



Betsy Deak

July 2, 1950 - November 29, 2015

Deak, Betsy (Nee Wood), Age 65, November 29, 2015 of Whitmore Lake, formerly of Trenton passed peacefully surrounded by her loved ones. Loving wife of Gary E. Deak. Loving mother of Lauren & William Deak & Jason Hornbeck. Dear sister of Dee Dishon and Ron (Margaret) Wood. Visitation Thursday 2 - 9 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Road (between Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. In state Friday 10:30 AM until the 11:00 AM Funeral Mass at St. John Neumann Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to University of Michigan Advanced Brain Tumor Imaging Research Fund. (Make checks payable to University of Michigan) U-M Medical Development, Attn: Halla Jomaa, 1000 Oakbrook, Suite 100, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. To make a gift online, please follow this link <http://victors.us/betsydeak>
To share a memory, please use the share a memory tab on the web page.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 3. 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth
46401 Ann Arbor Road West
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 459-2250
plymouth@vermeulenfh.com

In state

DEC 4. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Neumann Catholic Church
44800 Warren Road
Canton, MI 48187

Funeral Mass

DEC 4. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. John Neumann Catholic Church
44800 Warren Road
Canton, MI 48187

Tribute Wall



“ *Betsy Deak*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *I cannot say enough about "My Betsy" as she affectionately let me call her. She was so sweet, gentle, encouraging and full of peace (with a ton of gusto thrown in for good measure, smile). She was gentle in discussing details with me when I met her for the first time to go about the final arrangements of my uncle. She was tenderly compassionate when she came outside to meet my disabled mother who waited in the car to meet the woman who had handled her brother's final times with such care, grace and aplomb. She was a firecracker of laughter, jokes, hugs and fun when we, Liz and a friend went out to a much needed time together for dinner. And lastly, she was valiant as she followed Thomas' somber advice to "not go gentle into that good night".*

I loved Betsy, I love Betsy. I miss Betsy. My mother thought she would be the one handling her time of passing on and in a way, she is. I'm sure she was one of the ones who met her last Sunday on the other side with those others who also loved her and were excited for her too soon arrival. They celebrate together now as only Betsy can. To Betsy, to her family, to her life!!



Tatia Hardy - July 11, 2016 at 12:41 PM



“ *Lauren I am so sorry for your loss. Your mom was a light. Please be in touch and know I send love now and always*

Julianne Obrien pedersen

julianne - March 30, 2016 at 05:39 PM

RJ

“ Gary - Heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. I enjoyed working with Betsy and also her energy at the Vermeulen Christmas parties.
Randy Jost

Randy Jost - December 11, 2015 at 08:09 AM

TR

“ Gary,

Please accept my sympathy, I just heard today of your loss. Though our paths have not crossed in many years, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Kindest regards,

*Tom Rood
Funeral Director*

Tom Rood - December 10, 2015 at 01:58 PM

SR

“ *Sometimes you just hit it off with a person, and that's how I felt about Betsy. I only met her once or twice when she came to the book group at the Plymouth Library. She was thoughtful, articulate and easy to like: an instant asset. We have all been wondering how she was progressing.*

Betsy fit in so seamlessly, and was so easy to like, that it gives me some feeling for how many people must have felt the same way about her. I was so sorry to see the notice in the newspaper, and want you to know that in my own small way, I miss her too.

Saralee Rund - December 07, 2015 at 08:40 PM

SH

“ I was so young when we met, Bets, so very young. You showed me great kindness and compassion when I needed it most. I am sorry that my illness brought chaos into our friendship.

Loved you so, love you still. May the gods bless Gary, Laurena, William, and Jason, and all your friends, and family.

Sheila - December 04, 2015 at 07:51 PM

BD

“ Barbara Dewey lit a candle in memory of Betsy Deak



Barbara Dewey - December 04, 2015 at 10:46 AM

BD

“ I remember my many visits to the Deak home, enjoying the progression of renovating the old house, the many creative projects of Betsy and the children, Lauren and William, and lively conversations with Gary. Theirs was probably the most welcoming home I have ever entered! I use this family as my example of how children can be homeschooled successfully through high school. Betsy was the heart of that home.

Barbara Dewey - December 04, 2015 at 10:38 AM

NM

“ Nancy Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Betsy Deak



Nancy Mitchell - December 04, 2015 at 08:37 AM

DL

“ No words -- or, perhaps, too many. We are so sorry. We hope all the love, wit, wisdom and grit that Betsy shared so freely with the world are surrounding you now. Best Dance Mom this dance mom ever met. Diane and Donald Locker

Diane Jonas Locker - December 04, 2015 at 07:04 AM

DL

UN-Dance-Mom!

Diane Jonas Locker - December 04, 2015 at 08:31 AM

KJ

Making a contribution to U of M brain imaging fund because I was there waiting with the family for Betsys first surgery and appreciated the care she received and the excellent Doctors. Thanks you for taking me into your family. I grieve with you and for your great loss of a woman who always had the answers to our questions or would find out...Blessed to be out of pain and suffering. Hugs to the family.

Kathleen Jordan - December 06, 2015 at 01:01 PM

LB

“ My heart goes out to Mr Gary. May God comfort and watch over you during this time. Although, you will miss Ms Betsy terribly... You did everything you could for her. You endured true tests of faith and loyalty in a ways, I pray I have strength to face. Ms Betsy was a truly loving and strong woman. She loved us(nurses and cnas) and we loved her. We loved Mr Gary for showing us youngsters what TRUE LUV lives like. Everyday, Every night, he was there..thru it all. I would tell her "Blue-eyed bandit" luv's the hell out of you. Who else would sleep in such an uncomfortable chair, barely sleep, barely eat, go to work, and still make sure You have the best care possible. He's here every night so u can look over and see him, to hold your hand, to rub your feet, be your eyes, your ears, your voice when u couldn't speak. Thats luv Ms Betsy. U have what most people will never know to be true." She shakes her head, and smile as we're holding each others hands. She looks to her left and see her "blue-eyed bandit" sleeping in the uncomfortable chair with his head facing her. It was always facing her even when she didn't see him or knew he was there. May God bless You both. I thank Him for bringing you both into my life. - luv u both,
Lucretia aka "Lucy" Bell,

Lucretia Bell - December 03, 2015 at 03:23 PM

MC

“ Mary Fancher & staff at Tri County Cremations purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Betsy Deak.



Mary Fancher & staff at Tri County Cremations - December 03, 2015 at 11:40 AM

CC

“ Gary there's not words that can describe the hurt you're going through. we at Matthews in Detroit, send our deepest sympathy and know that the future will become easier. our best regard Connie, Imdadul, Cory and Terry.

Connie Cothran - December 03, 2015 at 10:31 AM

RC

“ My heart is with Betsy, Gary, Lauren, William, Dee, Ron, Margaret and all who continue to love Betsy and the precious gifts she has given us all throughout her life's journey.

I am thankful for Betsy's loyal love of family, her ever-ready sense of humor, her deep appreciation for beauty, and her openness of spirit to life's abundant gifts.

~ Rev. Dr. Diane Christopherson

Rev. Dr. Diane Christopherson - December 03, 2015 at 10:24 AM

SE

“ Dear Gary, Lauren, and William,

Our family has many memories that we cherish from the time of our weekly playgroup gatherings! We have not seen each other in several years and much has happened, but in some ways the time we spent is still very near and real. I will always remember Betsy as a bright and shiny human being and as a dear friend. We are sending light and warmth to all of you!

Love Susann, Bart, Aniela, and Nicolai

Susann Eddy - December 02, 2015 at 08:05 PM

CB

“ *Betsy is already missed and will always hold a special place in my heart. I am honored to have helped care for her over the past year and will never forget what a special lady she was. May God comfort her loved ones with the great memories of her life.* ”



Cori Birchett - December 02, 2015 at 07:13 PM

TF

“ *The Santeiu Family purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Betsy Deak.* ”



The Santeiu Family - December 02, 2015 at 03:19 PM

DE

“ *My condolences to Gary and family. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.* ”

*Dale A. Eickhoff
Eickhoff Funeral Home
(WSU Class of 77)*

Dale A. Eickhoff - December 02, 2015 at 02:52 PM

WW

“ *Condolences to all of Betsy's family. I am a friend and neighbor of Dee, Betsy's sister, and did not know Betsy. I know this journey was tough. My thoughts are with you all. Wendy Watson* ”



Wendy Watson - December 02, 2015 at 02:35 PM

SG

“ *Shatara Gbeminiyi lit a candle in memory of Betsy Deak*



Shatara Gbeminiyi - December 02, 2015 at 02:24 PM

GK

“ *My deepest sympathy to you, Gary and your family on Betsy's passing. I will keep Betsy and all of you in my thoughts and prayers. God bless you all!*
Greg Kolasa

Gregory Kolasa - December 02, 2015 at 02:14 PM

SG

“ *I have only known Ms. Betsy for a very short time through my job at Glacier Hills. She was such a loving and charming woman and I immediately became attached to her. I was even offered to care for her in the comfort of her own home and I made it my business to make sure she was well taken care of. She always greeted me with a warm hand shake, a smile and sometimes a hug and I loved her! Ms. Betsy will be missed by all who loved and knew her. I know I will miss from coming to her home fixing her favorite breakfast and one of her smoothie drinks. I am glad that I was able to make a difference in her life by being her caregiver. My heart, thoughts and prayers go out to Mr. Gary, her children, friends and family.*



-Shatara Gbeminiyi

Shatara Gbeminiyi - December 02, 2015 at 01:50 PM

JA

“ Sweet, funny, witty, and such a cutie pie all throughout high school, that was Betsy. She will be remembered for so many positive things, but for me, it will always be her endearing smile and quick wit. Oh, my, how she made us all laugh.

Sincere condolences to her loving family, and friends. May there be peace



jacki - December 02, 2015 at 01:28 PM

CG

“ To Betsy's Family,
I had the pleasure of meeting Betsy at the Perry Funeral Home. We had a Celebration of Friends once a month. I will always remember how gracious and helpful she was - May memories console you and bring you strength in the days to come.
God Bless Carolyn Gamble (St. Christopher St. Pauls)

Carolyn Gamble - December 02, 2015 at 12:45 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Betsy Deak.



December 02, 2015 at 12:13 PM

KW

“ I have so many joyful memories of spending time with Betsy at your beautiful home. The world has lost a wonderful, loving, and giving person. She will be missed. Sending love, condolences, and warm hugs to all of you.

Karen Whitescarver - December 02, 2015 at 11:48 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Betsy Deak.



December 02, 2015 at 10:30 AM

KC

“ Gary and family: we are so lucky to have beautiful, courageous, and loving people in our lives. It is evident that you and Betsy are all of these and will hold a special place in our hearts always. You never fully realize the lives you've touched in the simplest, yet most meaningful ways. You both have touched ours and we are so grateful. Please remember that you have friends “just around the corner” ... anytime.

Karle & Cindi - December 02, 2015 at 10:11 AM

KL

“ Heartfelt condolences to you all. Betsy was the best of the best in her special qualities of kindness, openness, courage and much appreciated humor.

Kathy Foxworth Laritz - December 01, 2015 at 08:19 PM

 Judy
Davis

“ *Sending loving prayers to you all. While I haven't spoken with Betsy in years I cherish the time we spent together homeschooling our children. What a beautiful spirit, and I'm honored to have called her friend. - Judy, Geoffrey, Heather & Alex Davis*

Judy Davis - December 01, 2015 at 08:03 PM

JS

“ *Gary and family,
We are so sorry to hear about Betsy's passing. May all of your happy memories bring comfort to you at this time. We are so sorry that we will be unable to attend the service as Judi and I are in Florida for the winter.
With Sympathy,
John Martenson, Sr.*

John J. Martenson, Sr. - December 01, 2015 at 07:04 PM

LY

“ *When I think of Betsy I think of her singing I Want a hippopotamus for Christmas in our elementary class. She was so cute with a big bow in her hair. To this day that is one of my favorite Christmas songs. My granddaughter and daughter love it just as much. Betsy was a dear friend in school but we lost touch after graduation. May she rest in peace and prayers to her family. God be with all of you.*

Linda Bellmore York - December 01, 2015 at 04:31 PM

TH

Many fond memories of our families playing together down at Independence Lake on warm summer days. Thoughts and prayers to Gary and the kids.

Ted Hamilton - December 03, 2015 at 09:14 AM

JD

*Dear Gary, and Family,
Walt and I are so very sorry to hear about Betsy's passing. It's been many years since we've connected but we always seemed to have so much in common. Betsy and I became good friends when she worked for the Trenton Times and we all got together both in Gibraltar and in Whitmore Lake. If we had known that she was ill, we would have been there. We, too, know what your journey has been. We lost our son, Josh, at 17 to Hodgkin's Disease and our son-in-law, John, at 30 to a Sarcoma. We understand your pain and will support you in any way we can. Betsy is a bright shining star with a beautiful spirit!! May God Bless You and Keep You! We are holding you in our hearts and prayers! Judy and Walt Dever*

Judy Dever - January 23, 2016 at 11:55 PM