



Maxine Ross

January 15, 1929 - July 16, 2022

Maxine Isabella (Hedgecock) Ross, age 93, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, July 16, 2022.

Born in Warren, Michigan, to the late Nona I. Hedgecock and Chase M. Hedgecock. Beloved wife of Dick (George Richard Ross), who preceded her in death. Loving mother of 5: Sandra (Thomas) Griebe, Gayle (Dennis) Foley, Brian (Patricia) Ross, Joy (James) Klarich, Kelly (Kristin) Ross, grandmother of thirteen, and great-grandmother of fourteen. Beloved younger sister of the late Virginia (Hedgecock) Weidenhamer and the late Darrell Hedgecock.

After losing her father at age fourteen, Maxine graduated from Lincoln High School in Warren (formerly Van Dyke), Michigan, then earned a journalism degree from Michigan State College (University). After graduation, she and her sister Virginia took a month-long tour in Europe with Virginia's sorority, and it was one of her most cherished memories. When she returned from her trip, she went to work for the J. Walter Thompson (JWT) advertising agency in Detroit.

Along with a love of learning and travel, music and dance held a special place in Maxine's heart. Ballet lessons with her good friend Rose Marie Floyd, the future acclaimed teacher and choreographer, began at age sixteen and continued well into her late 40s. After leaving her position at JWT, Maxine began teaching ballroom dance at Arthur Murray Studio, where she met her husband. They were married in 1954. Maxine and Dick were always lovely to watch as they glided around a dance floor. She passed on her love of music

and dance to her children by introducing them to musicals and ballet at an early age.

Although reserved, Maxine was always willing to try new things, sampling art, equestrian, and fencing lessons in college. When her children were young, she took cake decorating lessons and furthered her sewing skills. She took flute lessons when her daughters decided to play band instruments and piano lessons well into her 80s. Even in her later years, she was game for trying downhill skiing (once) and took rides on the back of Joy and Jim's jet ski until she was nearly 90 years old.

She loved to read, and believed in public libraries. Her children have fond memories of checking out armloads of books from libraries in Utica, Warren, and Centerline, Michigan. Whenever one of her children wanted to know the meaning of a word, she would respond, "Get a dictionary." Her college dictionary got plenty of family use.

Maxine's children were the light of her life. She insisted on celebrations of each person's birthday, even after they became adults. She attended as many of her grandchildren's school activities, recitals, sports games, and graduations as she could. Her grown children could expect welcome home messages on their answering machines when they went out of town and even calls twice a year reminding them to change their clocks for Daylight Savings. Maxine had a quiet sense of humor. She loved words and word play, enjoyed the humor found in Readers' Digest magazines, and could laugh about herself.

After Dick retired, Maxine continued to work, taking a job in the registration department at Oakland University. She treasured the friendships formed with her co-workers and continued to gather with them regularly after she retired in her early 80s.

Another group of long-term friends included the women in her sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi (AOPi). She was still attending sorority meetings until very recently, enjoying luncheons, Christmas auctions, and fund-raising activities. Her Christian faith was very important to her. She was able to use her

journalism skills while raising her children by editing the Trinity Lutheran Church newsletter for several years. She and Dick were two of the founding members of Shepherd's Gate Lutheran Church, and she did the public relations and advertising for the church in its early years and occasionally played keyboards with the worship team.

There will be a visitation at 10:00 a.m., followed by a memorial service at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 21, 2022, at Shepherd's Gate Lutheran Church, 12400 23 Mile Rd., Shelby Twp. Burial will be in High Point, North Carolina, at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Smile Train <https://donate.smiletrain.org/givenow> would be appreciated. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

JUL 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Shepherd's Gate Church
12400 23 Mile Rd.
Shelby Twp., MI 48315

Memorial Service

JUL 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

Shepherd's Gate Church
12400 23 Mile Rd.
Shelby Twp., MI 48315

Tribute Wall

SW

“ Recalling many happy memories of times shared during almost 60 years of friendship. You'll always have a special spot in my heart, Maxine. Shirley Wing

Shirley Wing - July 20, 2022 at 05:48 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Maxine Ross.



July 20, 2022 at 12:41 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Maxine Ross.



July 20, 2022 at 09:55 AM

BP

“ Maxine was a member of my small group at church for many years. She was always a joy and impressed us how long she worked registrations for a local college.

Barbara Prenger - July 19, 2022 at 11:17 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Maxine Ross.*



July 18, 2022 at 05:11 PM



“ *Maxine lived the words of lifetime and loyal membership in Alpha Omicron Pi. She was one of the founding members of the Macomb County Alumnae Chapter. Celebrating her 93rd birthday with a group of sisters is a memory we all cherish. Roses and love to you, dear sister.*

Barbara Zolnierczak - July 18, 2022 at 11:21 AM



“ *We ALWAYS loved watching Maxine play the synthesizer at church!!! She was a cherished member of Shepherds Gate and a lovely Christian woman. Now she is home with Dick. Barb & Will*

Barb Cabble - July 17, 2022 at 10:06 PM