



Joan Mae Kozlowski

February 26, 1931 - May 5, 2020

PLYMOUTH – JOAN MAE KOZLOWSKI passed away Tuesday May 5, 2020 after 89 years of giving out love.

Visitation Monday May 11th 4-8 PM with a 5 PM Prayer Service at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Rd, W., (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth.

Private Tuesday Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Joan was born to Theodore and Cecelia Piotrowski on Feb. 26, 1931 in Detroit, MI. She was preceded in death by her husband Dick, her parents, her older sister Marge and younger brother Theodore. Joan is survived by her 5 sons; Ken (Diane), Ron, (Cindy), Bob (Rhonda), Jim and Mike (Patty). 8 grandchildren; Stephanie, Andy & William, Brian, David & Paul, Alex & Jacqui and 3 Great grandchildren; Ellie, Jack & Leo.

As a young girl, Joan grew up in southeast Detroit living above a small grocery store that her father had owned. She was very competitive, athletic and a self-described tom-boy. She played basketball at Holy Redeemer High School back in 1949, loved skiing and was a very good bowler.

From 1942-48 Joan enjoyed being in the Girl Scouts. She loved the activities and learning opportunities that it presented. She loved going to the GS summer camp in Metamora, MI. Fun was had by all and after her time she became a Camp counselor.

After graduating from high school, she met her life-long friend and partner, the man of her dreams at the Detroit Grande Ballroom. Dick and Joan fell in love

and were married soon after in November of 1950. They quickly started a family and upon Joan learning that she was pregnant with their first child her beau was called into action into the Korean War where he served one year on the aircraft carrier the USS Essex before heading home.

She raised 5 outstanding boys and an incredible husband from a marriage of 69 awesome years. She ran a tight household, but we are all the better for it. As my dad would say – the “chick’s” in charge.

Joan earned a teaching degree from Madonna University in Detroit in 1972. Upon graduation she taught at St Casimir’s Elementary school in Detroit where she led the school’s Resource Room for 12 years.

Upon her retirement in 1984 and moving North to Ewart, MI. she enjoyed teaching Catechism and did so for 34 years at the church of Sacred Heart in Ewart, MI. Her contributions to the church were numerous as she brought her many talents to the country town. For 6 years she also taught at Eagle Village a last resort for trouble teens and was instrumental in the progress of her students turning their lives around.

One of Joan’s proudest moments is when she and Dick took the entire family and their families on a once-in-a-lifetime Alaskan Cruise vacation in the year 2000. A special vacation for all.

She loved playing cards weekly with her northern friends and whenever the boys and their families came into town. She had a good laugh, a forever smile and enjoyed puzzles and games with the kids and grandkids. She was a true role model, a great example, an incredible individual.

In her final days she would sing one of her favorite songs from Doris Day a 1956 tune; Que Sera Sera (what will be, will be) and if you listen to the song Joan’s inner wisdom shines bright.

But ABOVE ALL Joan was a devoted Catholic that lived out her faith in everything she did and to everyone she met. She lived as the Bible taught and spread the saving grace of Jesus Christ. She always said she lived a great life. Her reliance on Christ throughout her life was the cornerstone of her life. She believed in “Holy Moments”, the power of prayer and community. She

would regularly invite the parish priests over for dinner and students over in the summer from the village for a day of fun and swimming. She was one of the most caring people one would want to meet and incredibly proud of her family. She brought a tremendous amount of love and grace to all she did. She will be truly missed. God Bless.

Memorial Contributions may be made to:

The Capuchins, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207, Catholic Relief Society, 228 W. Lexington St. Baltimore, MD 21201-3443, MaryKnoll Fathers and Brothers, P.O. Box 302, MaryKnoll, NY 10545 or Salesian Missions, 2 Le Fevres Lane, New Rochelle, NY 10801.

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

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 11. 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

Funeral Service

MAY 11. 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Joan Mae Kozlowski*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Joan gave me such a strong teaching of faith. To know her was to love her. She was always so cheerful and happy. Im so sorry to hear of her passing. I drive past her house last night and the kids(adults) were talkin about how we missed Dick and Joan. Joan was my daughters sponsor for her reconciliation. She held a special place in our hearts as she reminded our family of my last grammy. And Dick always mad my kids bust out in laughter cuz he would always say Amen so loud and say little funny things so loud. I will forever be grateful for the blessing of Dick and Joan. Till we meet again dear friends rest in paradise xoxo*

Kathy Hyden-Damaso - May 12, 2020 at 11:35 AM



“ *On behalf of the Capuchin brothers, I offer my deepest sympathies on the passing of Joan. It is truly humbling to receive memorial donations in honor of Joan's life. Please be assured of the brother's prayers for the entire Kozlowski family during this great time of grief. May perpetual light shine upon Joan.*

Br Nick Blattner Ofm Capuchin - May 11, 2020 at 03:32 PM

MR

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Mike Raschke - May 09, 2020 at 07:45 PM

TH

Happy Times remembered

Therese - May 12, 2020 at 01:52 PM

ST

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Stephanie - May 09, 2020 at 03:04 AM

TH

Last time I saw Joan was sharing stories, laughs and the cool water in her huge outdoor pool on a hot July day. Her smile and giddy laugh.....she will be missed,

Therese (Henehan) Heublein - May 12, 2020 at 01:55 PM

JG

“ A Dear precious woman of God. I felt Blessed to have known Joan and to be able to call her my friend.
May she rest in her reward.
Praying for her family to receive comfort at this sad time.
Jo Elaine Gruszecki

Jo Elaine Gruszecki - May 08, 2020 at 10:23 PM

DG

“ Joan taught me so much during her time at sacred heart she was truly an amazing lady ❤️ "there will be another angel round the throne Tonite" God bless you Joan and hugs to those she leaves behind 🙏

Donelle Gruszecki - May 08, 2020 at 08:13 PM

SM

“ We have so many memories of Joan and Dick! We were almost neighbors and built our homes about the same time. Both of our families were members of Sacred Heart Church and saw them often there. Joan always had a smile on her face and Dick would make you laugh. We so missed them when they moved to be closer to their family. They left quite a hole in our church community, but so many memories. They loved to play cards and used to have a big Fourth of July party at their home every year. Such fun loving people and great friends.

shelley mozden - May 08, 2020 at 06:20 PM

SR

“ My first memory of Mrs. Kozlowski was as my substitute teacher at Evert Elementary in first or second grade. Later, she taught my first communion class in CCD at Sacred Heart. Then, when I was in the high school youth group, she often invited us to her house in the summer to swim and play basketball. I have such fond memories of her - she was so young at heart, so welcoming to all of us! I'm very sorry for her loss. I will always remember her fondly. May perpetual light shine upon her...

Shelby (Cousineau) Raymond - May 08, 2020 at 05:16 PM

DU

“ So very sorry for the loss of Aunt Joan. She was a wonderful person with a heart of gold. Love and hugs to all of you.

Don & Julie Urick - May 08, 2020 at 10:49 AM

RK

“ Ken and family, I am so sorry for the loss of your mother. I will keep you in my prayers asking for strength and comfort during this difficult time. Bob Kemmerling

Robert Kemmerling - May 08, 2020 at 08:34 AM

RJ

“ We loved this lady. The smile in her picture is what we have enjoyed since first knowing her. As her son Ronald's mother and father in-law we spent many years enjoying the Joan and Dick Kozlowski family at so many wonderful events. Gracious, generous and, perhaps most importantly, Joan was founded in prayerful attention to all around her. Anyone who knew her discovered this immediately. We will miss her. We will forever remember her rare commodity of absolute, unconditional love.



Ron and Mildred Jones, with Ronald's wife, Cindy

Ron & Mildred Jones - May 07, 2020 at 07:45 PM

MH

“ She was such a sweetheart wonderful person. Never heard a bad word about anyone from her. Welcomed all into her home & made you feel so special❤️

mike & laura hartges - May 07, 2020 at 11:12 AM