



Marilyn K. Popyk

March 25, 1945 - July 3, 2023

Marilyn Kay Popyk

In an era when women were not encouraged to attend college, Marilyn Popyk worked her way through Wayne State University to ultimately obtain both a B.S. and a Master's in Education. She subsequently became educator, advisor, mentor, and sometimes mother to thousands of students.

Marilyn was born and grew up in River Rouge, Michigan and excelled, at an early age, both academically and athletically. She was a 1963 graduate of River Rouge High School where she was a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council President, captain of the Aquateens swim team and a cheerleader for their 1963 state championship basketball team.

Her academic excellence continued at Wayne State University and upon graduation she began her teaching career at Warren Fitzgerald High School. Marilyn quickly moved on to serve as Director and Instructor of Word Processing Programs at Henry Ford Community College. She also served as Educational Consultant for the State of Michigan Secondary Division, Vocational Department. Many valued friendships developed throughout her career and remained with her through retirement.

In the mid-80s Marilyn received a grant from McGraw Hill Publishing to write one of the first books on word processing. Her first book "Up and Running," published in 1987, became the 5th best seller for McGraw Hill at that time. She eventually authored several other textbooks on word processing and computer information systems. She traveled the United States as a promotional speaker, lecturing on "technological trends in today's office." The story is told her publisher advised her to author her textbooks as "M. Popyk," so that it would not be apparent the books were written by a woman. Ultimately, the textbooks were authored by "Marilyn K. Popyk."

While maintaining a busy career, Marilyn kept family close to her heart. Marilyn's home was remodeled to make room for her beloved mother, Rose, who lived there until her death in 1999. Marilyn enjoyed buying books and educational toys for her great-nephews Tyler and Benjamin and always took an interest in their achievements in school and in sports. An impeccable seamstress, she created personalized pillowcases for friends and made numerous deliveries of these designer pillowcases to both adult and child cancer patients at various hospitals.

After retiring from Henry Ford Community College, Marilyn married the love of her life, Ronald Cantin. For more than twenty years, they danced, skied, skated, and traveled their way through retirement. Many hours were also spent tending their magnificent backyard butterfly and bird sanctuary, as well as volunteer hours spent tending a garden dedicated to her mother, Rose, at the Detroit Zoo.

Caring, vivacious, ever the consummate hostess, Marilyn leaves us better for having known her. She is survived by her loving husband, Ron Cantin, brothers Walter (Judith) Popyk and Marvin (the late Barbara) Popyk, nephew Marvin (Anne) Popyk Jr., and great-nephews Tyler and Benjamin.

Visitation Monday 2-8 pm with Panaheda Service 7 pm. Funeral Tuesday, 11 am at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blks. E. of Woodward), Royal Oak.

Memorial contributions may be made to Henry Ford College Foundation: 5101 Evergreen Road, Dearborn, MI 48128. Online access "give to HFC" at <<http://foundation.hfcc.edu/>>. Telephone access at 313-317-6836. Please indicate "in memory of Marilyn K. Popyk." Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 10. 2:00 PM - 8:00 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/>

Panaheda

JUL 10. 7:00 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/>

Funeral Service

JUL 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
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Tribute Wall

TK

“ I was a student at HFCC of Ms. Popyk. She was a phenomenal instructor. I had intended on taking one computer class just to learn a little about the up and coming technology. I ended up taking every class that she taught. She had a wonderful, and very encouraging personality. I just saw my “Up & Running” book and decided to look her up. Very sad that she has passed. But, VERY happy that she found the love of her life. My prayers to her family & friends. She was ahead of her time and helped SO MANY female students achieve their goals! She is forever in my heart.

Theresa Kijek - January 05, 2025 at 11:02 PM

JC

“ Marilyn Popyk was my Word Processing instructor at HFCC. Still remember her to this day. Sorry to hear of her passing. She touched so many lives. She was a wonderful educator.
-Jackie Czarniecki

Jackie Czarniecki - August 02, 2023 at 02:42 AM

RS

Mine to very sorry that I missed out with communication

Raymond Stern - September 06, 2024 at 04:26 PM

EK

“I worked as the Administrative Assistant with Marilyn at Henry Ford Community College and she was the one of the best instructors in the Division!” I am truly sorry to hear of her passing for it was way to early!

Sincerely,

Eva Kelly

Eva Kelly - July 13, 2023 at 01:39 PM

NA

“I overlapped with Marilyn at Henry Ford Community College. She was on the third floor of the Liberal Arts Bldg. in the Business Dept., I was on the first floor in the Social Science Division. I really didn't know her except in passing. When I assumed directorship of the Honors Program, I needed help setting up mailing lists and other programs to manage the students in the HP. I didn't have a secretary, only a student assistant. Someone suggested that I ask Marilyn for help. She readily agreed and gave me a quick tutorial. She also answered follow up questions. I remained eternally grateful to her, for she helped me establish a system of record keeping and mail with students, faculty and alumni for the next 18 years. We stayed in touch after we both retired. I respected her. She was professional and caring. I'm deeply saddened by her passing. May she rest in peace.

Nabeel Abraham - July 11, 2023 at 12:28 PM

GM

Thank you all who have taken the time to post your wonderful memories of Marilyn. Words cannot express how much this has helped to console the family.

Gayle Mazzocco - July 12, 2023 at 09:13 AM

JF

“ Joyce F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marilyn K. Popyk.

Joyce F. - July 11, 2023 at 10:55 AM

MS

“ I worked at Arbor/CVS IN Berkley for over 27 years. This is where I met Marilyn. Over the years we became friendly. When I would see her walk through the door my spirits would instantly lift. She got to know about my family, and the struggles I was having raising my granddaughter. The support she gave to me made a huge difference in my life. I am truly fortunate to have had the pleasure of knowing Marilyn.

Marla Stepowski

Marla Stepowski - July 10, 2023 at 03:07 PM

JP

“ Marilyn Popyk was truly delightful. She always wore a smile, had a bright outlook on life and of course, shared a positive attitude with everyone. When I managed the College Store at HFCC, Marilyn would have occasion to visit to discuss her book orders and share a classroom story or two. It was always an enjoyable experience. A lovely lady.

John Panci - July 09, 2023 at 10:24 PM

AG

“ Andrea G. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Marilyn K. Popyk.



Andrea G. - July 09, 2023 at 08:38 PM

DG

“ I was deeply saddened when I found out about the passing of my college colleague. I met Marilyn during her tenure at Henry Ford Community College. We became work buddies. I enjoyed spending time with her and my dear friend Mary-Ann Orban. Marilyn made outstanding contributions in the area of word processing at Henry Ford and beyond. She was loved by us all. She will be missed but fondly remembered. With my deepest sympathy.
Diane Green

Diane B Green - July 09, 2023 at 04:59 PM

MO

“ It is with great sadness that I found out about the passing of my dear friend, Marilyn K. Popyk! We often had such good times together! In June, 1990, I in the Counseling Division. and Marilyn in the Business Department co-facilitated a special project on articulation agreements for which each of us received a special Presidential Resolution from our then President of Henry Ford Community College, Andrew Mazzara. Having lost my dear husband this past March, I now lose a dear friend, Marilyn. May they both rest in peace. With love and prayers,
Mary-Ann Orban

Mary-Ann Orban - July 09, 2023 at 03:50 PM

GN

“ I have been Marilyn and Ron's mailman for the last 4 years, all thru the pandemic. Their home is in the middle of my daily deliveries. I would find myself hoping they were on the porch so we could have a little talk. Marilyn would always ask me about my family, `How's your son? How's your wife? How's the golf game?" She always had me feeling better after these little chats; she had me feeling lucky, and I was lucky, lucky to have her as my customer and friend.

George Niedbalski

George niedbalski - July 09, 2023 at 02:29 PM

KK

“ May you rest in peace, sweet Marilyn.
Memory Eternal.
Kathy Kucyk



Katherine G Kucyk - July 09, 2023 at 12:10 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marilyn K. Popyk.



July 08, 2023 at 08:49 PM

BH

“ It's been 55 years since Miss Popyk was my typing teacher at Warren Fitzgerald. Yet all these years later, I still recall her warmth, encouragement and laughter. She's on a short list of wonderful teachers who made me a better person.

Brian Hlavaty - July 08, 2023 at 10:12 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Marilyn K. Popyk.



July 07, 2023 at 09:42 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marilyn K. Popyk.



July 07, 2023 at 03:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Marilyn K. Popyk.

July 07, 2023 at 03:56 PM

CT

“ Marilyn (Ms. Popyk) was my computer teacher at Henry Ford (Community) College over 30 years ago. I still remember her fondly. She was a wonderful teacher! Also, she was very stylish and known for the lovely scarfs she always wore tied so beautifully around her neck.

I'm so sorry to learn of her passing; way too young in my opinion. Sending heart felt prayers to her husband and family.

*With warmest regards,
Christiane Tiseo*

Christiane Tiseo - July 06, 2023 at 02:07 PM

GO

“ George O. purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Marilyn K. Popyk.



George O. - July 06, 2023 at 01:49 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Marilyn K. Popyk.



July 06, 2023 at 01:31 PM

JP

“ Jonathan & Catherine Piernak purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Marilyn K. Popyk.



Jonathan & Catherine Piernak - July 06, 2023 at 01:19 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Marilyn K. Popyk.



July 06, 2023 at 12:06 PM

FP

“ From Steve and Gail Popyk purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Marilyn K. Popyk.



From Steve and Gail Popyk - July 06, 2023 at 09:04 AM

FP

“ From Steve and Gail Popyk planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marilyn K. Popyk.

From Steve and Gail Popyk - July 06, 2023 at 09:04 AM

SL

“Marilyn was a great friend in high school. She was vivacious, friendly, and kind. I remember sharing many laughs with Marilyn and I am so glad that she had an illustrious career. She was a force for good and a guiding light for so many. I feel honored to have known her. Sophie Nichols

Sophie Nichols Landsburg - July 05, 2023 at 10:53 PM

MJ

“Rest in peace Marilyn. You led a wonderful, full life successfully tackling all challenges of the times. You will be missed. Maureen Jaques

Maureen Jaques - July 05, 2023 at 05:11 PM

LR

“Lyn R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marilyn K. Popyk.

Lyn R. - July 05, 2023 at 04:43 PM