (Geoff) Feil of Alpharetta, Georgia; Cortney (Chris) Danbrook of Traverse City; Hilary (Ross Bower) Lyman Bower of Okemos; her grandchildren, Samantha and Emma Feil, Brogan and Hudson Danbrook, Mya, Anora and Beckham Bower; and her brother, Donald C. (Vicki) Swanson.

Susan will be laid to rest at the Peninsula Township Cemetery.

The family will celebrate her life on Saturday, August 14, 2021 at 4pm at the family home on Smokey Hollow Road, which is open to all who knew her. Her family will lead the

service of love and remembrance.

Memorial contributions in her honor may be directed to the Traverse City Opera House or to the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy.

Please visit [www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com](http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com) to share your memories and condolences with her family.

# Cemetery Details

## Peninsula Township Cemetery

Seven Hills Road  
Traverse City, MI 49686

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG **14**. 4:00 PM (ET)

The Family Home  
Smokey Hollow  
Traverse City, MI 49686

# Tribute Wall



“ Send *BEAUTIFUL Flowers Locally* to the family of Susan Lynn Lyman. Express your condolences, giving comfort and support. [Click here to view selections on our website](#)

Send Flowers - August 06, 2021 at 10:34 AM



“ The Children's House Administrative Team and Board of Directors purchased *Lantern Bouquet (Black)* for the family of Susan Lynn Lyman.



Send Flowers - August 12, 2021 at 09:41 AM



“ Greg, My sincere condolences to you and your family for Susan's passing. May you find comfort in family, friends and memories. ~ Debbie Rey



Debbie Rey - August 11, 2021 at 10:01 AM

DR

“ Mrs. Lyman was a great teacher and friend. She found creative ways of teaching and would advocate for anyone who needed help.

Danielle Riley - August 07, 2021 at 10:46 PM

RS

“ Greg: Cynthia and I extend our deepest sympathy to you and your entire family. We have many fond memories of our time together at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation from 1989-2001. Please know that we will hold, Susan, You, and Your Family in our thoughts and prayers in the coming weeks.

*With Deepest Sympathy*

*Roger H. & Cynthia A. Sublett  
7504 Kousa Court  
Mason, OH 45040*

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**Roger H. Sublett** - August 07, 2021 at 05:51 PM

JD

“ I knew Sue as a part of my group of friends in high school. Sue made an indelible impression as a dynamo leading cheers at BHHS. She has been an inspiration to all who knew her. Condolences to husband Greg and brother Don and her whole family. 💜 Jeanne Anton Dietsch

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**Jeanne Anton Dietscj** - August 07, 2021 at 11:22 AM

RW

“ We are deeply saddened to learn of Susan's passing. We cherish the memories of the times we had following the kids sporting events, card club and vacation in Mexico. Susan was always the life of the party! Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

*Sharen & Ross Woodstock*

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**Ross P. Woodstock** - August 07, 2021 at 10:21 AM

MH

“ What a spitfire to work with at Pville HS! She kept the teacher's lounge lively and I learned so much from her before I took over the PALs. We started off a bit rocky for a few years bc I drove her nuts, but we then settled into a nice companionship and I looked to her as a sort of mentor. It was a sad day when she retired. I went back to the classroom for my last six years (after school counseling) and enjoyed teaching in the room she finished her career in. I even kept one of her novels to teach/use myself!!!! I remember you, Hilary, coming in all the time, to help your mom out. Susan, may you rest in peace. I wish I could make it up north for your memorial. Glad you enjoyed such a rich retirement despite your health struggles.



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**Melissa Hogan** - August 07, 2021 at 09:48 AM

MH

*and yes, she hosted great parties!*

Melissa Hogan - August 07, 2021 at 09:48 AM

JW

*I worked in the English Department with Sue for all of her 37 years at Potterville. One couldn't ask for a better colleague. We shared ideas on teaching writing and literature. She was well liked as a teacher by students and staff. She was always enthusiastic and open minded. I was saddened when I learned of her passing. My condolences to Greg and her family for your loss. We have many good memories of Sue.*

Joe Wood - August 07, 2021 at 10:26 PM

WK

“ Sue and Greg were our neighbors in Okemos, we have fond memories of being together, our children playing with each other and now our grandchildren go to school together. We remember Sue's smiling face, her creativity and beautiful sense of style. We saw Sue and Greg several years ago in Okemos as now our granddaughters played on the same soccer team. Our thoughts are with the entire Lyman family and memories of life well lived.  
Bruce and Wendy Kushion

wendy kushion - August 07, 2021 at 09:17 AM

CL

“ I well remember Mrs. Lyman as a supportive, fair, and enthusiastic teacher and human being. I am sad to have lost track of her after high school, yet am thankful for having known her as an educator, leader of young people, and supportive of all her students.  
To Mrs. Lyman's family- may your memories of her keep your hearts warm in the coming days...God bless

Claude Leblanc - August 07, 2021 at 09:12 AM

LR

“ SUE WAS ALWAYS A SMILING FACE IN THE MORNING , I WORKED AT P H S . GROUNDS . SUCH A POSITIVE PERSON . SUCH A FUN LADY TO. TALK TO SHE LOVED HER SAABS . WILL BE GREELY missed I'm. Sure .

LAURENCE RUHF - August 07, 2021 at 08:40 AM

KS

“ Dear Lyman Family,  
I am truly sorry for the loss of your mom (& wife). She was a special lady! I love the picture you chose as it shows her beautiful smile! I remember her fondly as I do all of you!  
Kathy (Mitchell) Sheufelt  
Okemos

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**Kathy Sheufelt** - August 07, 2021 at 07:36 AM

NH

“ Mrs Lyman was my senior year advisor at PHS. I'll always remember our Senior trip and the fact she went as one of our chaperones. It was a great trip and wonderful memories. She was an excellent educator who was tough but always fair. The world would be a much better place with more people like Sue in it. She will forever be a source of happiness when I reflect on my memory of her. God bless.

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**Nick Holloway** - August 06, 2021 at 10:48 PM