



## Bernadine Alli

June 6, 2022

Bernadine "Bonnie" Jane Alli was a wife, sister, mother, grandmother, and friend. She was born August 17, 1942, in Hamtramck, Michigan to Rosario Lafata and Sophia Lafata (nee Stolarski). Her four children-Elizabeth Alli, Rebecca Lanphear (Damon Lanphear), Alexander Alli, and Sabrina Alli- and two grandchildren-Sophia Lanphear and Simon Lanphear- survive her. Bonnie grew up the eldest of a younger sister, Sandy, and brother, Sylvester, in Detroit, Michigan, where she would later start her career as a nurse for a family physician. She moved with Aftab, her husband, to Utica, Michigan, where they raised their four children and stayed side-by-side for 50 years. Anyone that knew Bonnie felt how much she loved her family and being a good friend. If you went to school with an Alli kid, you would have tasted a morning glory muffin baked by her or sat through her "picture lady" lecture. As much as she was devoted to her Catholic religion, she gained most of her inspiration among the earthly rather than the celestial. She loved plants, flowers, poetry, walking, and helping others to heal. At 59, she self-published a book of poems that she dedicated to her children. She passed away in her sleep the night of June 5, 2022, at 79-years-old in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where she was living with her eldest daughter, Elizabeth.

Friday, June 24, 2022, a memorial gathering will be held from 9:30 a.m. until the time of her Memorial Mass at 10:00 a.m. at St. Lawrence Catholic Church, 44633 Utica Road, Utica, Michigan 48317.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Elizabeth and Tab Williams Adult Day Care Center (231 Melrose St. Winston Salem, NC 27103), which is an entity of Senior Services where she spent many happy moments dancing, socializing, and engaging in various recreational activities, OR to St. Lawrence Catholic Church, 44633 Utica Road, Utica, MI 48317, which is where she found peace and religious comfort.

Please share a memory with her family at [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

JUN **24.** 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Lawrence Catholic Church  
44633 Utica Road  
Utica, MI 48317

## Memorial Mass

JUN **24.** 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Lawrence Catholic Church  
44633 Utica Road  
Utica, MI 48317

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Bernadine Alli*



---

**Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors** - June 24, 2022 at 09:21 AM

AF

“ *Alice Fan sent a virtual gift in memory of Bernadine Alli*



---

**Alice Fan** - June 25, 2022 at 06:45 PM

AF

“Despite the immense challenges of the pandemic, Bonnie was able to find and share joy in many small moments. I will always remember her sense of humor and sense of fun. I loved hearing about her winning a new scarf at bingo, and dancing to music at the Elizabeth and Tab Williams Center! I also appreciated her unfailing ability to make you smile and see the humor in frustrating situations. As an example, when a naughty dog played a little too hard with a plush toy and left stuffing all over the floor, she said, “oops, somebody sure had a party!” With just a few words, she could take you out of the fraught moment and make you remember that there is more to life than focusing on details that can drive you crazy. We miss her and will hold her memory and wisdom close to our hearts.



*Alice Fan*

---

**Alice Fan** - June 24, 2022 at 01:07 AM

DP

“A warm, compassionate human being who was always smiling and walking. We had a lot of fun times as Flickenger, Eppler and Utica High parents. I cherish all those fun times and until we meet again, Memory Eternal.

*Dolly Popovich*

---

**Dolly Popovich** - June 18, 2022 at 07:37 PM

GH

“ My Aunt Bonnie was always gracious about accepting help around the house. We had a "few projects" we worked on together. Usually that meant I would do the work while my Aunt would check on me frequently to see if I needed lunch or a break.

*There was one project where I installed a new kitchen faucet. It turned out that we had to repeat the experience years later. Anyway, she was the plumber's helper. She handed me tools as I called out for them from under the sink. Admittedly, she said, "I don't know what I'm doing, but I'll find the right tool." Little did she realize that I really didn't know what I was doing either. But, we got through that project and many others. I always found her to be charming, patient, and funny. I'll miss her a great deal.*

*Gavin Haque  
Nephew*

---

**Gavin Haque** - June 17, 2022 at 09:16 AM