



## JoAnne Patricia Wallace

July 22, 1938 - April 27, 2020

JoAnne Patricia Wallace, age 81, of Madison Heights, passed away peacefully at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak under the care of a fabulous team of doctors, nurses, nursing assistants, respiratory therapists and many other support staff on April 27, 2020.

JoAnne's doctor, while supporting her family during this very difficult time, mentioned something very profound to us. The doctor talked of a person's fight and motivation to live consists of three things: oneself, family and friends. In saying that, we all know that she was a fighter and family was JoAnne's first and foremost important part of her life, a very close second was her love of all her friends and she always put both before herself.

JoAnne lived quite a full life alongside her husband John of 59 years, a life full of many varied experiences and adventures. She would always say that's why she was always thankful for her husband, there was never a dull moment! When her husband passed away only 7 short months ago, she suffered a tremendous loss.

After marrying her husband in July 1960, they lived in Madison Heights where they raised 4 children, 9 grandchildren and most recently 1 great grandchild. JoAnne was a teacher with Utica schools the first 10 years before making the decision to stay at home to raise her children. She was a lifelong teacher

always available to help anyone with homework, volunteering as a tutor and recommending the next good book. JoAnne's adventures with her husband included airplane rides (he was a pilot and had an airplane), motorcycle riding, downhill and cross-country skiing, an up north cabin, purchasing a motel and traveling all over the country, including several trips to Europe.

As most know, JoAnne had a love of books and reading. She loved to share that with everyone, especially her grandchildren or any child she came in contact with. You could always count on a new book when visiting Grandma's house. She would often tell you one of her fondest memories of reading as a child was reading a series called "The Boxcar Children" by G. Warner. Ironically, JoAnne's father worked for Grand Trunk Railroad. When JoAnne and John were first married, JoAnne's father surprised them with the opportunity to purchase a caboose which they hauled up north and turned it into a cabin in Gaylord, MI. This became a gathering place for family and friends for many years. They eventually sold the caboose for a new adventure of owning and operating a motel in Empire, MI called The Glen Lake Motel. They later renamed it The Sleeping Bear Motel.

JoAnne loved spending time with her family and friends. She loved the beauty of nature and watching the birds that visited her numerous bird feeders, especially in Northern Michigan. She was active in several organizations over the years, the Oakland literacy program, Eastern Star, and because her passion for genealogy and history she was most proud of The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Ezra Parker Chapter. JoAnne was dearly loved and will be deeply missed.

JoAnne was the beloved wife of the late John V. Wallace. Loving mother of Joan (John) Wallace-Moats, John (Suzie) Wallace, Julia (Don) Grant and James (Lisa) Wallace. Dear grandmother of Ashley (Nick) Limback, Andrew (Emily) Moats, Jack Moats, Amanda Wallace, Joshua Wallace, Michael Ozga,

Olivia Ozga, Alex Wallace, Cole Wallace and great-grandmother to Ella Moats. Dear sister of Frank (Penny) Millard, the late Kathleen (Dale) Parson and Susan Millard. Beloved sister-in-law of Margaret (Jim) Keeran, and the late Catherine (Percy) Hebb, Madge (Michael) Guirey, Jean (Dale) Putnam and Joanne (Neil) Baggot. Also survived by many beloved nieces and nephews.

A memorial gathering will take place at a later date this summer when we are able to be together.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Ezra Parker Chapter NSDAR, c/o Kim Martin, 817 Mount Vernon Blvd., Royal Oak, MI 48073 or the Oakland Literacy Council, 43700 Woodward Ave., Suite 20, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302.

# Tribute Wall

MP

“ Aunt Joannie was a very special lady to us. We loved our very interesting conversations with her. She was very intelligent and had a wealth of information to share with everyone. She was always welcoming and cared about so many people. She will be missed but remembered in our hearts. Heaven just gained another angel.

Love,  
Joy, Al and Melody

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**Melody Piasta** - June 08, 2020 at 06:46 PM

JH

“ Your mother was a very warm, gracious, and caring woman. Visiting your home and the the house in Honor, was like walking into a comfortable and sharing environment. Your mom allowed us into a birthday celebration and shared homemade cake! What a wonderful time! She is loved and missed!!

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**Joel Howe** - May 01, 2020 at 12:58 PM

NK

“ JoAnne was so wonderful to my children that she had a book for each of them every time we came to visit. She was one of the most thoughtful people I've known and made a lasting impression on my daughter. She will be missed dearly. Rest peacefully with your husband in heaven. -Nicole

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**nicole kolacz** - April 30, 2020 at 07:03 PM