



Judith A. Belenchia

July 23, 1939 - October 17, 2024

Judith Belenchia, beloved daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully at the age of 85, on October 17th 2024. Born on July 23, 1939, in Calumet, Michigan, she was the youngest of nine children of the late Bartholomew and Alma Florence (Christensen) Venturino.

Judith met the love of her life, Charles Wesley Belenchia, and they married on January 4, 1957, when she was just 18 and a half. Their union was marked by a deep love and partnership that lasted a lifetime. He preceded her in death in March of 2018.

As a mother to Lori and Susan, she was strong, selfless, and fiercely protective of her children, instilling in them the values of honesty and resilience. Judith's legacy of warmth and generosity will be cherished by all who knew her.

A woman of many passions, Judith had a profound love for the UP, often reminiscing about its natural beauty and charm. She embraced the local culture, and her affectionate "eh" reflected her roots. Judith enjoyed traveling and had the opportunity to explore numerous countries, but some of her favorite memories were the train trips to Toronto with her grandchildren, Adam and Lauren Kudirka to whom she was affectionately known as Gma. They created lasting memories during these adventures, filled with laughter and exploration.

Known for her bright white hair, Judith's vibrant personality shone through in everything she did. She had a unique ability to find joy in the little things, often

spending time watching clouds and imagining images within them. She also loved baking pies and shopping, with a keen sense of style that showcased her zest for life. A frequent attendee at concerts and theater productions, she delighted in the arts and shared these moments with loved ones. Known for her infectious laughter and abundant compliments, she also had a playful spirit and a penchant for swearing like a sailor. Judith cherished her simple pleasures, often enjoying a beer with a neighbor and keeping a bottle of Irish Mist by her bedside, embodying her warm and welcoming spirit.

She is survived by her loving children: Lori Kudirka, married to Anthony Kudirka, and Susan Belenchia, married to Michael Todoroff. Judith also took great joy in her grandchildren, including Adam Kudirka, who is married to Courtney "Courtneilus" Cave, and Lauren Kudirka, who is engaged to Nicholas "Nickels" Leeman. She was excited knowing that she was going to become a great grandmother, as Adam & Courtney are expecting a baby girl in January.

Memorial gathering will be held on Friday, October 25th from 3 PM until the 6 PM Memorial Service at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Road West (Between Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions may be made to Michigan Humane Society in Judith's memory. To share a memory, please use the share a memory tab on this webpage.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

OCT **25**. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

Memorial Service

OCT **25**. 6:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

SM

“ *RIP Mrs. Belenchia. I remember the times you and Charlie would come to our house in Spring Lake. You, Charlie and my parents always had such a wonderful time. Im sure the 4 of you are all having a blast up in heaven.*

Sandra Boston Morritt - January 20 at 04:24 PM

AS

“ *Loved reading about Mrs. Belenchia which brought back so many wonderful memories growing up on Ralph St. all made me smile. To this day, I still look for images in the clouds and remember car rides with your mom and dad. Your dad would say let's wave and make funny faces at other cars and how we clapped when we got a wave back. The little things did bring so much joy. We are so blessed to have shared in their love of family and friends.*

*Peace and Grace,
Ann*

Ann Smith - October 23, 2024 at 01:44 PM

LF

“ *Judy was a wonderful lady who was fun to be around. Her laughter was contagious and she was always interested in what was going on with you, that's the kind of person she was.
We always felt warm and comfortable in her presence, because she made you feel that way!
When we think of her passing, we are saddened that she is now gone, but are happy that we were fortunate enough to have known her. We will miss her terribly, her laugh, her conversation, her respect for others, her eye for beauty, and her joy of life. Good bye sweet Judy, it was an honor to have known you!
Lyn, Mary, and our whole family.*

Lyn and Mary James and family - October 23, 2024 at 12:27 AM

JP

“ *Mrs. Belenchia. Such a beautiful lady inside & out. Her smile would light up a room. She always made me feel so special & welcome.*

Janet Pierzynski - October 21, 2024 at 11:40 AM

GG

“ *Judy was a great neighbor offering endless beer, drinks, and snacks with a table and chair for everyone to sit and talk. The discussions were great with endless secrets, such a hoot. In October, Judy dressed up as a great dark witch, well I assumed it was a costume. Lol
The Gardner's will miss her.*

Greg Gardner - October 19, 2024 at 11:30 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home - October 19, 2024 at 03:18 PM

RG

This picture captures her grace, class and and beauty perfectly. 🙏❤️

Robin Elizabeth Goeddeke - October 20, 2024 at 06:43 AM

MS

What a wonderful neighbor. She had a contagious laugh. Love to talk about the UP.

Mike Schlott - October 22, 2024 at 08:42 AM

SC

Elegant; charming; great sense of humor; loyal; beautiful spirit; and a true blue "yooper". Jim and I adored her.

Sue Cruden - October 29 (I just saw this posting today and we are so very sorry we missed the memorial service.

Susan and Jim Cruden - October 29, 2024 at 05:52 PM