



## Annette L. Watson

June 1, 1940 - August 21, 2020

### Annette Louise Watson

Annette Louise (née Bibbins) Watson, 80, passed away peacefully at her home Friday, August 21, 2020 with her daughters at her side following a brief battle with cancer. Born and raised in Jackson, Michigan, she graduated from Jackson High School. She met her husband, Jim, in East Lansing, Michigan, and after marrying, they settled in Huntington Woods, Michigan, where they raised their three daughters. Annette was also a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak all these years.

Annette earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Wayne State University, where she was a member of the David Mackenzie Honor Society. She was also inducted into the Lambda Chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau National Honor Society of Nursing. She enjoyed a long and successful nursing career at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, where she specialized in the care of cardiovascular, surgical, and transplant patients, and ultimately was a nurse manager for many years until she retired from nursing in 2005. Indeed, her unit did pioneering work in the newly emerging animal tissue to human transplant technology.

Annette was fully immersed in the lives and activities of her four grandchildren, her nieces, nephews, and grandnieces and nephews, attending

their many athletic events, school activities and performances. She treasured their family gatherings at the Lake Huron cottage in Harrisville, Michigan, where she enjoyed water sports, kayaking and tubing, as well outdoor hikes and walks. She loved nature, birds and animals, as well as being outdoors, and she enjoyed spending her winters in Florida, where she maintained an active calendar and social life of dancing, bowling, playing cards, bike riding and swimming, right up to the end.

Annette was a beautiful person, loved by all who knew her, as she radiated sunshine, warmth and love to all she encountered. No matter the problems she was dealing with, she always made room in her life for anyone who needed someone to lean on for comfort. She was the consummate empath, helping anyone in need, at any time. She was a rock and her infectious smile warmed any room she was in. She always put others ahead of herself, was a reliable friend, and showered her family and friends with love. She always ended a phone call with "I love you".

She was predeceased by her parents, Frances and Jack Bibbins (Jackson, MI), her husband, James R. Watson, Jr., her niece, Lynndy Frankila, and her grandniece, Elizabeth Grace Watson.

Annette is immediately survived by her loving daughters, Ms. Michelle Fales (Royal Oak, MI), Ms. Kelly Watson (Steve Freeman) (Hazel Park, MI), and Ms. Kristin Sacco (Troy, MI), her cherished grandchildren, Miss Megan Sacco, Miss Haley Sacco, Mr. Nicholas Sacco and Mr. Benjamin Sacco (all of Troy, MI); her siblings, brother Ron Bibbins (Becky) (Jackson, MI), her sister, Charlene Roberts (Jim) (Jackson, MI); her nieces and nephews, Ashley Roberts (Florida), Morggan Duffiney (Darren) (Howell, MI), Andy Roberts (Maggie) (Kalamazoo, MI), Kara Perkins (Lance), Gerald Watson (Sharron), Glenn M. Watson (Martha) (Pittsburgh, PA), Lori Kloc (Robert) (Freeland, MI), Jill Zwiernikowski (Rick) (Hastings, MI); and her grandnieces and nephews,

Bryson and Nathan Roberts (Kalamazoo), Amy VanderWal (Will) (Holland, MI), Zachary Zwiernikowski (Alena) (Kentwood, MI), Mitchell Kloc, Rachel Kloc, and Spencer Kloc (Freeland, MI); and her great grandnephew Carter VanderWal (Holland, MI); and by her loving companion, Mr. John Murphy, of Jensen Beach, Florida.

A visitation will be held Wednesday, August 26, at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W Eleven Mile Road, Royal Oak, MI 48067, from 3-7:00 pm, followed by a service there at 7:00 pm Wednesday. \*\*Due to COVID-19 guidelines, please be advised that the funeral home is limited to 10 people in the visitation/service room at any given time. Also, masks are required to enter the building. The funeral will be webcast and the livestream will begin a few minutes prior to the funeral (<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/obituaries/Annette-Watson-2/#!/PhotosVideos>).

Memorial donations in Annette's name may be made to the American Cancer Society ([www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) <<http://www.cancer.org>>) and the Gleaners Community Food Bank ([www.gcfb.org](http://www.gcfb.org) <<http://www.gcfb.org>>).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Gathering

AUG **26**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Memorial Service

AUG **26**. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Annette L. Watson*



**Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors** - August 26, 2020 at 05:11 PM

SM

“ *Dear Watson Family and John – Profound sadness does not begin to describe our feelings at learning Annette has passed. The joy and energy she brought to our family will always be a treasured memory. The sharing of her gentle heart with John is a tribute to both their lives. She was a beautiful lady both inside and out. “Ar dheis De go raibh a anam.” – May her soul be on God’s right hand.*

*Susan and Dennis Murphy*  
*Palm City, FL*



**Susan and Dennis Murphy** - August 31, 2020 at 11:37 AM

SM

“ *Susan And Dennis Murphy lit a candle in memory of Annette L. Watson*



**Susan and Dennis Murphy** - August 31, 2020 at 11:18 AM

DB

“ Annette and I were part of a team from the hospital that went to the Philippines to recruit RNs. She was a very enthusiastic person and did a great job in recruiting RNs. After doing 8 hours a day of interviews, she always knew so much about the person, their families. She was so happy that at one of the hotels we stayed at, they had 3 swimming pools.

*She was a great colleague and friend, and will be missed.*

---

David Baillod - August 31, 2020 at 09:05 AM

CF

“ I was just finishing my last birthday dinner of the weekend with my daughters and opened up Facebook. The first thing I saw was my dear friend's picture with the words "Annette Watson Obituary". I can't describe how I felt seeing her smiling face and knowing she passed.

*She was the kindest, compassionate friend that everyone wants to have in their life.*

*I met her right after she retired and she had decided to join our Euchre game to get out and meet people. We bonded and became fast friends. She attended the same single's dances I went to and often met me in the bars where my favorite bands were playing. In the summer when she wasn't at her northern house, she would meet us at the outdoor concerts.*

*I will truly miss her - she touched my life and I will never forget her - I am blessed just knowing her.*

*God bless you Annette Watson, I am sure there are many, many people that are feeling my loss right now. I hope you find some good souls to line dance with in Heaven. Look down on me once in a while and let me know you are doing OK ❤️❤️❤️*

*Claudia Fitzgerald*

---

**Claudia Fitzgerald** - August 26, 2020 at 06:52 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Annette L. Watson.*



---

August 25, 2020 at 01:08 PM

JM

“ *Annette always made me feel loved and accepted when I would spend time over there as a kid. She called me "Bananas" and hearing her say it in my mind even now, still makes me smile! What a precious Lady!* ”

Joanna Meli - August 25, 2020 at 11:41 AM

US

“ *Uncle Jerry and Aunt Sharon purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Annette L. Watson.* ”



Uncle Jerry and Aunt Sharon - August 25, 2020 at 10:33 AM



“ *My memories are sweet ones of Annette and I sharing family stories on our porches.* ”

Clare Sylvain - August 25, 2020 at 10:32 AM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Annette L. Watson.* ”



August 25, 2020 at 10:13 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Annette L. Watson.*



August 25, 2020 at 09:08 AM



“ *Annette is a former manger of mines. She hired me to work as a RN on her unit. This was my first job as a nurse. I remember in my interview she just talked about nursing and how it has changed over the years. The interview was more of a chat amongst friends than an interview. She made feel comfortable being myself. Since she has retired, I've had the pleasure of seeing her over the years. These pictures was the last time I seen her. She will surely be missed.*



**Knedra Williams** - August 25, 2020 at 07:05 AM



“ *I Met Annette, and her wonderful Daughters, during grief counseling, and she was loving & caring, and treated me and my baby like family, and I will always have a special place in my heart for her, she was a remarkable woman, and will be missed by greatly by all her friends and family, May your Beautiful soul RIP, Heaven has gained an Angel. 🙏🙏🙏*



**Sequin Cobb** - August 25, 2020 at 06:53 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Annette L. Watson.*



August 24, 2020 at 09:44 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



**Cindy Boron** - August 24, 2020 at 06:32 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Annette L. Watson.*



August 24, 2020 at 05:24 PM



“ *I was one of Annette's classmates at Jackson High School. All that has been said of Annette in her obituary rings true of my remembrance of her in high school. She was a beautiful person inside and out. She lived her life well. I am glad our lives crossed.*  
*Loretta (Smith) Church*

**Loretta Church** - August 24, 2020 at 03:02 PM

DN

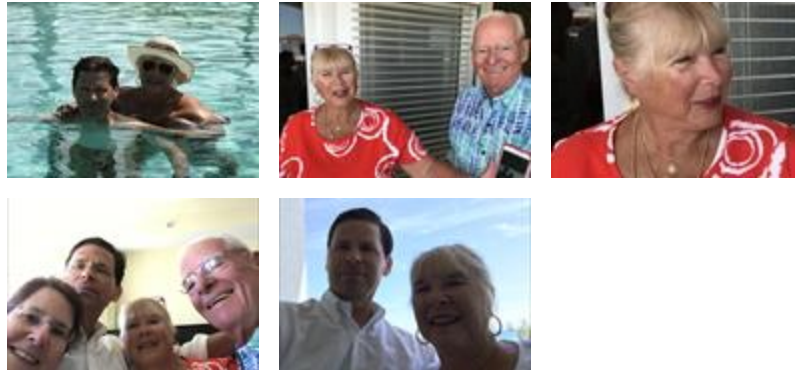
“ My sincere condolences to Annette's family who will miss her greatly. I knew Annette from 1st Presby RO going back to 2008 when we were part of a small tutoring team helping in RO schools. The team only did this 1 year but I would see Annette frequently in church and we would catch up on things. I considered her a special friend because of the tutoring bond and because of her nursing expertise. If I were ever in a desperate situation in need of medical attention, Annette would be the first call. She was always willing to help others in any way she could. Rest in Peace in God's Grace Annette. Dave Nelson



Dave Nelson - August 24, 2020 at 03:00 PM

GW

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Glenn M Watson - August 24, 2020 at 02:33 PM

BP

*I'm so sorry to hear of Annette's Passing. I enjoyed her great sense of humor. I bowled with her at Jensen Beach. My sincere Sympathy to her family. She will definitely be missed by all.*

Bett Sue Parker - August 25, 2020 at 11:01 AM

SW

*We little knew that morning that God was going to call your name. In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same. It broke our hearts to to lose you , you did not go alone; for part of us went with you, the day God called you home. You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide; and though we cannot see you, you are always at our side. Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same, but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again. Rest in God's love, dear Annette.*

*Jerry and Sharon*

---

**Sharon Watson** - August 25, 2020 at 11:15 AM

YB

*God has gained a "special" Angel to be of help in time of need. We felt she was still needed here on earth, But God took her home to be with Him..The Florida "Holiday Out Group" will certainly miss her, The pool time, the Games, the Bike rides, the sit outs, the special sharing times we spent together, I will especially miss those times plus our close friendship..,*

*.. I will always carry her in a special place with in my heart. with tears and sadness...My condolences to her family .May God give you each a feeling of Peace and good memories as you sort thru all of her years of collections.." Rest in Peace" my dear friend Annette, you are gone but never will be forgotten.. .Yvette Bachman*

---

**Yvette Bachman** - September 07, 2020 at 11:20 AM