



## Helene L. Valade

July 12, 1948 - June 29, 2024

Helene L. Valade, age 75, passed away on June 29, 2024. She was born on July 12, 1948, at Mount Carmel Mercy Hospital in Detroit, to William James Adrian Valade and Mary Helen McKee Valade. Helene spent most of her youth living in Royal Oak, but moved to Huntington Woods when the family moved there in 1961. She graduated from Berkley High School in 1968 and went on to receive an associate degree from Highland Park Community College, where her proud father handed her her degree.

Helene had many career interests throughout her life. Early on, and while living in the Metro Detroit area, she worked as an executive secretary at Smith, Hinchman and Grylls, one of the oldest architectural firms in Detroit, where she met her second husband, Alan Mahin. After many years at the firm, the couple wanted a slower pace to their lives, and moved to East Jordan in 1991 to build a home together and start new careers in beautiful northern Michigan.

Helene loved animals (she owned a variety of cats and dogs over the years) and found the perfect job working at Lake Street Veterinary Clinic in Boyne City as a receptionist. She also volunteered at the local Humane Society. For a period of time, she also owned and operated her own hair salon and massage therapy business at Boyne Mountain Resort. After Alan's death in 1998, Helene decided to stay in Boyne City. She had grown to love the area,

especially the natural beauty of the lakes and countryside, but also all the people she had come to know. And her downstate family often took vacations near Boyne City to spend time with her.

In September 2023, Helene moved to Berkley to be closer to her family and spend time with her siblings and nieces and nephews.

Beloved wife of the late Alan. Dear sister of Alice (the late Sonny) Findlay, William (Sue) Valade, Sharon Valade, Diane Valade, and Kathleen (David) Penley. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

The committal service for both Helene and her husband, Alan, will take place on Tuesday, August 13th at 11:00 a.m. at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

In keeping with Helene's love of animals, memorial contributions to the Michigan Humane Society are appreciated.

Share your memories at [www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com).

# Previous Events

## Committal Service

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

Holy Sepulchre Cemetery  
25800 W. 10 Mile Road  
Southfield, MI 48033

# Tribute Wall

KB

“ We worked together for many years here in Boyne City at McDonalds. She was the nicest person and always tried to make people laugh and have a good time while working our days away. She had the best laugh also. One that you'll just never be able to forget. She touched a lot of different people's lives and she will be greatly missed by many ☐

Kendra Barnes - July 08, 2024 at 02:04 PM

RT

“ We were friends and neighbors for many years and had lots of fun together. We loved to go out to eat, or shared meals together at our homes. We will miss her and send our condolence to all of her family.  
Roy and Cindy Thomas

Roy and Cindy Thomas - July 08, 2024 at 11:45 AM

MN

“ I worked with her for a little over a year and she was the brightest person in the place. She lit up the room with her smile. I'm sad to see her go, but I know she left a piece of herself everywhere she went! She was truly a blessing to have known!

Morgan Neal - July 07, 2024 at 09:23 AM

MG

“ My sympathies and prayers to Helene family. I worked with Helene at Smith, Hinchman and Grylls many years ago. We became friends. I'll always remember her to be kind and having a great sense of humor. God Bless. Maxine Goulet

Maxine Goulet - July 07, 2024 at 08:37 AM