



## Delores I. Walker

September 20, 1925 - April 21, 2014

Delores Irene (Verhougstraete) Walker, born September 20, 1925, passed into the arms of her Savior on April 21, 2014, following a long illness. Despite her deteriorating health in recent years, Delores was always the spark at the center of her family's life, joining in travels and celebrations until the last few weeks of her life.

A lifelong resident of the Lansing area, she was a graduate of J.W. Sexton High School and established a career as a microbiology/bacteriology technician with the Michigan Department of Public Health. Soon after the end of WWII, she married Joseph F. Walker, of Olivet, Michigan, on April 27, 1946. The couple had two daughters: Constance I. Lawson (Walker) and Christine A. Walker, both of Grand Ledge, Michigan. She is survived by her daughters and five grandchildren – Marnie (Jason) Swartzendruber, Trena (Brian) Nees, Brian (Patrice) Phelps, Glen (Beth) Phelps, and Trent (Renee) Lawson) – eight great grandchildren, three step great grandchildren, one-great great grandchild and five step great great grandchildren. She was dearly loved by her many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph, who died in 2006, a brother Kenneth Verhougstraete, sister-in-law Viola Verhougstraete; and brother Richard Verhougstraete.

She inspired her family with her creativity, practicality, humor, intelligence, style and wisdom. She was a devoted Catholic with a special devotion to the Madonna. She prayed the rosary daily.

Her grandchildren were her greatest joy and she was proud to say that she had provided daycare for nearly all of her grandchildren over the years. She is most loved for classics such as Pat-A-Cake, I Love You a Bushel and a Peck, and Itsy Bitsy Spider.

She will be remembered for her generosity to others and her devotion to those she loved.

Memorial services will be held at the Holihan-Atkin Funeral Home, 406 North Bridge Street, Grand Ledge, Mich. Visitation for family and friends will be from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. with a wake service at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 25. A funeral mass will be celebrated at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 325 Edwards, Street, Grand Ledge, Mich., at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 26. Pallbearers are Nicholas Draper, Trent Lawson, Brian Nees, Brian Phelps, Bruce Lawson and Jason Swartzendruber. Honorary pallbearers Lucas Nees, Elijah Nees, Alec Phelps and Bryce Phelps.

In lieu of flowers charitable contributions may be donated to St. Vincent Catholic Charities, 2800 West, Willow Street, Lansing, MI 48917.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 25. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
406 N. Bridge Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837  
(517) 627-2531  
jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com  
<https://www.holihanatkin.com>

## Visitation

APR 25. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
406 N. Bridge Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837  
(517) 627-2531  
jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com  
<https://www.holihanatkin.com>

## Service

APR 25. 7:00 PM (ET)

Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
406 N. Bridge Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837  
(517) 627-2531  
jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com  
<https://www.holihanatkin.com>

## Service

---

APR **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Saint Michael Catholic Church  
345 Edwards Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

# Tribute Wall



“ *Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Delores I. Walker* ”



---

**Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home** - April 25, 2014 at 04:52 PM

MA

“ My grandmother was devoted to her grandchildren and I will miss her. She would often sing this song to us. ~ Marnie

*"You Are My Sunshine"*

*You are my sunshine, my only sunshine  
You make me happy when skies are grey  
You never know, dear, how much I love you  
Please don't take my sunshine away*

*The other night, dear, as I lay sleeping  
I dreamt I held you in my arms  
When I awoke, dear, I was mistaken  
So I hung my head, and I cried*

*You are my sunshine, my only sunshine  
You make me happy when skies are grey  
You never know, dear, how much I love you  
Please don't take my sunshine away*

*I'll always love you and make you happy  
If you will only say the same  
But if you leave me to love another,  
You'll regret it all one day*

*You are my sunshine, my only sunshine  
You make me happy when skies are grey  
You never know, dear, how much I love you  
Please don't take my sunshine away*

*Please don't take my sunshine away*

---

Marnie - April 25, 2014 at 10:17 AM

KB

“ *Connie and family,  
My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May the many happy memories of times shared with your mother serve as a source of comfort during this difficult time. In sympathy, Kris Bradley*

---

**Kris Bradley** - April 24, 2014 at 11:28 AM

LS

“ *My Aunt Delores was such a blessing in my life! When I questioned the absence of love from my mother and father, she was always there reassuring me I was indeed loveable. I am proud to say others have told me I resemble her. I only hope I can be as strong, kind, and loving as she was. She taught me so many lessons....to forgive and pray for those who hurt us, and to ask for spiritual guidance to look past the pain and see the love. Though I will miss her wisdom and bright smile, I know she is at peace.*

---

**Lou Ann Shaw** - April 24, 2014 at 08:39 AM