



Mary Ann Bowman

JUL 15, 1932 - APR 19, 2016



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Mary Ann Bowman

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Mrs. Bowman passed away Tuesday, April 19, 2016. Mary Ann was born July 15, 1932 to Wilbur and Mary Bentley in Muskegon; and she married Ellis (Al) Bowman March 17, 1951. A lifelong area resident, she retired from Johnson Technologies; and had been a volunteer at Mercy Hospital Gift Shop and the Frauenthal Center.

Mary Ann was a loving mother and grandmother and was overjoyed that she was able to hold her newest great-grandbabies Ella and Porter prior to her passing. She had a great sense of humor and generous heart.

Mary Ann enjoyed traveling and surprised her family- and her travelling companion, niece Joan Bowman - with her daring when she went parasailing during her trip to Australia. Traveling to Ireland with her good friend Ruth Treptow and kissing the Blarney Stone provided her with cherished memories; as did other trips with good friends.

Mary Ann was an avid fan of the Detroit Tigers and was happy she was able to somewhat enjoy the start of the 2016 season. She would often doze off during the games but would ask what the score was when she awoke; one time saying "Oh, crap" when she was told the pitcher gave up three runs in one inning. Mary Ann had been a softball manager years ago for the softball team at Johnson Technologies with her young daughter, Sherri, acting as her assistant.

Survivors include her daughters: Brenda Jackson, Norton Shores; Linda (Charles) Cihak, N. Muskegon; Sherri Bowman, Irving, TX; grandchildren: Adam (Amanda) Shepard; Rose Samples; Charles (Amanda) Cihak; MacKenzie (Michael) Richardson; Leslie Cihak; Zachary Jackson; Whitney Cihak; Stephen Rogan; 15 great-grandchildren: Pfc Jonathan Shepard, Karley Briggs, Brendan and Brynne Tober; Ethan, Branden, Jordan, Jaxen and newborn - Ella; Kayla and Cameron Cihak; Avery, Lucas and newborn - Porter Richardson; Bayler Cihak; close friend and sister-in-law Aletha (Chuck) Ellsworth, Houghton Lake; several nieces and nephews; and several dear friends including Vera Broadbent. Preceded in death by her husband (1988); grandson Ryan



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Shepard (1999); son-in-law Joe Jackson (2003), and brothers, Robert and Donald (and his wife Bev) Bentley, Richard Dykstra; and brother-in-law and sister-in-law Gene and Bertha Bowman; and niece-in-law Toni Bentley.

Mary Ann's family extends their heartfelt thanks to Harbor Hospice and especially the staff at Poppen House for providing loving care the last weeks of her life.

A service celebrating her life will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday at the Lee Chapel, 6291 S. Harvey St. (231) 798-1100, with the Rev. Daniel Anderson officiating. Visitation with the family will be 6-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Interment will be in Mona View Cemetery. In lieu of flowers please consider donations to Harbor Hospice Poppen House or Senior Resources.



Events

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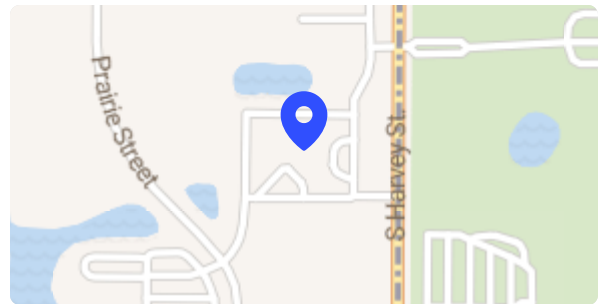
Visitation

 **Friday**, April 22, 2016

 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

 **Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



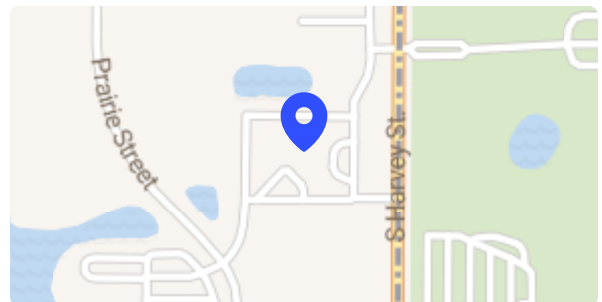
Celebration of Life

 **Saturday**, April 23, 2016

 11:00 AM ET

 **Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

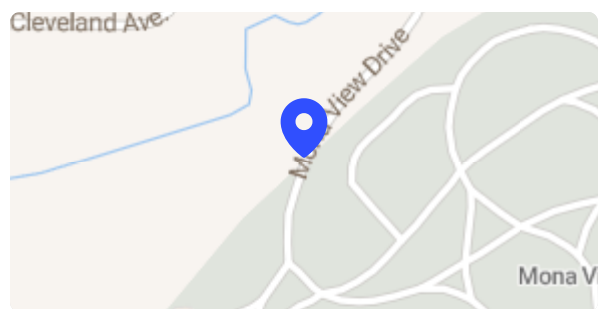
6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



Cemetery Details

 **Mona View Cemetery**

3335 Mona View Drive, Muskegon Heights MI 49444





Tribute Wall

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MH

Marilyn Hes posted:

My Aunt Mary Ann was a character whom I cherish having had the pleasure of knowing! I'll always remember how our Grandpa Carroll Bowman used to tease her about "her black coffee & cigarettes!" And she'd take his ribbing in stride and laugh it off. Her laugh was memorable - with her reddish brown hair and feisty, adventurous spirit she made friends easily. She was an easy person to love! Plus she was a woman ahead of the times...working when it wasn't fashionable for women to work outside the home. She was such a good role model. I recall how she taught my Mom & us girls how to fold those new fangled fitted sheet when they' first became available in the stores. She'd learned on the job & readily shared her new skill. A. Mary Ann (along w/my Mom, Bertha) taught we 4 older Bowman gals (Kathy, Brenda, Linda & me, Marilyn) how to sew. The Moms were 4H leaders so we and a few other gals got the benefit of their experience. It has proven very helpful over the years. I know her 3 daughters are missing her terribly and saying it gets easier is small consolation for this type of loss. It really doesn't - you just learn to live w/o her and cherish & share your memories so her legacy lives on! I love you Brenda, Linda & Sherri. Blessings, your Cuz, Marilyn Bowman Hes

May 10 at 8:07 AM



Bonnie Tardiff posted:

You always had a smile and a chuckle. I love you very much. Bonnie

April 25 at 3:38 AM

GC

Gail Treptow Crane posted:

It's Been So Many Years For The Jim Treptow Family.. I Advised Dad (Jim's) and We All Send Prayers And Condolences..... I Do Remember As A Kid When We Where At Your House... But So Many Years Ago.. Brenda, Please Check With Jannie, She Can Explain Better Than I. It's Been Many Years.... Prayers and God's Blessings.... The James Treptow Family

April 23 at 4:36 PM



Tribute Wall

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JB

Joan Bowman posted:

Aunt Mary Ann was always so kind and good to me, to all of the Bowman cousins. But....There was a side to her that few got to experience. Just take her across an ocean to another continent, and look out. We were at Queenstown, New Zealand enjoying a lovely lunch at a resort on top of a mountain. The floor to ceiling windows provided a breathtaking view. Soon we observed paragliders floating and swirling down the mountain. It took my breath away. A group of athletic young men took a table close to us. We struck up conversation and before I knew what was happening, Aunt Mary Ann handed me her video camera with instructions to capture HER FLIGHT on video or her girls would never believe she'd done it. Off she went on the arm of her handsome tandem flight instructor, without a backward glance. The rest of the story is captured on video. After that, speed boat racing through a river gorge, camel riding in the Australian Outback, fiercely bargaining with merchants in Morocco, or hopping a train in the south of France to go gamble in Monaco seemed pretty tame. She truly had an adventurous spirit. I'm so very grateful for all the many ways she has enriched my life. She is so loved and will be missed deeply. Lots of love, Cousins. Joan

April 23 at 4:58 AM

DB

Deb Bates posted:

Offering our thoughts and prayers for Mary Ann and her family. Veronica (Plouhar) and Gordon Fox enjoyed many years of friendship with her. Gordie recalls Mary Ann's very sincere and frequent laugh!Condolences from the Fox Family

April 22 at 4:22 PM

YF

Your Bsa Family sent a Crystal Cross Bouquet to the Bowman family.



April 20 at 1:13 PM

PE

Pat Egeler posted:

Mary Ann and I would always end up laughing when ever she visited the pharmacy. She was very proud of her children and grandchildren. She will be missed. Pat Egeler -Westshore Pharmacy

April 20 at 7:18 AM



Tribute Wall

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Lori Branch Johnson lit a candle in honor of Mary Ann.

Mrs. Bowman was the sweetest. She was a great neighbor to have. Peace to the family during this time.

April 20 at 7:07 AM



Anonymous sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the Bowman family.

April 19 at 4:12 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary Ann by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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