



Claudine C. Bonner

January 11, 1923 - June 22, 2012

Bonner, Claudine C. age 89 June 22, 2012 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late James. Loving mother of Jan Majerus and Jean (Jamil) Saad. Proud grandmother of 5 grandchildren; Leslie Ann Caudill, April (Mikel) Martin, James Saad, Jenna Saad Rachel Saad and 2 great-grandchildren; Haley Noel Caudill and Elena Lee Martin. Memorial Service Saturday, September 1, 2012 at 10:45 AM at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 5885 N. Venoy, Westland. Arrangements carefully handled by Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 North Newburgh Road (between Ford Road and Cherry Hill), Westland. To share a memory, please use the View and Send Condolences tab on this web page.

Tribute Wall



“ *Claudine C. Bonner*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *My heart goes out to Jan and Jean as I know their mom was so special in their hearts. I remember her from long ago when I was a young girl playing at her house with Jean. The deepest impression she made on me was her grace, kindness and caring. She was a true Lady. I know she will be missed by those that loved her. My deepest sympathy to her family!*

Cindy Cannon Foss - December 12, 2014 at 10:13 AM



“ *Claudine and Jim were always the poster children for graciousness and kindness. Claudine used to tell me that my son was the second cutest kid in the world. right behind Jamie. I will miss her.*

Mary Rowland - December 12, 2014 at 10:13 AM

DB

“ When I was a child I just knew I was my Aunt Claudine’s favorite in the whole wide world. Later, as an adult, I realized all of us were her favorites. She just loved all of us and made each of us feel very special. Throughout my entire life Uncle Jim and Aunt Claudine were always there. It did not matter where they were or where I was, we were always connected. Even with their physical passing I still feel their presence and will forever. Through my Aunt the list of life-long learning is extensive, including, but certainly not limited to: family; religion; spirituality; generosity; hope; patience; camping; dogs, dogs and more dogs; cats; chickens; nature in general; laughter; joy; peace; unbelievably great stories, usually with an important moral, point, or meaning cleverly hidden within; picnics and swimming pools; political insight; the rich family history told with an overlay of world history; and, in general -how to live life to the fullest. Our extended family is close and tight knit. Only in the past few years did I learn that this is no longer the norm for many families. I am blessed by having unconditional love, support, faith, and nurturing from my Aunt Claudine., which reminds me of the verses -Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. -Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them. - “Blessed indeed, that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!”

David Bonner - December 12, 2014 at 10:13 AM

VY

“ R.I.P TELL JAMES HI

VERNA YEARY - December 12, 2014 at 10:13 AM

MC

“ Claudine was such an elegant lady. I remember meeting her for the first time at Cheryl Ertell's home when our Theta Chapter had a picnic there. The next time I remember how welcoming she was to my in-laws, Bob and Maude Lankton, when they moved in to Waltonwood. My mother-in-law was thankful for her friendliness and so was I for it helped to make a happy move-in situation for them. Claudine was a beautiful person.

Marylyn Cantrell - December 12, 2014 at 10:13 AM

DI

“ Im truly sorry to hear about your lost. Claudine will definitely be missed by so many. One thing that helps me deal or cope with loosing a loved one is the scripture John 5:28,29. It stats " Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who did good things to a resurrection of life....." Soon we will be able to see Claudine again because God (Jehovah) promises a resurrection hope. Also if you notice that it uses the term "memorial tomb" and not [Grave] which means Gods memory. Claudine seems like a really nice lady, a person that God will definitely remember. I hope this gives some comfort. Dion R (Truth.1914@yahoo.com)

DION - December 12, 2014 at 10:13 AM

“ If I were ever asked who the best teacher I ever had was, it would be Claudine Bonner. If I were ever asked who my favorite teacher was, again, it would be Claudine Bonner. I met Mrs. Bonner at John F. Kennedy High School, where I took my first Creative Writing class my sophomore year (that was the fall of 1971). She was a journalist, we often heard, so it was natural that she was the newspaper advisor. I was on the staff with her at Kennedy, and was her Feature Editor at Harry S. Truman High School the first year of its operation (the fall of 1973). She was a wonderful mentor guiding, encouraging, and driving us as needed. We had a great relationship during those years. We developed an even more wonderful friendship after I graduated. Claudine Bonner taught in the Taylor schools for many years. When she decided to retire, she left in the middle of the school year. Once she made up her mind there was nothing stopping her. Her husband, Jim Bonner (who was a former Taylor School elementary school principal) retired just a few short years later, and they enjoyed many years of retirement together. Mrs. Bonner loved, loved, LOVED her family. Most were aware of her writing talents, but I'll bet most did not know she was also an artist. She has a very large landscape painting she had done that hung over her sofa. It was of a meadow and barnyard. In it she had an image for each of her grandchildren. She readily admitted she was no portrait artist, so each grandchild was shown from behind or in extreme profile. She kept adding to the painting as each new member of the family arrived. That lovely piece of folk art is a tribute to how important everyone in her family was to her. An even bigger tribute is that she took the time to write down all of the stories she knew about the family. For example, Jim was a Word War II veteran. He was seriously wounded during the war and was in an army hospital ward when the first lady came to visit the wounded troops. Eleanor Roosevelt stopped to chat with him and they found they were from the same small town in New York. Mrs. Roosevelt returned at another time, found that Jim was there, and remembered him from her previous visit. What a grand lady, and what a grand story Jim had to tell. Fortunately, those memories have been captured in writing so that present and future

generations can enjoy and pass them on. What an amazing legacy Claudine Bonner has preserved. And it all started by becoming a journalist. She was born Claudine Crozier. One of her favorite jokes was that it was a very simple act to replace the 'o' with an 'a' in her last name to get to the more accurate description of her. She had a wry sense of humor that I thoroughly enjoyed. It was just a year or two ago when I had visited with "Mrs. Bonner" that she said: "Now, Cheryl, don't you think we have been friends long enough that you can call me Claudine?" Old habits die hard, I replied. Whatever the name, "friend" was the most important one to me. I am proud to say that I was your friend over the past 40 years. You were always an inspiration to me – journalistically, professionally, and personally. I always cherished the time we were able to spend together. Now I have those wonderful memories to sustain me. I have always smiled whenever I thought of you and will continue to do so. Farewell, my lovely friend. Say hello to Jim for me.

Cheryl Czerwinski - December 12, 2014 at 10:13 AM