



Susan A. Bissell

FEB 11, 1947 - APR 21, 2021



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Susan A. Bissell

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Mrs. Susan A. Bissell, age 74, of Grand Haven passed away Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at home, surrounded by her loving family. She was born February 11, 1947 in Wauwatosa, WI to Norman and Betty (Perry) Wismer. On September 17th, 1995 she married William F. Bissell, Sr. on Mackinac Island at the Little Stone Church.

Susan's joy for life resonates through her treasured family and friendships, her experiences, and her commitment to the communities in which she lived. She was an educator and devoted her life's work to strengthening and creating vibrant communities for the benefit of all. She enjoyed serving the arts, hiking through Europe with her girlfriends and book clubs. She was an avid reader, enjoying many different literatures. She was a dancer and performed with the Grand Rapids Civic Ballet. Among her honors, she was nominated by her classmates (class of '65) for distinguished alumni recognition for the Big Rapids High School Alumni Association.

Susan was recognized for her achievements and dedicated service in her professional life and was the recipient of awards from the Michigan Department of Education for her leadership and contributions in community education, literacy programs and supporting the disability community. Susan served in many organizations over the years including Muskegon Service League, One Hundred Women Who Care and Camp Bluebird Cancer Retreats. She served terms as President of both the Grand Rapids Ballet and the West Shore Symphony.

She is survived by her husband, William; daughter, Alison (Matthew) Woodward; stepchildren: William (Norine) Bissell, Jr., Tamsen (Scott Corbat) Bissell and Loraine (John) Black; grandchildren: Tessa, Maxwell, Griffin and Harper Corbat; Juliet, Bree and Catherine Black; Benjamin, Sam and Emerson Bissell; Kristy (Stace) Hall; Kaylynn (Ray) Peters; Nicole and Nadine Afton; great-grandchildren, Hannah and Pryce Hall; brothers, Norman and Robert Wismer; cherished in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, and countless friends. She will be deeply missed.



Obituary

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A visitation will take place 12-2 PM, Saturday May 8th at The VanZantwick Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 620 Washington Ave, Grand Haven, MI 49417. A private family service and interment will take place in Lake Forest Cemetery. Donations in her name can be made to the Susan A. Bissell Memorial Fund for the Arts at the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, 1 S. Harbor Ave., Grand Haven, MI 49417 or online at www.ghacf.org. Please sign the family's online guestbook at www.sytsemafh.com.



Events

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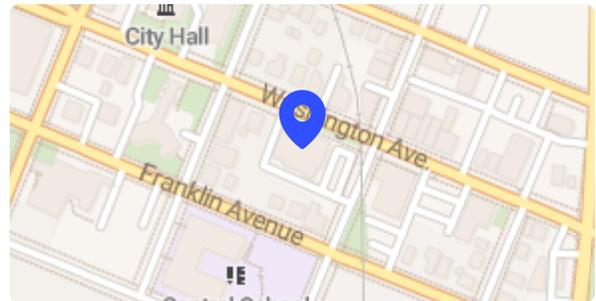
Visitation

 **Saturday**, May 8, 2021

 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET

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

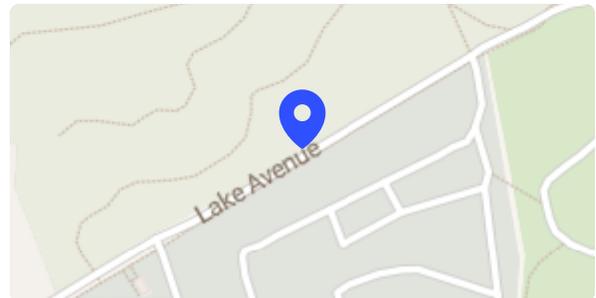
620 Washington, Grand Haven MI 49417



Cemetery Details

 **Lake Forest Cemetery**

1304 Lake Ave., Grand Haven MI 49417





Tribute Wall

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Carrie Chobanian posted:

Al and Matt, We're so sorry for your heartbreak. I have many memories of Susie but above all I remember her as a deeply devoted mother who was so proud of you. She was always elegant in her appearance and in her tolerance of our youthful, ridiculous antics. She was the first person I ever knew who made vegan nut loaf, a caring adult who talked to me about goals, and always welcomed me in her home. I'm grateful for knowing her. We're sending our prayers to all of you. Love, Carrie Chobanian and David Blanchard

May 7 at 12:48 PM



Julie posted:

Suzy has been a friend & "in law" of my family since Bob & my sister Mary got together 45 years ago. I have always admired Suzy's warm personality. Even though it could be some time between visits, Suzy was always interested in everything going on in my life. She was so gifted in ballet! That grace spilled over into her character. My heart is heavy for all of you. Julie Janicki Forbes

May 6 at 6:13 AM



Anonymous sent a Sweet Tenderness to the Bissell family.



May 3 at 1:02 PM



Dian Wismer posted:

For 35 years, Susan has been a dear friend, confidant and the most positive person I know. It was always a special time to visit her and Bill, and have them visit us. I am amazed at all her accomplishments. She made me so proud to call her my sister-in-law and dear friend. She raised a beautiful daughter, Alison, who is beautiful inside and out. Bill and Susan were a special couple and did so much good in the community. So proud to be a member of the family, and send my love and prayers to Alison and Bill. I'm with you both always. Love always, Dian Wismer

April 30 at 2:59 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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