



Jean M. La Rosa

August 21, 1930 - February 3, 2021

Jean La Rosa, 90, of Eagle, passed away peacefully on February 3, 2021.

Jean was born in 1930 in Detroit, MI, where she grew up. She earned her Bachelor's degree from University of Detroit Mercy and continued on to earn a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Michigan. She married Joseph, her husband of thirty years, in 1967. They relocated to Lansing and later to Eagle where she lived for almost fifty years.

Jean was a devoted mother. After raising her three children, Jean resumed her career in social work, working in many aspects of the social services field, including senior care and child services. She was an active community member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Grand Ledge, and spent many years volunteering as a docent at the Michigan History Museum.

Jean had an active life and loved to travel, visiting China, Russia, Guatemala, Australia, going on expeditions to see polar bears, and touring the United States. She was an avid gardener and earned a certificate as a Master Organic Gardener. Her home overflowed with the products of her organic garden, the homemade jams and tomato sauces, and beautiful plants and flowers she cultivated inside and outside her house. She also loved animals and enjoyed the companionship of her cat, Gilbert, and her golden retriever, Miley.

Jean lived a long and healthy life and was able to spend her final months together with her children and grandson. She was compassionate, resilient and always present for her family and friends. She was the daughter of Harry and Martha (Werner) Dunstan. She is survived by her children, Mark (Laura), Melanie (Johanna), and Nicole; her grandson, Emerson; her sister, Joan; her brother, Robert; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband Joseph, and her sisters Margaret and Dona.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Saturday, February 13, 2021, 11:00 am at St. Michael Catholic Church, Grand Ledge by Father James Eisele. You may watch the funeral mass for Jean at 11:00 am Saturday on the St. Michael Church YouTube channel at this link: <https://youtu.be/scMHE6xXdzw>. Rite of Committal will follow at Oakwood Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday from 2-4:00pm and 6-8:00pm with a Scripture Service at 7:30pm at the Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge. Covid 19 protocols requiring masks at the visitations and the mass along with social distancing will be observed. Memorial contributions in Jean's name may be given to the Maryknoll Sisters, P.O. Box 317, Maryknoll, New York 10545 (https://secure2.convio.net/mks/site/Donation2?1400.donation=form1&df_id=1400&_ga=2.220388240.961516185.1612797167-1863408831.1612797167&s_subsrc=21ZOZZ) or the World Wildlife Fund, 1250 Twenty-Fourth Street, N.W., P.O. Box 97180, Washington D.C. 20090-7180 (https://support.worldwildlife.org/site/SPageServer?pagename=main_monthly&s_src=AWE2104OQ18299A01180RX&_ga=2.11930740.132491410.1612795336-398853940.1612795336)

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

299 Halbert Street
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 12. 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

FEB 12. 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>

Scripture Service

FEB **12**. 7:30 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>

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB **13**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ I am so sad to hear that Jean passed away. She was one of my favorite cousins from years ago when we spent Thanksgivings in Detroit and Jean and her family spent Easter with us in Toledo. We also met up at Grandma's in Fowler. Love and prayers to all her loved ones.

Cousin, Suzanne (Szykowny) Crippen

Suzanne Crippen - March 02, 2021 at 07:13 PM



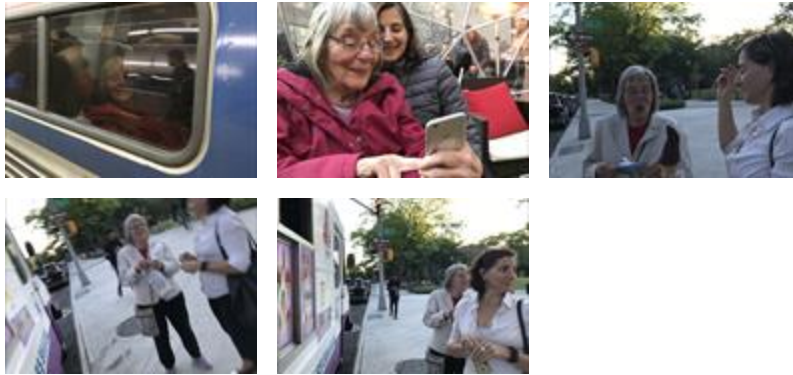
“ I volunteered with Jean at Michigan Museum. I enjoyed listening to her stories as well her interaction with the school kids. She always had warm smile whenever I seen her. She will be greatly missed. Air hugs and prayers for all friends and family.



Rod Scott - February 16, 2021 at 01:54 PM

JC

“ One thing that stood out with Jean to me was her love of traveling. From hearing stories of the places she’s visited in far away lands, and visiting us in New York. Always up for an adventure. One time she even made a trip just to see our beloved Sister Helen who visited from Guatemala. And if there is anything she won’t say no to, it’s ice cream! Here’s to endless amounts of ice cream your heart desires, and traveling to places you’ve never even dreamed of. Thank you for all the memories. Godspeed.



Johanna Campos - February 14, 2021 at 09:09 AM

RW

“ I will always remember going to Aunt Jean and Uncle Joes house for Christmas. One year she bought me the book *Black Beauty*. I am sure she chose that because she knew how much i loved horses. I still have this book!!!! Aunt Jean was my Godmother. She was a great person. My niece, *Ticole* remembers visiting her for a family get together. Much love from Robin and *Ticole*

Robin Wilson - February 13, 2021 at 12:08 PM

PW

“ Aunt Jean is one of the nicest people I've known. I am so glad I was able to get to know her within the last few years. She loved the Dairy Ice Cream at MSU and it was so nice eating with her at various restaurants throughout her community. I loved how Aunt Jean loved to read and I loved talking to her about different books, we went to a book store in her community and had a really nice time. Aunt Jean always maintained a positive attitude even, when she wasn't feeling well. She was so strong. She seemed to adapt to whatever change was brought to her and made it a part of her journey. She never talked about these things. She was selfless in all her ways. She was an MSW social worker, mother, wife, career woman and she did all of this, putting everything in place the way it was supposed to be. She never talked " I want" " i need". She appeared to live her life to the fullest. I think about Aunt Jean sometimes, in my interactions with others and remember the way that she carried herself. The calm, matter of fact, and sensibility that she carried. And, I've learned from her and am able to practice the things she taught me by watching her and learning.

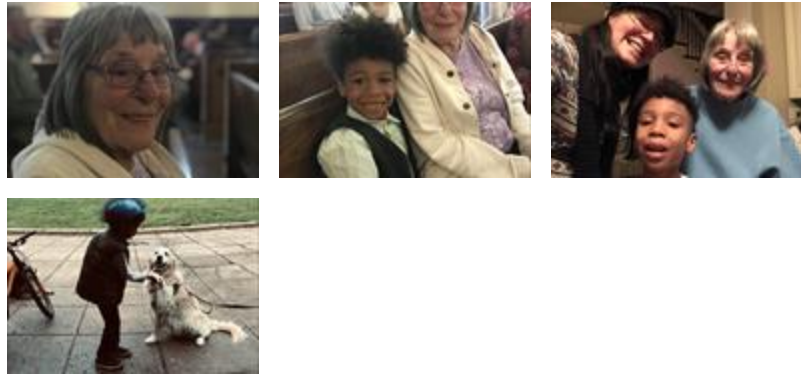
Love you Aunt Jean,

Polly

Polly Wilson - February 13, 2021 at 11:50 AM

KI

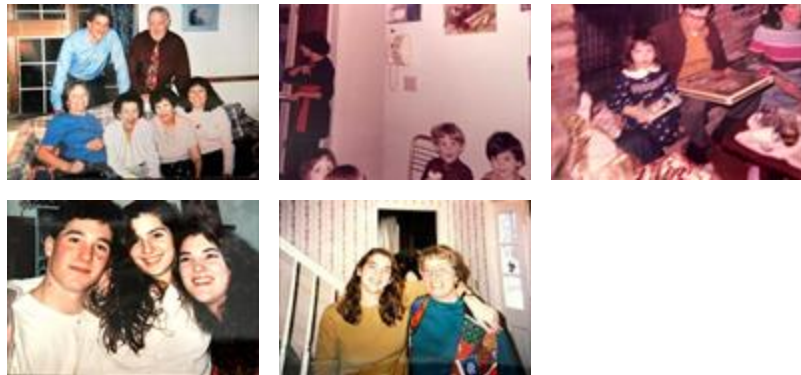
“ We have been thankful and grateful to have Mrs. LaRosa and Miley in our community on and off for the past two years here in DC. It was nice running into her on the street or chatting on the porch when we didn't plan visits. We will miss the greetings, the smiles and the good cheer Mrs. LaRosa always brought with her! Big hugs Nicole and all family members! You are in our thoughts! We will be praying with you tomorrow and Saturday! Kim, Massama and Dominic



kim - February 11, 2021 at 10:00 PM



“ 10 files added to the album Jean



Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home - February 11, 2021 at 09:07 PM

LG

“ Aunt Jean was a lovely person. I first met her when she and uncle bud (Joe) were dating. They had a great wedding and she was a happy bride. I always thought that their relationship was kind and they were gentle with each other.

I enjoyed talking with her about gardening, the kids, dogs, and cooking. Later in life, it became more about how different members of the family were. But we enjoyed it when she was able to join us for holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas and she often came to the lake for the day.

Aunt Jean was a sweetie and we will miss her. We are sorry for the loss and sadness that Nikki, Mel and Johanna, Mark, Laura and Emerson will experience but hope the happy memories will also bring joy.

Love and hugs,
Lin & Fred

Linda Gruber - February 11, 2021 at 04:47 PM

ML

“ I knew Jean when I worked at the Michigan History Museum. She was so cheerful and friendly; seeing her in the galleries always brightened my day. She was cooperative and helpful with everyone.

Maria Quinlan Leiby - February 11, 2021 at 01:49 PM

NL

“ 30 files added to the album Memories Album



Nicole LaRosa - February 11, 2021 at 08:39 AM

NL

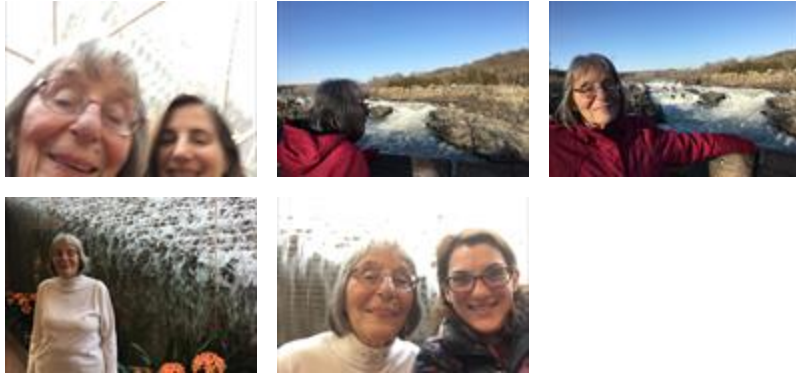
“ 24 files added to the album Memories Album



Nicole LaRosa - February 11, 2021 at 08:39 AM

NL

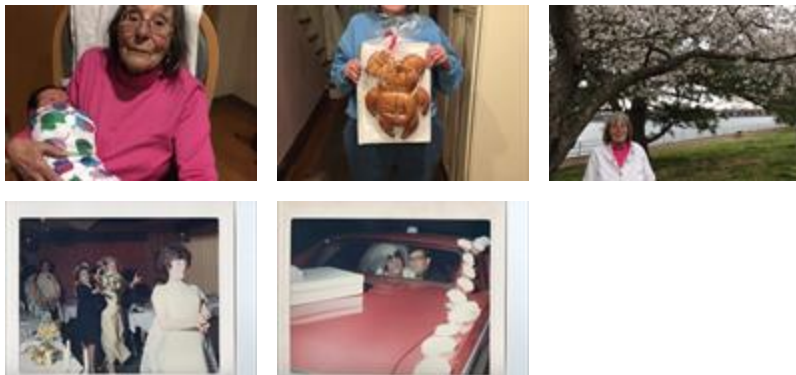
“ 10 files added to the album Memories Album



Nicole LaRosa - February 11, 2021 at 08:36 AM

NL

“ 19 files added to the album Memories Album



Nicole LaRosa - February 11, 2021 at 08:33 AM

NL

“ 29 files added to the album Memories Album



Nicole LaRosa - February 11, 2021 at 08:29 AM

AW

“ Aunt Jean will be missed. She was kind-hearted and always interested in updates about your life. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Sending love and peace to you.

Angela & Jim

Angela Michaels Warr - February 10, 2021 at 03:00 PM

LR

“ Jean was such a vivacious, fun loving and intelligent woman. She loved travelling across country to visit her children and was always game for trying something new—seeing a new movie, trying a new restaurant, visiting a different museum or botanical garden. Jean was also so very kind and supportive. She truly cherished all of her family, her friends (including canine and feline friends), and her faith. I never once heard Jean say a harsh word about anyone she knew. She always focused on the positive about any person or situation.

I will especially miss our summertime trips to see Jean. No matter what time of night we arrived, she would have a hot homemade dinner like stuffed rigatoni ready for us. Our stays usually involved gardening, drives to Lake Michigan, Tigers baseball games, and getting ice cream at the MSU Dairy Store. I will miss chatting with Jean on the phone about her garden, the state of political affairs, and more recently, about Emerson. I'm grateful Jean got to spend so much time with her grandson in the past year. Mark and I will have so many good stories to tell him about his grandma.

I was fortunate to have Jean as my mother-in-law. And I know she touched so many people in her long life. She leaves all of us with a legacy of great memories to always enjoy.

Laura

Laura La Rosa - February 10, 2021 at 11:41 AM

TM

“ Aunt Jean was someone who always had a smile for everyone. A calm a caring person with much wisdom and stability. Her love of animals was only one of the many ways she showed her kindness. We send our love and sympathy to entire family in this difficult time. God Bless with love

Terry and Christine Mascaro

Terry Mascaro - February 09, 2021 at 09:49 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Jean M. La Rosa.



February 08, 2021 at 08:51 PM

ME

“ We had a wonderful (if small) 90th birthday party last August, and she was thrilled with all the cards and well wishes.



Melanie - February 08, 2021 at 06:38 PM