



## Patricia Jean McKenna

August 23, 1952 - April 18, 2022

Patricia “Patty” Jean McKenna, age 69, loving mother of five, passed away in the early hours of April 18, 2022 after a rapid battle with Myasthenia Gravis. Patty was born in Iron River, Michigan on August 23, 1952. She was a graduate of the class of 1970 from West Iron County High School. She moved to the lower peninsula of Michigan to attend Michigan State University. She graduated in 1974 with a math degree in secondary education and a minor in music.

Patty was mother to: Joel, Kevin, Marc, Elise, and Jonathan. If you were to ask her she would say her greatest calling in life was to be a mother. When her children had all reached elementary age she began working outside of the home. She worked at several different schools and community colleges teaching math, including Davenport College and Lansing Community College. She loved helping people understand math, especially those that had a harder time grasping the concepts. She began working for Lutheran Social Services in 2001 for 7 years and had been working for Lutheran Adoption Services, now under Samaritas management for the past 14 years.

Patty was a loyal, faithful, supportive member of Mount Hope Church for over 30 years. Apart from weekly services she would love attending seminars, classes, life groups and special events the church held. Over the years she was a part of many different ministries including the healing team and

accounting team. She was especially excited about the new focus of the church where the older generation of members was going to be imparting to the younger generation of members; little did she know she had already been doing this ministry in her own life for over 40 years.

Patty is survived by her 5 children: Joel, Kevin, Marc, Elise (Daniel), Jonathan, grandchildren Onalee and Oscar, sister Donna (Don), and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father Walter, mother Lillian, sister Sally, brother Ralph, nephew Darin, and great nephew Trevor.

Patty will be missed immensely by all those who knew her heart. As stated by a friend of hers, she was a truly brilliant and godly woman.

We will celebrate the life of Patty on Monday April 25th at Mount Hope Church in Lansing, Michigan 48917. Visitation will be 11am-12pm. Service will begin at noon with lunch to follow. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Mount Hope Church, 2020 S. Creyts Road, Lansing, Michigan 48917 (<https://mhc.churchcenter.com/giving/>), in her honor. Arrangements by the Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge. Share your memories and condolences online at [www.holihanatkin.com](http://www.holihanatkin.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **25**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Mount Hope Church  
202 S. Creyts Road  
Lansing, MI 48917

## Celebration of Life

APR **25**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Mount Hope Church  
202 S. Creyts Road  
Lansing, MI 48917

# Tribute Wall



“ *Patty was a dedicated employee at Lutheran Adoption Service where we worked together for many years. We shared the love of our work, family and faith. She will be greatly missed by the LAS staff and especially her Lansing staff. May God bless her and welcome her into His kingdom. My prayers and comfort to her family whom she loved so dearly. Rest in peace, my friend.*

*Lois Falsette*

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**Lois Falsette** - April 25, 2022 at 08:15 AM

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“*Patricia McKenna, a member of Mount Hope Church since the days of Pastor Dave, and the strong, stoic mother of five children, died last Monday morning at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. She was 69.*

*The causes were myasthenia gravis and pneumonia, according to her doctors at Sparrow Hospital.*

*Patricia was a Yooper: she was born in Iron River, a small city in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. She was Finnish, so she enjoyed the sauna, but as a Yooper, she enjoyed pasties, which are delicious meals, typically made of pastry dough, beef, potatoes, and onion. Some pasties are small enough that they can be held and eaten from one's hand, while larger pasties are more suited to a plate, and eaten with a fork and knife.*

*After enjoying saunas and pasties in the Upper Peninsula, Patricia moved to the Lower Peninsula to attend Michigan State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in math. Later, at Davenport University and Lansing Community College, as a tutor sometimes and a teacher at other times, Patricia taught students how algebra works in math.*

*Aside from teaching college students about algebra, and praying for her fellow parishioners at Mount Hope, Patricia gave birth to five children: Joel, Kevin, Marc, Elise, and Jonathan. Patricia loved God, and she loved serving the church, and she loved pastors Dave and Kevin, but she especially loved her children. Patricia jumped with Joel atop a bed, singing about monkeys jumping on the bed; she gave a plastic weed trimmer toy to Kevin, which he held while walking around the yard saying, “weed whacker”; she called 911 when four-year-old Marc lit a match in his bedroom, causing a fire; she ensured that Elise, her only daughter, had a girls-only bedroom while the children were growing up; and she taught Jon how to keep his bedroom clean.*

*Patricia will be missed on Earth, but she is enjoying Heaven.*

**Marc McKenna** - April 22, 2022 at 11:31 AM

CY

*Patty was such a wonderful friend for so many years, beginning in East Lansing where our kids grew up together. She and I went to Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids several times, that we enjoyed so much! We enjoyed so many things together, and I will so miss her, as she was a wonderful Christian friend! Love and comfort to her children, and to her whole family!*

**Carolyn Yunker** - April 23, 2022 at 11:35 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Patricia Jean McKenna.*



April 22, 2022 at 10:13 AM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Patricia Jean McKenna.*



April 21, 2022 at 09:16 PM



“ *My heart is going out to Patty’s entire family! We were school classmates our entire life from kindergarten through high school, classmates and friends. Patty was such a kind and compassionate soul from her youngest years. I have so many fond memories of our friendship though the years, including our time together at 4-H club, band practice, or just playing with our friend group on the grounds of Lincoln School. We reconnected on Facebook and it was so wonderful to get reacquainted. May she Rest In Peace and may you find comfort in your beautiful memories.*

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**Kay Paiter** - April 21, 2022 at 04:38 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Patricia Jean McKenna.*



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April 21, 2022 at 10:41 AM