



## Theresa Anne Hitchens

August 16, 1956 - June 9, 2021

Theresa Anne Hitchens, 64, passed away June 9, 2021, at her home in Leland. Theresa was born August 16, 1956, in Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan, the eldest child of Jessie and Dan Hitchens. She was a sports fan, playing tennis, softball, and field hockey, and swimming competitively in her youth, as well as a life-long fan of the Detroit Tigers (although in recent seasons, a very disappointed one).

In 1969, Theresa and her family moved to Traverse City where she went on to graduate from St. Francis High School in 1974. In 1978, she graduated from Alma College with a degree in Business Administration. She was employed by her family for over 45 years, primarily as a bookkeeper.

From 1998 to 2017, Theresa volunteered as the parish secretary and bookkeeper for St. Wenceslaus Parish in Gills Pier. She was very close with many church members, including Deacon Martin Korson, Phyllis Korson, Rosemary Moe-Kalchik, and Jackie Flores.

Besides her father, Theresa is survived by her beloved daughters and their spouses, Barb McKay (Scott Gowell) and Anne (Brian) Clark; her precious granddaughters Charlotte, Nora, and Caroline Theresa; her siblings John (Janet) Hitchens and their children George (Glynis) Nemiroff and Rosie (Isaac) Wayton; Julie (Nick) Paron and their sons Kelly (Kennedy) Paron and Jamey Paron; Paul (Kwi) and their children Rosemary Hitchens, Danny Hitchens, and Barbie Lee; Eileen Larsen and her children Dana Larsen and Heather (Nolan) Fine; Tom (Cherie) Hitchens and their children Molly Hitchens, Sophie Hitchens, and Jack Hitchens.

Additionally, Theresa is survived by her companion and friend of twenty years, Dan Schaub, and his mother, children, and siblings. Dan and Theresa spent many Sunday afternoons together driving her convertible throughout Leelanau County visiting friends and family.

Theresa is also survived by her TC cousins Joanne Hitchens, Chuck Hitchens, Barb (Jim)

Sullivan, and Patti (Don) Rutt, as well as long-time friends Lisa Sichler, Julie (Mike) Evans Rogers, Bobbie (Tom) Jamison, and her former husband and father of her two children, George McKay, as well as many other cousins, aunts, an uncle, and friends.

Theresa was predeceased by her mother Jessie, her grandparents, and nephew Anthony Lee.

The family would like to thank Dr. Peter Kohler, Dr. Jay Starr, and all the staff at the Cowell Family Cancer Center for the excellent care they gave Theresa during her cancer treatment.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, June 15, from 5-7 pm at Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, 305 Sixth Street, Traverse City, with a Rosary at 7 pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 16 at St. Wenceslaus Church, with family greeting friends at 10 a.m. A private family burial, in the St. Wenceslaus cemetery, will take place later.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to help support the maintenance of the historic church and grounds, as well as Mass Intentions, may be directed to St. Wenceslaus Parish, 8500 E. Kolarik Road, Suttons Bay, MI, 49682 or to the Cancer Program Needs Fund at the Cowell Family Cancer Center, 217 S. Madison Street, Traverse City, MI, 49684.

# Cemetery

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## St. Wencenslaus Cemetery

8500 E Kolarik Rd

Suttons Bay, MI, 49682

# Events

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**JUN** **Visitation** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

**15**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home

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

**JUN** **Rosary** 07:00PM

**15**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home

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

**JUN** **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

**16**

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St. Wenceslaus

8500 Kolarik Road, Suttons Bay, MI, US, 49682

**JUN** **Mass of Christian Burial** 11:00AM

**16**

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St. Wencenslaus

8500 E Kolarik Rd, Suttons Bay, MI, US, 49682

# Comments

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“ I met Theresa during Freshman year at Saint Francis. I considered her one of my best friends. We were also always comparing grades, each inspiring the other to do even better. Just this morning I came across a letter she wrote me while her family was taking a road trip to Memphis in 1971. Theresa always had the best cursive handwriting! Unfortunately, I had to transfer to a different school and eventually we lost touch with one another. Though we briefly connected at some recent class reunions, I know I'll find her easily in heaven...cause she had a giggle I will forever treasure in my memories.  
Rest In Peace, Theresa.  
Joani Lackie-Callighan

Joani Lackie - June 15 at 02:31 PM

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“ Theresa you brought much laughter and love and kindness to this world, thank you. You and your family were so welcoming to the class of '74 as we built our homecoming "float" in your family barn. You were fun, you had creative ideas, especially in pep club  
and I'm sure you brought up our class GPA! Thank you for your friendship. I admire how hard you battled cancer. May you Rest In Peace. Hugs and prayers for your family.

Kathy Kroetsch Morio - June 15 at 08:27 AM

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“ On behalf of the Schaub family, Theresa will be greatly missed. She and Dan had a special bond together, and even though they never married, for over 20 years she was always considered a member of our family. She was such a thoughtful caring person and we were blessed to have her in our lives, and will be forever in our hearts.

Debbie (Schaub) Belanger - June 13 at 09:17 PM

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“ Theresa was my oldest sister for 61 years. Most of those years I was in regular contact with Theresa about family business. The fact is you could always count on Theresa to do the right thing. This made working with Theresa very easy. Theresa failed to mention in her obituary, that she had attended The Sacred Heart all girls catholic school in Goose Point Farms. I suppose this is where she started her life of faith. Theresa also played field hockey while there. The evening Theresa passed, I walked from her home down the hill past the Riverside Inn to the lake Michigan beach. It was as peaceful and calm as I have ever seen Leland. No people, no wind, no waves. The only thing was a beautiful red purple sky north of the Manitowish. All this calm was GOD opening his arms, for Theresa to come home. Theresa was the most righteous person I have ever met. So I say goodbye to my sister for now. See you on the other side. love brother Paul

**Paul Hitchens** - June 13 at 07:37 PM

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“ Jackie Herman lit a candle in memory of Theresa Anne Hitchens



**Jackie Herman** - June 11 at 07:01 PM