



Phyllis J. Dolphin

APR 19, 1936 - DEC 11, 2025



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6



Phyllis J. Dolphin

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Phyllis J. Dolphin, age 89, passed away Wednesday, December 11, 2025 surrounded by her family. She was born on April 19, 1936 in Allegan, MI to Phillip and Velva (Bear) Daniels. Phyllis lived a life marked by quiet strength, deep faith, and unwavering devotion to the people she loved.

A true Proverbs 31 woman, Phyllis led with a servant's heart in every season of her life-whether caring for her family, supporting her church, offering kindness to friends, or faithfully showing up in her work. She was known for her humility, compassion, and her remarkable ability to see the good in others. Her steady presence and gentle spirit touched countless lives.

Phyllis was a devoted member of the Grand Haven Church of the Nazarene, generously sharing her gifts in many ministries. She served on the church board, teaching Vacation Bible School and Sunday School, and assisted with the funeral service team-always with grace, warmth, and a quiet willingness to help wherever needed. Outside the church she blessed the Grand Haven Public Schools community through her many years in the food service program. She had so much love to give, she and her husband became foster parents and she showered those under her care with the same love and devotion as her own family.

She found joy in the simple beauty of God's creation, tending her garden and flower beds, with care that made them flourish-known for all their beauty and for being impeccably free of weeds.

On September 16, 1961, she married James Dolphin, and together they shared 41 years of marriage until his passing on December 31, 2002.

SURVIVORS include two daughters, Sherry (John) Simpson of Dexter, MI and Char (Carlos) Seise of Grand Haven, MI; six grandchildren, Emmanuel Ocasio Reyes, Carlos Ocasio Reyes and Greysa Cabezudo, Tanner (Samantha) Jacobs, Sawyer (Natalie) Jacobs and Alexis (Shawn) Wagner; three great grandchildren, Keira Wagner, Julian Jacobs, and Yarieliz Rodriguez; sisters, Kathie (Darrell) Hull and Jackie Hassevoort; sisters-in-law, Billie Daniels and Agnes Daniels; and



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brother-in-law, Russell Rinckey. Phyllis was also preceded in death by her daughter, Monique Dolphin; sisters, Donna Rinckey, and Pat Daniels, and brothers, James Daniels and David Daniels

SERVICES for Phyllis will be celebrated 3 PM Friday, December 26, 2025 at The VanZantwick Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 620 Washington Ave. Grand Haven, MI 49417 (616) 842-6100. VISITATION with the family will be two hours prior to the service, from 1-3 PM. Burial will take place at Lakeshore Cemetery.

You are invited to join the family following the services in The VanZantwick Chapel Family Center for some of Phyllis' favorite dinner items.

Memorial Contributions in Phyllis' name to Grand Haven Church of the Nazarene or Love in Action Homeless Youth Program will be appreciated.

Share memories with the family online at <https://www.sytsemafh.com>.

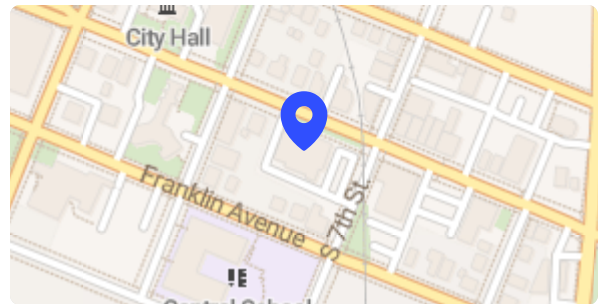


Events

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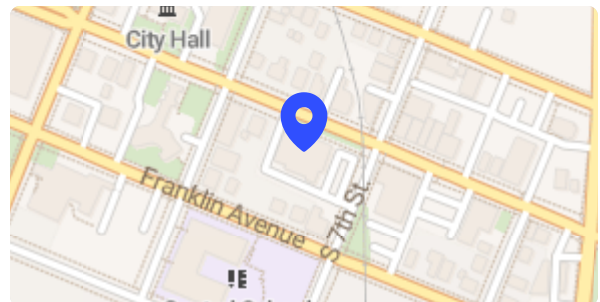
Visitation

- Friday**, December 26, 2025
- 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET
- Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The VanZantwick Chapel**
620 Washington, Grand Haven MI 49417



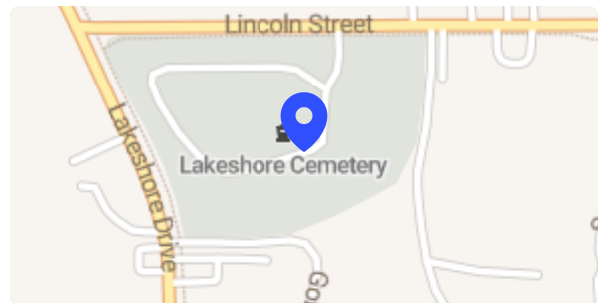
Celebration of Life

- Friday**, December 26, 2025
- 3:00 PM ET
- Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The VanZantwick Chapel**
620 Washington, Grand Haven MI 49417



Cemetery Details

- Lakeshore Cemetery - Grand Haven Township**
17200 Lincoln St., Grand Haven MI 49417





Tribute Wall

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Diana Arens posted:

Phyllis is unforgettable, her memories are treasured with in our hearts. She will always be our precious and unique friend we cared for so dearly. It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone. A part of us went with you, the day God took you home. In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still, in our hearts you hold a place no one could ever fill. Phyllis once gave me an angel I hung in my Sunroom window and often I would look at it and feel her LOVE! Now when I look at it, I know she is an Angel in Heaven. Lots of LOVE Always Phyllis, we'll see you in Heaven some day! Joe & Diana Arens

December 20 at 11:01 PM



Robin Sharp posted:

Phyllis was a wonderful friend to my mother when my father untimely died at a young age. I was a member of the Church of the Nazarene & both she & Jim were true pillars of faith. I can truly say that the faith walk I have today was encouraged by watching them & others in that wonderful church. Even though this is a sad time for you it should give you peace knowing that she is in the presence of the God she so faithfully served. I know she heard him say to her "Well done my good & Faithful servant" Prayers lifted for you all. Robin Guthrie Sharp Charlotte, North Carolina

December 20 at 5:59 PM



Anonymous sent a Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet to the Dolphin family.



December 18 at 12:27 PM



Chelsea Hospital Administration planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Phyllis.



December 18 at 12:27 PM



Ronald Heiler posted:

Phyllis made me feel at home. Treated me and my family like she had known us all her life. She made time to visit people and made time to come see our daughter play basketball. Rest in peace my dear friend. I'll see you on the other side.

December 17 at 12:08 PM



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Kathleen Whipple posted:

Phyllis was my childhood babysitter and she lived with my family for a short while until she got her own apartment in Grand Haven and met Jim. Later she became my sister-in-law . I will always remember and love her.

December 16 at 11:01 AM

SS

Sandy Steggerda lit a candle in honor of Phyllis.

My dear Aunt Phyllis, I can't give just one memory. there are to many to count. You have been a blessing to us all, rest in peace now with the Lord and the family.



December 16 at 10:57 AM

LF

Lisa Franklin posted:

I had the pleasure of selling Phyllis's house and helping her buy one on Orchard. I have never seen such an independent and hard-working woman. Such a proud woman she was. She is sitting at the table with the King this Christmas, and so happy for her. You have earned your eternal reward Phyllis. ❤️ May you rest in peace.Lisa Franklin

December 16 at 12:09 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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