



Barbara V. Johnston

September 6, 1931 - March 20, 2020

Barbara Vernice Johnston passed away Friday, March 20, 2020, after a long illness. She was 88. Barbara was born September 6, 1931, to the late Dr. Herbert J. Gauerke and Hazel R. (Marx) Gauerke in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She married Henry S. Johnston on July 30, 1948, in post-war Germany where he was assigned with the Army. After returning to the United States they eventually made their home in Saline, Michigan.

Barbara is survived by her four children, Michael A. Johnston of Ann Arbor, Donna I. Johnston of Saline, Katherine M. Ramsland of Hellertown, PA and Ruth E. (Douglas) Osborne of Chelsea; three grandchildren, Ming (Jimmi) Hower of Clermont, FL, Michael (Stephanie) Johnston of Saline, Marc (Brian) Guerrero; of Columbus, OH; three great-grandchildren, Brynna Hower, Bryson Johnston and Keeley Johnston. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Henry, and daughter-in-law Mirafior Cañedo Johnston. For most of her life she was a homemaker until going to work at Edwards Brothers in Ann Arbor. Barbara and Henry moved to Brecon Village in Saline in 2012. She enjoyed reading, gardening, puzzles and, above all, she was a passionate quilter. She made several beautiful quilts for the Saline Senior Center's Annual Quilt Raffle at the Saline Fair as well as lap quilts for veterans at Ann Arbor's VA Hospital. She was a Charter Member of Holy Faith Church (formerly Faith Lutheran) in Saline. Cremation has taken place. Interment will be at Washtenong Memorial Park. There will be a memorial for family at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to Holy Faith Church

(formerly Faith Lutheran) in Saline, Arbor Hospice, or Brecon Village. To sign Barbara's guestbook or to leave a memory, please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

Cemetery Details

Washtenong Memorial Park

3771 Whitmore Lake Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
<http://washtenongmemorialpark.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara V. Johnston*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *Barbara and I spent many years together at Faith Lutheran, and I treasured knowing her. I hope she's found a sewing machine and some fabric upstairs so I can join the heavenly quilting guild with her some day! May she Rest In Peace. Marian Faupel*

Marian Faupel - April 05, 2020 at 04:14 PM



“ *Donna and family...I knew Barbara from the Senior Center. She was always kind to everyone and so talented with her quilting skills.*

Kathe Suddendorf - April 05, 2020 at 11:40 AM



“ *Barbara was a very special lady. While working at Brecon I was privileged to know both Barbara and Henry. She was was a creative quilter and she would always bring quilt patterns and quilts to show me. I remember the one showing a crime scene for her daughter, a sheriff. We laughed! R.I.P. Barbara*

Anita L Acree - April 05, 2020 at 09:07 AM



Such a sweet lady. She will be missed at Holy Faith.

Vicki English - April 05, 2020 at 09:28 AM

MA

“ Our condolences to former classmates, Mike and Katherine and Donna and Ruth with heartfelt sympathy, and that you find the strength to bear your grief in the difficult days to come.

Bill & Marilyn (Niethammer) Glaze

Marilyn - March 31, 2020 at 11:21 AM

Jenna Szpara

“ Henry and Barb were my neighbors growing up and in 2008 they honored me with their presence at my wedding where Barb wrote these words of wisdom. May her family find comfort in knowing she is with her loving Savior.

Jenna



Jenna Szpara - March 29, 2020 at 09:01 PM

LC

“ Dear Donna, Ruth, Katherine and Michael,

I just saw that your Mom passed away. We were Willis Road neighbors from 1968-1977. Our family lived in the corner house. You were wonderful neighbors to we newcomers. I also have the history of those 6 houses that she penned.. All my children have copies. Such a wonderful quilter. I won one of the many she donated to the Senior Center.

Please know that you are all in my prayers during this sad time. With hugs and love, Lucy Crossey and the Crossey family.

Lucy Crossey - March 29, 2020 at 11:40 AM

DJ

“ I will miss my mother. She played with us as kids, chasing around the house, water fights, board games, and puzzles. She taught us all how to sew, knit and quilt. I was fortunate to be able to be with her even in her last moments. Becoming a parent's caretaker is often difficult, but it is also an honor. I know Mom is finally at peace and with her Lord.

Donna Johnston - March 28, 2020 at 11:46 AM

KK

Thoughts of peace and love are with you and your family during this time and all the days ahead. Your mom looked like a beautiful lady with a kind heart; I see the resemblance Donna. Love, Karen and Matt Korte

Karen Korte - March 28, 2020 at 04:09 PM



“ Dear Barbara ~ I didn't know you, but I know your wonderful daughter. She is creative and smart and likes to get to the bottom of everything. I am so thankful for the woman you raised :-)



Beth Ritter-Guth - March 27, 2020 at 07:39 PM

MG

“ On Sept 18 2016 my grandma shared a story with me that she said she hadn't told anyone else before (at least I had never heard it). When she was a young girl she would always visit her grandparents in Appleton, Wisconsin. They had an older next door neighbor who was Jewish, he always wore black wool suit and black top hat. Sat out on porch most of the day and she would just observe him in awe. He passed when he was 93 and she said to herself that would be a good age to pass. So then she says to me that she only has 8 more years to live.

Though she didn't make it to that age, she had 88 years of life where she made a real difference in the lives of others, especially our family. I know she instilled in me a deep love for learning, not to mention curiosity and appreciation for all things Star Wars, gems and rocks (especially petoskey stones), fresh strawberries (with shortcake, of course), muscat grapes (from their backyard), antique carnival glass, owls and puffins, and sewing/crafting. Some of my fondest memories as a child were spent with her and Grandpa playing Candyland, Chutes and Ladders, and later all types of card games. Most recently, she developed a love for Downton Abbey, which I haven't started watching yet but will soon because of her. Thanks for everything, Grandma! Here's a photo of us from Christmas 2005.



Marc Johnston Guerrero - March 27, 2020 at 07:21 PM

KR

“ *My mother made a significant difference in the quality of my life. She taught me to read before I entered school, taught me to sew and knit, took me on regular trips to the library, took me to movies, and gave me great reading material. I not only saw the value of higher ed through her (though she did not get to go to college), but also of exploring, learning and writing. I know that the life I've had is one she valued and she remains an inspiration for my writing career. I'm glad I have these gifts from her, along with the wonderful quilts she made.*

Katherine Ramsland - March 27, 2020 at 01:39 PM

CK

“ *Our condolences to the family. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston were the best neighbors ever. We moved in on Willis Rd. in 1975. Mrs. Johnston was the first person to welcome us. She brought a handwritten "history" of the comings and goings of our 6 houses. She brought us vegetables from her back yard garden - best juicy tomatoes ever. Our son was born in 1976 - first one to welcome him with a book and a sleeper. Both were a delight and always ready to share a time saving tip or two. Rest assured they are together and she is catching up Henry on the news here! God's Blessings to all ~~ Gary and Carol Kind*



Carol Kind - March 26, 2020 at 10:29 AM