



## Frances Borgo Schaaf

September 5, 1918 - March 26, 2014

Schaaf, Frances Borgo. Age 95. March 26, 2014. Frances Borgo was born on September 5, 1918 in Cleveland, Ohio, into a family that valued culture and the arts. Frances and her sister Virginia were given dance and music lessons from a young age and soon knew that dance was their passion. Their passion soon became a business venture and Frances and Virginia Borgo opened Borgo School of Dance in Royal Oak in 1934. This venture for two young women, in the depression era, was an amazing accomplishment. Frances married Arthur Lyman Schaaf on June 20, 1946. They spent many a happy summer traveling the world, having great adventures and taking the occasional dance lesson. Generations of metro Detroiters learned to have poise and manners along with mastering the Borgo dance steps. Frances Borgo's love and patience with children shone into the many dance classes, recitals and public service activities she was involved with. She had a gift for making every child feel special and a part of her "dance family". Frances' legacy, along with her husband and sister's, continue through their generous multiple charitable donations which included Beaumont Hospital and the creation of the speech therapy program. She will be well remembered and greatly missed! Frances was the beloved wife of Arthur Lyman; loving sister of the late Virginia Vanek; and dear cousin of Stephen Taylor. Visitation Saturday 5-8 p.m. and Sunday 1-7 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W 11 Mile Rd. 4 blks. E of Woodward, Royal Oak. Service Monday 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Memorials to the Beaumont Foundation – Borgo Sisters

Speech Pathology Program are appreciated. Share your memories at [www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com).

# Tribute Wall

JA

“ So sorry to hear about Frances passing away. I did not know her long but for the short time that I did she was so kind and wonderful to talk to. Rest in peace Frances. You will be missed and remembered.

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**Judy A.** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JA

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**Judy A.** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I studied dance with the Borgo Sisters for many years. My daughter also studied dance and my son was in the gymnastics program. What wonderful memories and I shall treasure them always.

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**jane bellezza-dziurda** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PJ

“ Such a wonderful woman! My childhood memories are of Borgo Sisters and who didn't love Mrs. Francis on the microphone at the recitals. She complimented every student and made us feel special. I thank her and Virginia for opening the studio and making me who I am today...A dance lover. I am looking forward to the day my daughter starts. May you have a blast in heaven and dance the day and night away!

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**Patty Johansen** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Though I did not have the pleasure of knowing Frances and her sister personally, I am from a family, who like so many others, was touched by the wonderful dance studio that they created. My children LOVED going there, and learning, and I think it partly shaped who they are today.

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**Susan Mutter** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Francis will be deeply missed. The Borgo Sisters were very special to their neighbors-the Brown family. When dad died they were there for us. We all enjoyed our lessons and hated leaving them after our dad died. We always ran over to see them and give them flowers when they pulled up at the studio. Rest in peace and thank you for the beautiful memories.

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**Carole Brown** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM