



## Candice "Candy" Mary VanDerHaven

May 6, 1949 - March 10, 2016

Candice Mary VanDerHaven passed away peacefully, with her family at her side on March 10, 2016 at the age of 66. A proud native Detroit, born in 1949, Candy was the first of four children of William John Abbey Sr. and Mona Mary (LaCost) Abbey, of whom both predeceased her.

Candy is survived by her loving husband of over 30 years, Robert M. Silverman. Candy was predeceased by her sister Mary Ann (Edward) McGowan. Her surviving siblings are Wm. John (Julie) Abbey of Perrysburg, OH and Susan Abbey (Christopher) Green of Calumet, MI. Also surviving is her Daughter Jennifer Ann (Richard) Santia and her three grandchildren, Madison Abbey, Marissa Anne and Peter Anthony Santia of Rochester Hills, MI along with many nieces, nephews, cousins and in-laws.

Candy attended St. Michael's Grade School, Ladywood High School and Schoolcraft College where she earned an Associates degree in Accounting. Shortly after graduation Candy was hired by Ford Motor Company to work as an accountant at the Livonia Transmission Plant. This launched a wonderful career at Ford lasting over 35 years. Candy loved her work at Ford and most importantly she loved the people she worked with during her various assignments.

She retired in 2007 from her last assignment at the Ford New Model Programs Development Center in Allen Park, MI. Throughout her life Candy demonstrated a rare ability to connect with people no matter their background, as she shared a love for all people. This was evidenced by the great respect

and regard that both UAW and Ford representatives had for her throughout her career.

Following her retirement, Candy found great joy in caring for her grandchildren and mentoring them. It was a rare day when she wasn't loving on them or talking with them about what was important in their daily lives. Her love and bond with her daughter Jen was beautiful and will endure forever.

Candy was not a person who sat on the sidelines while others carried the load. She was a "chronic" volunteer ranging from schools, alumni associations, homeowner's associations, church and charitable organizations. She declared her great satisfaction in serving as the Treasurer of The DOVE Fund which is a nonprofit based in Toledo, OH. She served in the Treasurer capacity along with her brother John and sister-in-law Julie who serve as Trustees on the Board. Her DOVE Family was a cherished part of her life and they will miss her immeasurably.

Candy loved to travel, especially with her husband Bob and her extended family. This took her to many places in the US and the world and she especially loved her travels to her sister's home in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, as well as Mexico, Alaska and Hawaii. In her last days, she was still dreaming of returning with her husband and family to Suenos in Mexico. Candy never stopped dreaming and her goodness was evident in all her dreams. Her aspirations and dreams always centered around helping, doing for others and being a good person. This is demonstrated by the love and affection so many people have for Candy. Never a bad word or unkindness would she speak.

Family and friends may visit Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170 on Sunday March 13 from 4PM to 8PM and Monday March 14 from 3PM to 8PM, with a Time of Sharing at 7pm. A Mass of Christian burial will be held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 North Territorial Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, 10AM on Tuesday March 15.

Memorial contributions, in Candy's honor, may be made to The Rochester

Area Neighborhood House 1234 Inglewood Rochester, MI 48307 ranh.org or to the charity of the donor's choice.

To share a memory please use the Share a Memory tab on this web page.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

MAR 13. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Memorial Visitation

MAR 14. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Time of Sharing

MAR 14. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## **Gathering of Family and Friends**

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MAR **15.** 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church  
47650 North Territorial Road  
Plymouth, MI 48170

## **Funeral Mass**

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MAR **15.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church  
47650 North Territorial Road  
Plymouth, MI 48170

# Tribute Wall



“ *Candice "Candy" Mary VanDerHaven*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Jim Stoops remembers her well from their days at Ford Transmission plant in Livonia. Such a nice lady! We have been going to Zack's restaurant in Plymouth (formerly Silverman's) for many years. We were told this morning by one of the servers that she had passed away. So sorry to hear the news and sorry we did not hear in time to pay our respects in person. There is not a time that we go there that we do not think of her--there is a dessert pictured on the dessert menu at every table called "Candy's Delight" (a delicious ice cream concoction) and we always smile. She will be missed!*



**Jim & Willie Stoops** - March 30, 2016 at 09:48 AM



“ *Lorrie lit a candle in memory of Candice "Candy" Mary VanDerHaven*



**Lorrie** - March 14, 2016 at 12:58 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Candice "Candy" Mary VanDerHaven.*



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March 14, 2016 at 09:08 AM



“ *Beautiful Candy...always smiling, a joy. We connected on our short visits at the beauty salon. I always looked forward to seeing her. She talked glowingly of her family, her husband, daughter, grandchildren and brother and sister. I felt like I knew them, too. She touched my life. I am better for having had our short times together.*

*May God's presence be REAL to you all during this hard time of grief. I will be praying for you. Lovingly, Marilyn Buchan*

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**Marilyn J Buchan** - March 13, 2016 at 07:11 PM



“ *Christine Malfatti purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Candice "Candy" Mary VanDerHaven.*



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**Christine Malfatti** - March 13, 2016 at 02:34 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Candice "Candy" Mary VanDerHaven.*



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March 13, 2016 at 10:31 AM

LF

“ I didn't know Candy real well but last summer I had the pleasure of visiting with her as her grandkids got their hair cut. She was a kind and beautiful lady. I do know Jennifer and her children and can see how her beautiful character has been passed down to them. Her legacy will continue through them. May God bless her family and may she rest peacefully in Christ's loving arms.

*Lisa Fazio*

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**Lisa Fazio** - March 13, 2016 at 08:37 AM

LG

“ Linda McConville and Daniel Gregg purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Candice "Candy" Mary VanDerHaven.



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**Linda McConville and Daniel Gregg** - March 13, 2016 at 08:30 AM

SA

“ Susan Albano lit a candle in memory of Candice "Candy" Mary VanDerHaven



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**susan albano** - March 12, 2016 at 07:45 PM

SA

*Dear sweet Candy, I love you for the beautiful, loving caring friend you were to everyone who had the pleasure of knowing you! May God hold you in the palms of His hands~♥ In my prayers*

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**susan albano** - March 12, 2016 at 07:48 PM

JK

“ Candy was a friend that I will never be able to replace. She was not only my friend, but my confident, my soul sister and the best thing in my life. I will miss her more then I can ever express. My love and condolences to her loving family. They were her rock and I am honored to be able be part of all there lives. Candy, love you, miss you, until we meet again.....

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janet koller - March 12, 2016 at 07:42 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Candice "Candy" Mary VanDerHaven.



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March 12, 2016 at 06:05 PM