



Kaye E. Barbas

April 29, 1939 - October 31, 2020

Kaye Elizabeth Barbas, age 81, passed away October 31, 2020 at her residence. She was born on April 29, 1939 in Detroit to Kenneth and Dorothy (nee Karth) Davis. A Royal Oak resident since 1973, she and her husband, Peter, worked together building a few businesses over the course of forty years. In the 1980s they started Flagg Carpet Cleaning in tandem with Tel-Bar Services which operated out of buildings on Lincoln Ave. in Royal Oak near the Boys & Girls Club. In the mid-80s they took an opportunity to do painting work at the original Cadillac plant on Fort St. in Detroit. That was so successful, they closed Tel-Bar Services (a janitorial supplies company), gave Flagg Carpet Cleaning to two young brothers who worked for them, and opened Flagg Cleaning Systems, Inc. which went on to specialize in industrial paint waste removal, paint booth and factory cleaning, painting, and specialty coatings. In 1989, they moved “The Business”, as it came to be referred to in the family, to Berkley, MI. Kaye could be found there in her office telling stories and “holding court” until she was 80 years old when the business was closed. She was a very social person and loved going to restaurants, flea markets and spending time in her yard and gardens. She enjoyed canning her famous wild black raspberry jam and stewed tomatoes – both usually made from what was grown in her yard. She took cake decorating classes in the late 70s/early 80s. Becoming quite talented at it, she rented a stand at the Royal Oak Farmers Market for a short period of time. Over the years, just about everyone who knew her, had their “special occasion” cake decorated by her – for free.

In later but more able-bodied years she and Peter spent winter months in Florida. Her favorite destination being Sanibel Island, where she liked collecting seashells. She will be remembered for her wicked sense of humor and her mastery of storytelling!

Beloved wife of the late Peter, who preceded her in death on April 7, 2018. Loving mother of Sara Barbas, John (Pamela) Barbas and Jim (Shanan) Barbas. Proud grandmother of Jacob Parker, Kaitlyn Barbas and Olivia Barbas. Dear sister of Linda Davis. The family will receive friends on Friday 12 pm until time of memorial service 1 pm at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blocks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak. In accordance with Michigan Department of Public Health, masks are required to enter the funeral home and twenty people may visit at a time. The memorial service will be live streamed a few minutes prior to the service. Memorial contributions to American Heart/Stoke Association- www.heart.org or National Kidney Foundation - www.kidney.org are appreciated. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

NOV 6. 12:00 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

NOV 6. 1:00 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



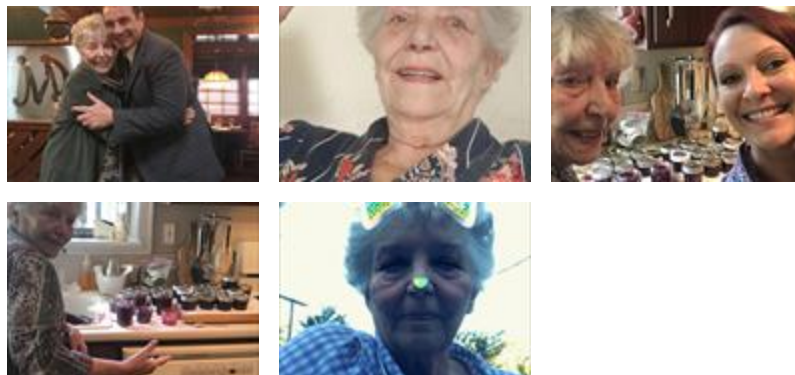
“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Kaye E. Barbas*



Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors - November 05, 2020 at 06:57 PM



“ *5 files added to the tribute wall*



Shanan Morris - November 07, 2020 at 09:45 PM

SM

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



Shanan Morris - November 06, 2020 at 07:04 PM

DU

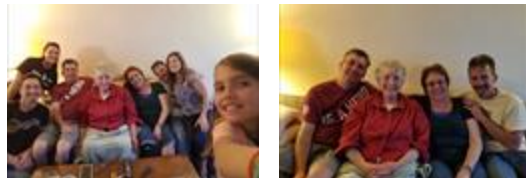
“ Dolores U. purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Kaye E. Barbas.



Dolores U. - November 06, 2020 at 09:52 AM

SB

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Sara barbas - November 05, 2020 at 11:43 PM

KM

“ Linda, so sorry to hear about the loss of your sister, Kaye. Although I cannot be there to offer comfort, please know that she will be in my thoughts and prayers this weekend as you gather tomorrow for her service.

Sincere condolences to Sara, whom I have met, and her brothers whom I have not.

Your neighbor,
Kathleen

kathleen mccomsey - November 05, 2020 at 10:59 PM

JB

“ Ma despised those little animals known as squirrels. They would invade her beautiful yard, garden, whatever. She went out and purchased a bb gun or two. Took a shot or 200. Instructed us kids to do the same! Over time, got a good one in an arsch or ten.... yard saved! (For the time being). They'll never learn! :)

John barbas - November 05, 2020 at 09:23 PM

SB

Ho

Sara barbas - November 05, 2020 at 11:35 PM

DH

“ Howard and I got married on 1984. Kaye made our beautiful wedding cake. She decorated it with purple flowers and a lovely Waterford Chrystal little bowl on the top. It was very creative and a gift to us. Thanks, cousin , for the memories!

Debbie Hollinger - November 05, 2020 at 05:00 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kaye E. Barbas.



November 05, 2020 at 03:42 PM



“ Another adventure Kaye & I experienced was the evening we decided to drive to Windsor to visit my parents. On the way there, no problem! OOPS! Things changed on the way back home. Kaye freaked out! As when we were in line to go through Customs, she got out to unlock & lift the trunk lid so the trunk could be inspected for items that were illegal or not allowed into the USA. (There were about two cars ahead of us.) I heard her open the trunk then slam it closed immediately & she quickly got back in the car. "What's wrong?" I asked? Kaye responded with "We are in big trouble as there is a whole case of beer in the trunk!" We were shaking by the time we pulled up to the booth. The Custom Officer looked at our driver's licenses, headed toward the back of the car, turned & smiled & waved us through. We were soooo shaken up!

We were a block or two down Woodward Avenue when red lights started flashing everywhere. We were being pulled over by the POLICE! We were so scared as we didn't know what we did wrong, plus we had a whole case of BEER in the trunk. OMG!!! What's next! The officer wanted to know what we were doing on Woodward Avenue, where had we been & where were we going? After Kaye explained to the officer, he smiled & said: "You forgot to turn your lights on & be careful going home!" Whew! Saved again!

Glenda Langdon - November 05, 2020 at 12:18 PM

GL

“Kaye & I would do stupid things like go skinny dipping in a creek after dark which was located near her house. One time, someone took our clothes. We eventually found them but had to search for them stark naked! Oh boy!!! Never did find out who the thief(s) was. That was the end of our skinny dipping excursions.

Glenda Langdon - November 05, 2020 at 11:36 AM

GL

“When Kaye & I were teenagers we would "hit the road" in her father's car on a Friday or Saturday evening. Sometimes both nights. The first thing Kaye would do is drive down the dirt road a short distance & then pull over at which time she would unhook the speedometer so her dad wouldn't know how many miles we put on the car that evening. Then the fun began! The big thing was cruising Woodward Avenue which was being cruised by many teenagers; stopping at the Big Boy at Woodward & 13 Mile Roads, which, at that time, delivered food on a tray to the car & hook it on the window, or we we would drive to another restaurant located on Auburn Road where some classmates frequented then we just hung out together or ended up going to a friend's house.

Same ritual coming back home: 1) Put gas in the car & 2) Hook speedometer back up!

.....Oh, hi dad! Yes, we had fun but didn't do much, just hung out with friends!

(Mr. Davis was always up when we arrived home.)

Glenda Langdon - November 05, 2020 at 11:15 AM

CF

“ Chet and Judy Colston and family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Kaye E. Barbas.



Chet and Judy Colston and family - November 05, 2020 at 10:15 AM

CM

“ Sara & family, I'm so deeply sorry for your loss! I know to well how incredibly difficult the loss of a parent can be. There are no words that take away the pain of loosing someone you love so dearly. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this sad and difficult time.

Cheri McQueen - November 04, 2020 at 09:12 PM

SB

Thanks Cheri!

Sara barbas - November 04, 2020 at 10:22 PM

GL

I have lost my dearest, closest & wonderful friend of 66 years but the universe received a beautiful new star. I miss you Kaye! My condolences to Kaye's children, grandchildren & sister.

Glenda Langdon - November 05, 2020 at 10:34 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kaye E. Barbas.



November 04, 2020 at 04:27 PM

SB

“ This is one of the hardest things I've had to do. There are so many things to say and to remember. Things that have been left unsaid or things that have been left undone..

Mom!

You have left us way to soon! You did it your way tho! Oh, how I miss you terribly! I love you so much. Your wisdom and knowledge of things was way beyond all of us! But all of us kids did manage to teach you new things along the way! (Like turning candle upside down). The look on your face was priceless! Your remembering of family history was astounding! Even though we were listening to them for the tenth time. I want an eleventh time! I miss those stories.

We had a hard life in the beginning, a lot good and lot bad, I choose to remember the good! Especially when you met and married dad! I have 2 awesome brothers (actually they are buttheads) but I will cherish them always and forever!

I want to thank you for everything (so many things)you have done for us. All the things you have taught us. For always being the rock! For always listening to us, sometimes all three at a time! Even tho we have screwed up at times, and always pointed your finger at us...i will remember your laughter at dumb things we did..we will carry on the lagacy..we love you mom...I LOVE YOU MOM! I MISS YOU.!

Sara, Harrass, (and sometimes...dumb shit!) 🤪🥹💖

Sara barbas - November 04, 2020 at 03:15 PM

MS

“ I've known kay for many years , she has gotten her hair done at two of the salons I've worked at. I will miss her many wonderful memories from her past cake making to her travels around the world with her husband also the great stories of her children. She has always made me smile every week of her visits. May she Rest In Peace in the Heavens above. She will be missed ❤️ Marianna. (JDevonnes Hair Today)

Marianna. Hair Stylist - November 04, 2020 at 02:21 PM

JB

“ Ma!
Thank you so very much everything you've taught all of us, included us in on, and put up with from us (me) ;) over the years.
I will forever more ask you questions, and answer you over my shoulder as I'm tending to the garden, cooking/baking, questioning a yard sale price, and so on!
I will ALWAYS share a moment, (as i always have) with you quietly in my head as I sit and enjoy beach sunsets we both have always loved.
You have shown all of us how to live life to the fullest in every way, including what to fret about, and what not to. I will try my best to forecast that very thing to everyone I can.
I miss your face!
I love you, and will miss you forever! BUT! I will still always include you in my internal head conversations, cuz I know you will be listening...
By the way, was that you yesterday on my window ledge?????
Pretty sure it was...
Thank you for EVERYTHING.
Now rest, stick your toes in the sand, and enjoy that eternal beautiful sunset.
I love ya ma

John barbas - November 04, 2020 at 01:39 PM

Jl

Beautifully said, brother.

Jim - November 04, 2020 at 04:28 PM

Jl

“ My mother was a huge *HUGE* fan of fresh caught walleye and it just so happens that my good friend, Pat and I are pretty big fans of catching walleye. So mom would constantly badger us about where her (you know what) walleye were!? Pat and my mom had the kind of relationship that basically revolved around them teasing each other and playing practical jokes. So I'm on the phone with him one day at work and mom says, "Tell Pat I'm still waiting for my ___ walleye and that that cheap vodka he sent me was terrible!" So Pat says, "ohhhh man! Tell her I actually just got back from a trip and caught a boatload. So many I didn't know what to do with em all so I grilled a few up and fed the rest to the dog!". Mom's response was more visual... Edited a touch...



Jim - November 04, 2020 at 01:19 PM

GL

Yep! That's Kaye! Too funny!

Glenda Langdon - November 05, 2020 at 12:14 AM

“ Aruba, Jamaica, oh I want to take ya
Bermuda, Bahama, come on pretty mama
Key Largo, Montego, baby why don't we go, Jamaica
Off the Florida Keys, there's a place called Kokomo
That's where you want to go to get away from it all
Bodies in the sand, tropical drink melting in your hand
We'll be falling in love to the rhythm of a steel drum band
Down in Kokomo

Aruba, Jamaica, oh I want to take you to
Bermuda, Bahama, come on pretty mama
Key Largo, Montego, baby why don't we go
oh I want to take you down to
Kokomo, we'll get there fast and then we'll take it slow
That's where we want to go, way down in Kokomo
Martinique, that Montserrat mystique
We'll put out to sea and we'll perfect our chemistry
And by and by we'll defy a little bit of gravity
Afternoon delight, cocktails and moonlit nights
That dreamy look in your eye, give me a tropical contact high
Way down in Kokomo

Aruba, Jamaica, oh I want to take you to
Bermuda, Bahama, come on pretty mama
Key Largo, Montego, baby why don't we go
oh I want to take you down to
Kokomo, we'll get there fast and then we'll take it slow
That's where we want to go, way down in Kokomo
Port au Prince, I want to catch a glimpse
Everybody knows a little place like Kokomo
Now if you want to go and get away from it all
Go down to Kokomo

Aruba, Jamaica, oh I want to take you to
Bermuda, Bahama, come on pretty mama
Key Largo, Montego, baby why don't we go
oh I want to take you down to
Kokomo, we'll get there fast and then we'll take it slow
That's where we want to go, way down in Kokomo

*Aruba, Jamaica, oh I want to take you to
Bermuda, Bahama, come on pretty mama
Key Largo, Montego, momma why don't we go....*

Sara barbas - November 04, 2020 at 11:08 AM

SB

Moms favorite song!!

Sara barbas - November 04, 2020 at 11:08 AM

JJ

*Ha! She loved that song! I remember her jamming out in the car
everytime it came on the radio.*

Jim - November 04, 2020 at 12:58 PM

MB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Missy Buechel - November 04, 2020 at 10:34 AM

MB

*This was a Barbas/Buechel get together at the top of the RenCen.
She's a beauty.*

Missy Buechel - November 04, 2020 at 10:35 AM

MB

*I'm beyond sorry for your loss. Your mom gave me a little angel to pin
on my collar when my folks passed. I'm wearing it now in memory of
her.*

Missy Buechel - November 04, 2020 at 10:36 AM

JJ

Great pic! Thanks for sharing, Missy.

Jim - November 04, 2020 at 01:00 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kaye E. Barbas.*



November 03, 2020 at 07:25 PM

TC

“ *Kaye, or Mrs. Barbas ' as I always knew her had a great sense of humor introduced me to baking by helping me and Sara earn our cooking badge for Girl Scouts; drove a "funny" car when we were kids, and was the first Mom I can remember who worked full time. She was fun and funny!*

Tami (Diggan) Courtney - November 03, 2020 at 05:55 PM

JJ

Mom recently shared a good story about your family... Maybe three weeks ago? I know it was Diggan. Maybe your parents? Anyway, it involved my father, "the Diggans" and some conspiracy with a bottle of Southern Comfort... She was glowing with mischief and happiness telling the story. It was pretty hilarious. Things you don't tell your children until you don't give a hoot any more! Totally PC and SFW. She was just certain that Dad and Jack purposely got her doused up on Soco Manhattans. If you thought she was funny back then, you'd have found her hilarious in recent times! I know I did. Thank you so much for sharing.

Jim - November 03, 2020 at 09:14 PM

SB

Tami, Remember when we first tried to get our parents together? It was "down hill" since then! Oh the fun times they had!! Glad we can look back at all those times and smile and laugh! Glad we all stayed in contact!!

Sara barbas - November 04, 2020 at 09:44 AM

JJ

“ Mom. I already miss you so much. We had so many things we still had planned to do. I'm very glad I was able to spend so much time with you this past year outside of work... Even though it was mostly "doing chores" for you but I wouldn't have had it any other way than it's always been! I feel I finally was able to get to know you on a more personal level. I'm so sorry I wasn't able to understand what you were going through. You've always been so strong and tough. I'm not ready for you to be gone, but I know we don't get to choose. I have always loved you and will love you always.

Your son,

James. Jimmy. Jim. The Kid

Jim - November 03, 2020 at 04:56 PM

JD

Jim

I am so, so sorry for your loss. She was a rock in so many ways. What great memories I have of us going to Eastern Mkt together, canning, garage sale hunting , and just having fun. She was like a second mom to my boys, taking them on adventures to the lake, ball games, and all sorts of activities. She was the best cook in the neighborhood and I always wanted to be just like her.

Please know that I am with you in spirit. Hugs to Sara, John and you. I am truly so sad. 😭

Judy Dietrich - November 03, 2020 at 05:34 PM

JJ

Thank you, Judy. Hope you all are well.

Jim - November 03, 2020 at 06:23 PM

CD

So many fond memories of my aunt who may not have offered me the coat off her back, but did offer me the piano in her living room! Loved her and her garden! Praying for the family, Clifton Davis

Clif Davis - November 03, 2020 at 08:11 PM

AK

My deepest condolences and prayers go out to Jim, John and the family. Kay was quite a women. Her kindness and generosity was contagious. May she reunite with Pete and mom. Rest In Peace

Alan Kroll - November 04, 2020 at 06:39 AM

SM

*Jimmy,
I'm sorry too hear about your mom. She was a great woman. She baked my wedding cake and we had countless conversations at omara's. Our sympathies to you and your family..*

Stacey mcclure - November 04, 2020 at 09:59 AM

JJ

Thank you all

Jim - November 04, 2020 at 12:59 PM