



## Lillian Martha Verkerke

February 21, 1935 - February 26, 2020

Verkerke; Lillian Verkerke of Plymouth, Michigan passed away February 26 2020 at the age of 85. Beloved wife of Jim. Loving mother of Deborah Wilson, Sandy (Kurt) Nickol, Steve (Jackie) Petrovich, Sue (John) Conklin, Sue (Mike) Duffy, Dan (Karen) Verkerke, Paul Verkerke, and Ann Pitser. Proud grandmother of Carly Petrovich, Austin Nickol, Joe Petrovich, Steve Conklin, Jennifer Bitzer LaCroix, Cody Verkerke, Andrea Kenwell, Chelsea Duffy, Matt Verkerke, Casey Verkerke, Trent Pitser & Ava Pitser, four great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Dear sister of Delores (Jim) Zeh & brother Richard Nahabetian. Dear sister-in-law of Lynn Nahabetian. Lillian is predeceased by her sister June Nahabetian, sister-in-laws Roberta Nahabetian & Mary Nahabetian, brothers Homer Nahabetian & Dave Nahabetian, step-son Mike Verkerke, grandson Shawn Conklin and niece Kathy Parsons.

Lillian was a born teacher and pursued a teaching career at Eastern Michigan University. As a young mother, she took child rearing very seriously. She was a Girl Scout Leader, Baseball Coach, Teen Club Coordinator, and President of the Parent Teacher Association. There were home cooked meals every night and her house was lovely. She mentored every child she came in contact with. In the early 1970's, Lillian became a Realtor and a Broker. It became her passion and life-long career. Her customers loved her and she loved finding them the perfect home.

An avid learner, Lillian was interested in just about everything! She had a

brilliant mind and was a creative problem-solver. She loved the movies. A wonderful day with Lillian would include a movie with dinner afterward to discuss all aspects of the film. She was an environmentalist and championed causes of equality and women's rights.

A talented oil painter, she leaves behind iconic "Lillian" works of art.

Lillian was statuesque, stylish and beautiful but it was her kindness and loving nature that made her truly special. She was energetic, engaging, and really funny! She loved making beautiful homes and gardens where she hosted amazing parties. She was a beautiful person who created beauty all around her.

Anyone who knew Lillian loved her! She was totally unique. She loved her family and friends unconditionally. She was everyone's biggest cheerleader.

We miss her and take comfort that her beautiful spirit will live on with us.

Gathering Saturday, March 7th, at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, Ann Arbor Rd. W., (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. The Family will receive guests from noon until 5PM with a Memorial Service beginning at 5 PM.

Memorial contributions may be made to Make A Wish Michigan, 7600 Grand River Ave., Suite 175, Brighton, MI 48114. To share a memory, please use the Share A Memory tab on the web page.

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Family and Friends

MAR 7. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

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

## Memorial Service

MAR 7. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lillian Martha Verkerke*

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December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Lillian, you will be greatly missed. I remember how caring you were with other people, and what a great sense of humor you had. Love, Peggy Ann Kralik (Sherman/ Boegler)\*

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**Peggy A Kralik** - March 07, 2020 at 10:43 AM

TE

“ *L: Laughter. When I think of Lillian I think of all the laughter we shared. Over silly jokes, silly shared thoughts, joyful moments, shared with each other. Usually shared at family events: showers, weddings, and yes even funerals.*

*I: Incredible: Lillian was incredible! I thought the world of her! She always listened and helped with an open heart, an open soul, loving arms. Once when I was very pregnant with my son, she sensed how fearful I was to give birth. We just stood next to each other silently and she said “ You know when I was pregnant I thought how am I going to do this? I am scared! But then I looked around. I was at a baseball game and I thought everyone here has a mother! How bad can this be if every person here has a mother? Must not be as bad as I am imagining!” I just looked at her and hugged her and said thank you. She knew my thoughts without me saying a word. So incredible! What a precious friend! So lucky she was mine!*

*L: Loving: Lillian was loving! In everything she did she poured her heart and love completely out. With her work she shared her loving thoughts, she gave generously and so lovingly.*

*L: Loyal: Lillian was loyal to all her interests, family members, friends! She would share pearls of wisdom from her life very openly. She always wanted to help in any*

*way she could. Everything from nutrition to life lessons, and she lived her words.*

*She walked the walk. She was loyal. She didn't just suggest something if she hadn't used it, tried it or lived it herself!*

*I: Indefatigable: Always had sustained enthusiasm and energy! It was so uplifting! I always walked away happier and lighter in my heart. Her energy was contagious and inspiring! Once when she noticed my energy was low she brought me a carrot/spinach juice blend. Hard to drink it but I did and felt better instantly. (probably because we were laughing so hard)*

*A: Awesome: Lillian was just awesome! I learned from her each time we had a conversation! Her insightful views were always proactive, loving, accepting, and given with sincerity. She was just awesome in everything she did and with everyone she knew.*

*N: Nice: In everything Lillian was nice. Even through her hardest times, her kindness, pleasantness, and her ever present grace was given to all.*

*When I found out about Lillian passing my heart seriously broke. I thought about her and how wonderful she was. She was just the best! I had to sit down and write some words. She was so influential in my life. My life is so much richer for her love, her example of living and friendship, and just for who she was. My goodness was I lucky to have her in my life. I am so sorry for her beautiful family. I will miss her until we see each other again. Please know you are all in my prayers and thoughts. Love, Terese*

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**Terese** - March 07, 2020 at 10:34 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lillian Martha Verkerke.*



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March 06, 2020 at 03:32 PM



“ *Lillian was an incredible person! Her infectious personality made a positive impact on every person she met. She was hilarious and simply fun to be around. Lillian could have a room of people laughing within a minute. Janice and I have great stories of Lillian helping us sell and buy our houses through the years. Most memorable was her waiting in line for 6 hours on our behalf to secure a lot in a new subdivision. We love Lillian and are happy we had our time with her. May God’s peace look over Uncle Jim and the family during this difficult time and may we all take solace in knowing how she touched everyone with her uniquely amazing style.*

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**Jerry Verkerke** - March 06, 2020 at 11:57 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lillian Martha Verkerke.*



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March 06, 2020 at 02:50 AM

MF

“ Margo, Robin, Drew, Chris, Julie and family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Lillian Martha Verkerke.



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**Margo, Robin, Drew, Chris, Julie and family** - March 05, 2020  
at 11:04 AM

SB

“ My sincere condolences on the loss of your loved one, my neighbor and angel. Thank you, Dear Lillian, for touching my life. Your love and kindness have left a mark on my soul and your spirit will always live on.



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**Suzanne Boff** - February 29, 2020 at 11:35 AM

RO

“ Rogie lit a candle in memory of Lillian Martha Verkerke



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**Rogie** - February 28, 2020 at 10:23 PM



“ 4 files added to the album *Pics of Lillian*



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**Steve Petrovich** - February 28, 2020 at 05:45 PM

LB

“ *Aunt Lil will be missed. She was a beautiful person inside and out. She always had a smile and made everyone laugh.*



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**Lori Barnett** - February 28, 2020 at 04:55 PM

YG

“ *Your Kensington Small Group Bible Study Girls purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Lillian Martha Verkerke.*



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**Your Kensington Small Group Bible Study Girls** - February 28, 2020 at 04:27 PM

RE

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Lil was a beautiful woman and fun to be around. I loved her bubbly personality. A room came alive when she entered it. I will miss her very much. Thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Robin Edwards - February 28, 2020 at 01:08 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lillian Martha Verkerke.



February 28, 2020 at 12:07 PM

SP

“ 5 files added to the album Pics of Lillian



steve petrovich - February 28, 2020 at 11:15 AM



Love the 50 Dammit shirt on her :)

Tom Leeper - February 28, 2020 at 04:08 PM



*She was a really fun gal!! We will miss her!*

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**Steve Petrovich** - February 28, 2020 at 05:36 PM