



Norma K. Macklin

November 13, 1946 - October 24, 2022

On a warm sunny autumn day, Norma Kay Macklin suddenly slipped away from those who loved her so very much. Norma was born November 13, 1946 and died October 24, 2022. She was preceded in death by her parents, Wesley O. and Marie (Landis) Macklin of Coldwater, MI. She was also preceded by her brother, Edward Wells, her dearest and closest friend Barbara McDowell, and her brother-in-law, Carolus Berry. Norma is survived by her sister, Jean Berry of Kalamazoo, her nephew, Chris Berry of Paw Paw, and her devoted niece, Cheryl Berry, Grand Ledge. In addition, she is survived by her great nephew, Eric Smith of Bothel, WA, her great niece, Rachel Hall (Chris), of Plainwell, MI, and her great-great niece, Cheryl-Anne Hall whom she loved dearly. She also leaves behind her Grand Rapids family, including Marlene Downes, Kathy Downes Lewis, Marcella Downes Wesche, and Barbara Downes O'Malley, and their children and grandchildren.

Norma graduated from Coldwater High School in 1964 and from Western Michigan University 1968. She went on to earn her master's degree in Special Education with a certification to teach pre-primary impaired students.

She began her teaching career in 1968 at Warren Woods Public Schools, where she worked until she retired in 2009. She loved teaching and worked diligently to meet the special needs of her students. During her career she served as Vice President of Warren Woods Education Association (WWEA)

and represented the teachers of Warren Woods at the National Association Conventions. She considered her work with the union especially important because it afforded her the opportunity to help make the lives of teachers better as she worked to limit class sizes and make sure that teachers had what they needed to be their best. Norma was an avid reader and belonged to several book clubs as well as many other social groups. She was a strong, independent, intelligent and caring woman who was a friend to all she met. Norma's friendships were for a lifetime. She loved her friends dearly and cherished their time together. She was a loyal and trusted friend who was always calm in a crisis.

Norma was a fighter for social justice for all and an advocate for those without a voice. She was an MSU Spartan fanatic and loved attending football and basketball games. She cherished her trips with Barb to the Bowl Games and the yearly trips to the Big Ten basketball tournaments.

Norma's generosity, kindness, sense of humor and infinite loyalty and compassion for friends and family are truly her legacy. She will be greatly missed, and her memory will remain with us forever. A Celebration of Life is planned for December 11, 2022, at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center at Michigan State University, 1-3 p.m.

Friends and family are asked to consider donations to the Michigan Democratic Party, Bridges4Kids (info@bridges4kids.org), or a charity of choice benefiting at-risk children.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

DEC 11. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center
219 S Harrison Rd,
East Lansing, MI 48824

Tribute Wall

JB

“ I have not been able to truly process the lost of my sister, Norma. It was not to be this way, but I guess God had other ideas. Norma's heart was broken when she had to face living alone after losing Barb. She was just starting to think there might be more life for her to live. We talked 2-3 times a week. My heart aches for her and will never stop aching. She was a great sister! !

Jean Berry - October 30, 2022 at 09:30 PM



“ Norma was so much to me. She was my aunt, my second mom, my sister, might friend, my mentor. It's hard to imagine my life without her. From the time I was little and she treated me too hot fudge sundaes, until the time I was a parent and then a grandparent and she supported me, guided me, and just plain loved me. There will never be another person like her.

Cheryl Berry - October 29, 2022 at 09:10 PM

ES

“ It’s so hard to pick just one. But when Norma and my mom, Cheryl, were here in Seattle a few months ago, we had the chance to go into Mount Rainier National park for some views. As we took in the mountain, we reminisced on Barb and what she might have felt about everything we’d seen. Norma loved and missed Barb so much, as we all did, and now I just can’t believe that she’s gone as well. It doesn’t feel real, and I will be missing her kindness, her smile and her laughter above all else ❤️



Eric Smith - October 28, 2022 at 06:42 PM

KH

Aunt Norma was, is, and remains a true gem! Loved her so much, as my Mum Kate does. A true Dame, we'll miss you hennie and keep you with us! Rest easy Norma, you did the children proud!

Karen Hall - October 28, 2022 at 07:21 PM

MK

I first met Norma when she joined the teaching staff at Westwood School. We instantly became friends and remained until now. She will be missed by all that knew her for her sweet and caring personality. God will bless you, Norma and protect you in your Heavenly home!
Marilyn Kloha

Marilyn Kloha - October 29, 2022 at 12:01 AM

SJ

What a privilege it has been having you as a dear friend! You are a treasure!! Thanks for all of the memories!!! Sally Johnson

Sally Johnson - October 29, 2022 at 11:23 AM

NA

When I think about Warren Woods some people just come to mind. Norma (and Barb) are always part of my WWPS memories. Rest well.

Nola (Hartert) Apley - October 29, 2022 at 03:19 PM

NP

I will always remember Norma for the warm loving person she was. She always made you feel wanted and welcome in her home, and her life. When I became President of the WWEA Norma and her best friend Barbara were right there to support me. For this I will always be grateful.

Naomi Pressel-Cornwell - October 29, 2022 at 06:06 PM

DP

I could always talk to Norma about everything and anything. She was intelligent, kind, fun to be with. She and Barb embraced me as a friend. I know I speak for many - she will be greatly missed.

Debbie Paliczuk - October 31, 2022 at 12:11 PM