



Susan H. Budzinski

April 18, 1960 - March 22, 2022

Susan H. Budzinski, age 61, of Royal Oak, passed away on March 22, 2022.

Susan was born on April 18, 1960 to parents Diane and Robert Jankow. Later in life, Susan married the love of her life, David, on August 5, 1989 at St. Dennis Catholic Church in Royal Oak. Susan attended Oakland University where she received her master's degree in counseling. She went on working as a mental health counselor at New Oakland Family Center which was her passion, and she would volunteer her time counseling expectant mothers through Mary's Mantle. Susan also worked at AAA as a senior underwriter for 30+ years. She was a long time member of the National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica where she served as a Eucharistic minister, and was on the Ladies Guild. Susan had many hobbies which included reading, gardening, sitting in her backyard, and watching for hummingbirds. Susan loved being around her friends and family, and cared for them so much that she would put them before herself.

Susan is survived by loving husband David Budzinski; cherished mother of Justin (Erin) Gildenpfennig; loving sister of Robert (Lori) Jankow, Bradley (Jeanne) Jankow, Lynne (Bruce) Powell, Brian (Lois) Jankow and the late Steven Jankow; and proud grandmother of Ariella and Emmalyn Gildenpfennig.

A visitation for Susan will be held on Sunday, March 27, 2022 from 2 pm to 7 pm with a scripture service at 5 pm at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. Eleven Mile Road (4 blocks east of Woodward), Royal Oak. The funeral will held on Monday, March 28, 2022, in state 9:30 am until the time of Mass 10 am, at the National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica in Royal Oak. The burial will take place at White Chapel Memorial Cemetery in Troy.

Memorials to the American Cancer Society or the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are appreciated.

Share your memories at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

White Chapel Memorial Cemetery

621 W. Long Lake Road
Troy, MI 48098

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 27. 2:00 PM - 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/>

Scripture Service

MAR 27. 5:00 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 Mass

MAR **28**. 10:00 AM (ET)

National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica
2100 W. 12 Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48073

Tribute Wall

RR

“ I met dear Susan as a patient during her time as a compassionate and gifted therapist. I saw her weekly for several years and she literally saved my life during a time of crisis. She was both an expert in her field and a healer with her faith in God. I owe her my life and my heart is hurting tonight as I learned of her passing. She will always be my most favorite person whose kindness, compassion, and love showed in every word of encouragement she gave to me. She was my hero and I use to tell her that I wanted to be like her “when I grew up”. She was a diamond whose light shined so brightly by helping so many people. I know I will her see her again in heaven and I will forever be grateful for helping me to heal and move forward in my life. I offer prayers of peace to the hearts of her loved ones, friends, patients and all those who had the privilege of crossing her path. Love you always Susan. You are an angel now with the Lord.



Ruth Rosario - November 16, 2022 at 02:41 AM

SW

“ Sue is one of the nicest, caring, loving people I have ever met. Earth was a better place with her in it. Heaven certainly has gained another Angel thinking of you Dave and Justin
Sharon W

Sharon W - March 27, 2022 at 07:46 PM

EK

“ Susan was always a bright light at our Northwood neighborhood parties; I always enjoyed chatting with her and Dave. I'm so sorry that Susan is lost to us in this world, but she is surely in our Lord's living arms.

Ellen Kehoe - March 27, 2022 at 11:38 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.



March 27, 2022 at 11:04 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.



March 27, 2022 at 10:42 AM

LS

“ Love from, Mrs. Melissa Schwartz purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.



Love from, Mrs. Melissa Schwartz - March 26, 2022 at 10:51 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.*



March 26, 2022 at 09:11 PM



“ *Sweet Sue was such a bright light to all of us here at Accurate Tax Service, Inc. Our seasonal Sunday girl who worked so hard and made extra time for everyone who needed and wanted her. Her smile and positive attitude were always uplifting and brought a sense of calm to the office during stressful times. Not only was she our co-worker, she was our dear friend too. Sue was so much fun to be around and we loved it when she could join us for a beer and some laughs after work. Unfortunately, we have been missing Sue for some time now but we will never forget how she made us feel happy just to be around her. Our hearts are deeply saddened to hear the news of her passing and want to express our sincerest sympathies to Dave, Justin and her entire family.*
Terry, Kay and Nancy

Kay Mattera - March 26, 2022 at 03:09 PM



She loved you guys do much

Dave - March 26, 2022 at 11:16 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.*



March 26, 2022 at 12:51 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.*



March 26, 2022 at 11:30 AM



“ *Mallory and Kevin McDonough purchased the Se rene Retreat for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.*



Mallory and Kevin McDonough - March 26, 2022 at 09:50 AM

MM

“ I never wanted to believe this day would come. I struggle to write something because it’s hard to describe such a beautiful essence of a person in words but those reading who knew her, know that! She just amazed me with her positive energy and spirit. I think I saw someone say it was almost like this aura around her and I think that is the perfect way to describe it. Whenever we got together, I would always feel so happy after. She was just an amazing soul. She put SO much love and positivity into the universe and all those around her felt it. I honestly bragged about her to my family and friends because I had never met such a wonderful, positive person who was so giving in life. I know we will meet again one day. I can just see that big smile and sweet laugh now. I am so blessed and lucky to have been able to call her a friend. When I left the job we worked at together (where we first met), she gifted me a beautiful picture frame with pressed flowers (a family or friend makes them? It is slipping my mind right now) with a quote that says, “How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard. Winnie the Pooh.” Here’s to all the lucky ones who got to know you Sue. Dave, Justin and family, I am praying for peace and comfort for you all. She spoke about how much she loved all of you every time we got together.
Love, Mallory

Mallory McDonough - March 26, 2022 at 09:19 AM

CI

Mallory, Word for word, my thoughts exactly. Thank you for putting this into words. We were so lucky. I know she is up there sipping on a nice cold beer and smiling down on us, wispering “don’t worry, it will all be ok.”

christi irvine - March 26, 2022 at 11:04 AM

DA

God bless you both

Dave - March 26, 2022 at 02:36 PM

LF

“ Susan was one of the first staff I worked with as I transitioned to a supervisor at New Oakland. I always looked forward to her coming into the office every evening and having a chat with her. She had such a calming and sweet demeanor and I always admired how hard she worked while also volunteering in the community and dedicating time to her family. Always had a great time with her at social events as well, she was so much fun! She will be missed around NOFC for sure!

Lauren Fournier - March 25, 2022 at 01:12 PM

DA

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Dave - March 25, 2022 at 12:07 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.



March 25, 2022 at 12:58 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.*



March 24, 2022 at 09:28 PM



“ *I would like to send my deepest sympathy to David and Justin and all the extended family members.*

Sue was a beautiful soul both inside and out. She was a source of strength and compassion for many of the people in her life.

Whenever you encountered Sue, she always made you “welcomed and accepted” and many times just her wonderful smile would create that warm loving feeling of friendship.

When my brother Joe’s wife passed on and left behind four young girls without their mother, Sue stepped in and helped any way she could and for that we were all very grateful.

Sue had a real gift for inspiring those around her and she was an incredible person. I will miss her kindness and caring nature. We all will.

May God Bless.

Sincerely,

Tom W

Tom Wiechec - March 24, 2022 at 09:07 PM



Beautifully said

Dave - March 24, 2022 at 10:25 PM

SB

“ Sue was my best friend for almost 43 years now. I can't imagine my life without her. She was the most loyal, caring person I've ever met. She loved & cherished her family and friends above everything. I'm so grateful to have had her in my life. So grateful she is at peace now.

Dave & Justin-You know how much she loved you. Her absence is leaving a hole in all our hearts. My thoughts and prayers are with you both.



Stacy Bibby - March 24, 2022 at 08:19 PM

DA

She cherished your friendship so much. Thank you for being there for her.

Dave - March 24, 2022 at 10:29 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.



March 24, 2022 at 04:30 PM

CI

“ I was blessed to have known Sue for 20 some years. I will forever be grateful and inspired by her courage, strength, faith, kindness and love. She was an amazing friend to me and I will miss her so much. Rest In Peace My Dear Sweet Sue.

Dave and Justin, you are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.



Christi Irvine - March 24, 2022 at 04:23 PM

DA

Thank you Christi

Dave - March 24, 2022 at 05:17 PM

KF

“ 34 files added to the album Memories Album



Kelly Foster - March 24, 2022 at 09:11 AM

KF

Sue made everyone feel so welcomed and loved. Words cannot capture how deeply sorry I am for your loss. She loved all of her siblings and their families so much. She loved Dave and they were truly soulmates. She was so proud of Justin and everything that he has accomplished and I know your girls gained a guardian angel. She would give advice and had an aura around her that drew people in and her counseling would give them comfort. Sending prayers of comfort during this incredibly difficult time.

Kelly Foster - March 24, 2022 at 09:18 AM

DB

Kelly, thank you so much for sharing these pictures with us they bring back such a flood of good feelings and memories, she was truly a beauty inside and out. Dave

David Budzinski - March 24, 2022 at 09:53 AM

JA

I worked with Sue for many years at the Auto Club Group. She was always great to talk with, as her positivity and faith came out in every conversation. She loved her family and friends, and also loved helping others. I know she'll have a special place in heaven. Prayers to Dave and Justin, as well as the rest of her family. Rest In Peace, Sue.

John Anolick - March 24, 2022 at 10:10 AM

MH

*I'm just in shock and completely heartbroken. I've worked with Sue for many years at Auto Club Group and we became quite close. I'm not sure what I'm going to do without her positivity, motivation and encouraging words. We have shared so many stories and conversations and I will always cherish them. She loved her family so much and would do anything for them. She's one of the strongest women I will ever know.
Love you my friend. I'm going to miss you so much Sue. You can finally Rest In Peace and I know you will be that beautiful angel watching over all of us.
Thoughts and Prayers to the family!*

Maria Hunter - March 24, 2022 at 02:26 PM

PT

“ Powell Family (Dale, Derrick, and Tina) purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.



Powell Family (Dale, Derrick, and Tina) - March 24, 2022 at 01:02 AM

TC

“ Sue was always a source of light and inspiration for me. Her calm demeanor and soothing speech was welcoming and magnetic. Always willing to help and always inquiring as to my welfare, all while trying not to burden me with the severity of her plight. We made a plan to meet up for a cocktail when she got better but that'll have to wait a while I suppose.)
She was always so light-hearted. I can still here her say, "Don't worry about it". I'll hear that in the back of head/heart for years to come. Such a beautiful, wonderful lady.....she will be missed.

Tracey Cameron-Neal - March 23, 2022 at 09:12 PM

AR

“ I have known Sue for over 20 years. We started in Underwriting together at ACG and became friends. I enjoyed all of the lunches that she, Lynda Despot and I took every year on each of our birthdays. We enjoyed being treated by the other two when it was our birthday but I think we enjoyed being lunch buddies. Sometimes we went and it wasn't anyone's birthday. Memories I will cherish forever. So nice to know you can smile forever now. Love Andrea

Andrea Robertson - March 23, 2022 at 08:28 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.*



March 23, 2022 at 06:18 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Susan H. Budzinski.*



March 23, 2022 at 05:13 PM

KA

“ I feel honored to send a memory. There are so so many. Sue was a beautiful friend and neighbor. She always put others before herself, even in her suffering. She would love to hear how things were going and would give such encouraging words. She was generous with her listening, caring, and time. What an honor and joy to know and help her.

She tried to stay so strong thru her long battle w/ cancer. It was joy to pray with her and help her in any way she needed. She didn't like to ask for help- she was so humble. She was appreciative of anything that was done for her. She was very genuine. She loved her dear family and all her friends were so special to her. She clinged to her faith- esp towards the end when it was so hard and she was having a lot of pain. She had the hope of walking again to Adoration. Her Catholic faith was very important to her. She held on to hope till the end. She would talk about wanting to live and be able to spend time w/ her family.

I thank God for dear Sue and how she has blessed me in so, so many ways.

Praying for Dave who was so very loyal to her. Also praying comfort to all her dear family and friends.
from neighbor Karen

Karen - March 23, 2022 at 05:06 PM

MB

We are privileged to be a small part of Sue and Dave's loving family and felt an instant connection to her.

Her bright smile and kind spirit touched our hearts and we will holdfast to the memories we shared. Praise God for the life she lead, the family she loved and for all her accomplishments. Rest in Peace. Forever in our hearts, love, Aunt Marcy and Uncle Dale

Marcy and Dale Becker - March 23, 2022 at 06:51 PM

DC

George and I are so sorry to learn of Sue's passing. It isn't often that you meet and get to know a neighbor who really does care more about you than she did about herself. Every word people have written here about her is true. If we are called to be saints, I know at least one who really practiced the art. Sue was she. Dave, I know you will miss her as will Justin and his family, but at least now she doesn't suffer anymore. God, I believe, is right now hugging His best friend and saying, "I love you, Sue. All is well now".

George and Dale Camp

Dale & George Camp - March 24, 2022 at 06:02 PM

DA

Thank you-Dave

David - March 24, 2022 at 06:16 PM

CB

What can I say that hasn't already been said about our wonderful Sue. Truly a woman that loved her family dearly she would do anything for them.

I got a special gift from Sue as so many of us did, it was her friendship, positive attitude toward others,. We received a gift that can't be taken away. A gift filled with laughter, wonderful memories, tears, and joy. I will carry all this in my heart. Truly a wonderful friend.

Love you Sue!

Carole Bodner & Rich Kalinowski

carole bodner - March 25, 2022 at 10:48 AM

DA

Thank you

Dave - March 25, 2022 at 11:49 AM