



Bertha Ann Birgy

November 20, 1946 - January 3, 2014

Bertha 'Bert' Ann Birgy, 67, of South Boardman, MI, passed away peacefully at her home on January 3, 2014, after a fiercely fought courageous battle with Breast Cancer. Bert was born in Centerline, MI on November 20, 1946 to the late Wayne and Joyce (Hanley) Stone. The family moved to Mayfield, MI in 1957 and Bert was a member of the Kingsley High School class of 1964. Bert married the love of her life, Leo Lynn Birgy, on February 1, 1964 and enjoyed 49 years of marriage. He preceded her in death on June 17, 2013. Together they raised two daughters in Utica, MI, moving to South Boardman in 1976. Bert was a home maker and worked for Kalkaska Memorial Health Center from 1985 until 2008. Bert's passions included her family, friends, car cruises in their 1957 Chevy, winter getaways, Birgy family reunions, Women's Bible Studies, attending church, as well as spending time at their cabin in Canada. She especially enjoyed being with her only grandchild Shelby, always dancing, singing, and supporting her activities.

Bert was deeply loved by many because of her caring and compassion for so many family members and dear friends. Bert was a loving, devoted and generous wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend to many. She is survived by her family including daughters: Kaylynn (Duane) Rickenberg of Traverse City, MI and Barbara (Chris) Birgy Arnold of Owensboro, KY; Granddaughter Shelby (David) Moore of Plymouth, MI; Brothers Wayne (Marsha), Gerald (Constance), and Jim Stone; extended Birgy family; and her sweet dog Meeko.

Bert's family would like to thank Dr. Lisa Hughes DO and staff at Munson Oncology, Dr. Douglas Brown, MD and staff at Munson Radiology, Julie Hartl, NP from Munson Palliative Care, along with the staff of Munson Home Health.

A celebration of Bert's life will take place in the Chapel of Kalkaska Funeral Home on Thursday January 9th at 11:00 AM. Visitations will be held on Wednesday, January 8th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM and from 10:00 to 11:00 AM on Thursday prior to the Celebration Service at the Kalkaska Funeral Home, 152 S. Cedar, Kalkaska, MI. Burial will be held in the spring at the Boardman Township Cemetery. A luncheon will follow the celebration at American Legion in Fife Lake. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Cowell Family Cancer Center at Munson Hospital. Envelopes will be provided at the service.

Cemetery

Boardman Township Cemetery

4668 Boardman River Rd SW
South Boardman, MI,

Events

JAN **Visitation** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

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Kalkaska Funeral Home

152 S Cedar St P.O. Box 1457, Kalkaska, MI, US,
49646

JAN **Final Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

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JAN **Service** 11:00AM

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Kalkaska Funeral Home

152 S Cedar St P.O. Box 1457, Kalkaska, MI, US,
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Comments



“ The BIRGY family, Thank you SO much for the unnecessary, but very thoughtful recognition in Bert's obituary. Dr Hughes and I were really in awe of the care that your family gave to Bert! Especially both Duane and Kaylynn, who were truly there everyday for her ups and downs... Tending kindly to every pain and need! I am sorry that I was not there for her final days but really enjoyed getting to know your family, through my visits. It's especially rare to have cared for both husband and wife. Thank you for that opportunity! My last words to her were to "go see Leo". I think he missed her! Please let me know when her burial will be in the spring, I'd be glad to attend and pay respects. Take care of yourselves and know that you have two wonderful angels watching out for all of you! Julie Jhartl@mhc.net

Julie Hartl - January 14, 2014 at 07:07 PM



“ Vicky Prough lit a candle in memory of Bertha Ann Birgy



Vicky Prough - January 12, 2014 at 04:07 PM



“ Bert and I have been cousins for 65 years. When we were kids and our parents got together, she and i were inseperable. We would go to the top the hill across from Grandma Hanley's house and sit there and solve the worlds problems. We would spend the night with each other and do alot of girly talking. i remember her taking a tub bath at our house the day she and Lynn got married. Though we did not stay real close through the years because of families, travelings, etc. i do believe we were bonded in the heart as soul "cousins". She was a very special person in my life and will remember always. Being a Christian, it was wonderful to hear that she and Lynn were both saved and that the family knows Jesus. She will be one who will lay her crown at the feet of Jesus and He will say "well done, good and faithful servant". To Barb,Chris, Kay, Duane, Shelby and Dave, blessings to you all. The wonderful part of knowing and loving someone so special is the memories that you all will have and share with those who also loved her. God grant you peace and hope during this time
Vicki Hanley Wadsworth

Vicki Wadsworth - January 09, 2014 at 02:22 PM



“ I miss you Bert. You were my angel on earth. I take comfort knowing you will be my angel from heaven too. Lisa Peacock

Lisa Peacock - January 09, 2014 at 09:28 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Bertha Ann Birgy.



January 08, 2014 at 08:46 PM



“ Bert was a beloved employee at Kalkaska Memorial. She will always hold a special place in our hearts. Kim Babcock

Kim Babcock - January 08, 2014 at 01:45 PM



“ Sheri M. purchased the Teleflora's Sacred Cross Bouquet for the family of Bertha Ann Birgy.



Sheri M. - January 07, 2014 at 07:37 PM



“ Sorry ahead of time that I ramble...but these are just a few memories.....The first I knew of Bertha was when her husband Leo came over and brought some fancy homemade chocolate candies from his wife. I didn't meet her for a while but thought this man and woman were so wonderful to bring such nice things to us Kleeman Kids :) Confusing it was throughout life to be talking about Leo and Bertha and have someone say "Oh, you mean Lynn and Bert!" Over the years they rescued my family many times. I loved listening to Dad and Leo have coffee at the table and tell stories. When I had kids of my own, I would take them to their house trick or treating and they would always come see them. They would comment on their costumes and be sure to give them bags of candy and usually a pop. They thought that was soooo cool. Bertha was the lady at the hospital that showed my kids the "ropes" to volunteer the first time. I was able to go see Leo in the hospital when he first got sick. I talked his and Bertha's ears off for about 2 hours but I treasure that time. He talked about 4 special years spent with my dad when he stayed sober, Duck Dynasty, and times when we were kids. Bertha was sooo strong that day...Since then, Mom and I stopped to see Bertha one day after going swimming in the Lake. I didn't want to sit on her couch and get it wet. She grabbed me and looked in my eyes and said so kindly "In the grand scheme of things, do you really think I care if you get my couch wet?" Made me feel very loved! Then, I was working hard one day at my desk. I pride myself in always looking up and greeting someone when they walk in the door...a trait taught me by my bosses Vicky and Cindy :) Anyway, she just appeared at my desk with her BIG SMILE and cute ball cap. Made me smile just as BIG. Then my "mom" mode kicked up, I ran around to the other side, and said "Did you come all the way here by yourself?!!" "No, I just wanted to see you and Duane is just down the hall :)" I walked her back after getting my hug. How special, again, did she make me feel. Love the videos Brother Jim has done. Always love seeing the smiles, gatherings, and pictures of Canada. We were always asked to make the venture up there to see it but never made it. Some day, when I go, I will think of them with much LOVE :) She was a true "Angel Among Us!!" And still is :)

Mary (Kleeman/Ricketts) Cunningham - January 07, 2014 at 07:15 AM



“ Bert always had a smile on her face and it not only showed on the outside you knew that she was truly blessed and happy on the inside. I know that she faced hard times but she always took refuge with the Lord. Her body is no longer in pain and her spirit is with Jesus. She definitely left an everlasting impression on me and will forever hold a special place in my heart. God Bless all of her family and may God comfort you in this time of pain.

Chad-Aimee Bissonette - January 06, 2014 at 11:04 AM



“ Thank you so much for being such a wonderful friend Miss Bertha. I am oh so lucky to have been able to share my life with you and to be able to call you my friend. Once in awhile we meet someone who becomes so close to us for reasons unknown. The time we spend with them will always be in our hearts and our memories. This is the friendship that Bert and I have shared. I Thank God for bringing us together. I love you a lot and then more Bert and will continue to think of you hugging your memory every morning at 10:00. Kay, Duane, Barbie, Chris, Shelby and Dave my deepest felt sympathy to all of you. I know we will all hold the memory of dear sweet Bertha close and she will not be forgotten. Both her and Len will always be with us - Though on earth they are no more. In our hearts and memories they will always be with us as they have always been before. Bert is with the Love of her Life in heaven now and they are both just leaving the gate ajar.

Anita Gauld

Anita - January 06, 2014 at 09:17 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Bert's passing., Yes, she was one great woman. God be with the whole family. Jan Garrett

Janice Garrett - January 05, 2014 at 04:21 PM



“ Hey Bert, so glad you are back in your Hubby's arms....right where ya want to be. You are loved and will be missed by so many people. You were such a great witness to so many many people. I love you and will miss you and will continue to pray for your family. Love Polly

polly piltz - January 04, 2014 at 09:14 PM