



Bernadette G. Ormsby

June 7, 1924 - July 24, 2022

Bernadette Ormsby, age 98, of Saline, Michigan passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Sunday, July 24, 2022. She was born in Westbrook, Maine on June 7th, 1924 to Arthur Fournier and Bernadette Buotte.

Bernie's mother died 3 hours after she was born so she was raised by her grandparents. At a young age, she was put in a Catholic boarding school. She only spoke French and at 12, she was moved to another school that only spoke English and had to learn English and new subjects at the same time. She met many obstacles in her life which made her a strong woman, and she was always helpful if you needed advice.

While attending nursing school near the Portland Maine Navy base in 1941, the nursing students were given passes to attend the USO which was a place where big bands played, and sailors went on leave. Bernie loved to tell the story of how she met Bob. She saw this good-looking guy with a big smile and hoped he would ask her to dance. He didn't stay long that night, so she kept going back hoping to meet him. She saw him walk in one night and thought, there's that sailor. He sat down and read the funny papers for a while. Then he walked behind her, but she wouldn't turn her head to see where he was because she didn't want him to think she was watching him. Then she felt a hand on her shoulder, and it was him, asking her to dance. He was shipped out a few days later and they wrote letters for two years. It must have been

true love. They were married in 1945 at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York and were married for 52 years until Bob passed away.

When Bernie moved to Saline there wasn't a Catholic Church in Saline. She and a few other women wanted a church in Saline and started meeting with a priest from Ann Arbor at the schoolhouse near Michigan Ave and State St. This was later to become St. Andrews Catholic Church.

Bernie was known for her beautiful handwriting. She loved writing and during Christmas, she spent late night hours writing over a hundred cards, and with each card, she would send a personalized letter.

When she first moved to Saline, she worked at the old hospital at the corner of S. Ann Arbor and E. Henry St. Later she worked in the delivery room when the hospital moved to Mills Rd. She would ask her children's friends if they were born in Saline telling them she probably helped deliver them if they were. After 18 years she retired and later did volunteer work at the hospital.

Other interests of Bernie's were baking lots of cookies for her children and friends, eating out at restaurants, reading, history, and fishing. She loved good conversation and enjoyed getting together for neighborhood parties. She also had an interest in the unknown, paranormal, UFOs and late-night radio. She liked all music including big bands such as Glenn Miller. She also took an interest in her children's music and liked and knew the names of much of the rock band music of the '60s and '70s.

When she would see a woman with a baby she would always stop and talk to the mother. She was a very endearing person and people loved to talk to her. People loved her French accent. She always had a soft heart for children missing one parent because she could relate to them. She always wondered what it would have been like to have a mom, and now she is finally with hers

in heaven.

She leaves behind 6 children, Lee (Richard) Baumgartner, Lynne (Ted) Babcock, Laurie (John) Ekenman, Shelly Postyeni, Kelly (Ruth) Ormsby, and Brian Ormsby. She also had 12 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and 10 great-great-grandchildren. She had 7 younger half-siblings whom she outlived.

Friends may join the family for a time of visitation on Thursday, July 28, 2022 from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. A Mass of the Christian Burial will take place on Friday, July 29, 2022 at 11:30 A.M. at the St. Andrew Catholic Church in Saline with Fr. John Linden as Celebrant. Visitation will also be held at the Church and will be held from 10:30 A.M. until the time of service at 11:30 A.M. A luncheon will follow and will be held at the church. Entombment will take place in the Mausoleum at the Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor at 3:00 P.M. Memorial contributions in her name may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and envelopes will be available at the funeral home and the Church. To leave a memory you have of Bernadette, to sign her guestbook or for directions please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

Cemetery Details

Washtenong Memorial Park

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

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 28. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Visitation

JUL 29. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church
910 Austin Drive
Saline, MI 48176
<https://standrewsaline.org/>

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL **29**. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church
910 Austin Drive
Saline, MI 48176
<https://standrewsaline.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Bernadette G. Ormsby*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *God Bless Bernadette for making the effort to establish our wonderful parish. May she rest in peace. Fr. Mike Petroski*



Fr. Mike Petroski - July 29, 2022 at 08:11 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Bernadette G. Ormsby.*



July 28, 2022 at 11:04 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Bernadette*



Kelly Ormsby - July 28, 2022 at 12:32 AM

KO

“ 2 files added to the album Anniversary



Kelly Ormsby - July 27, 2022 at 09:19 PM

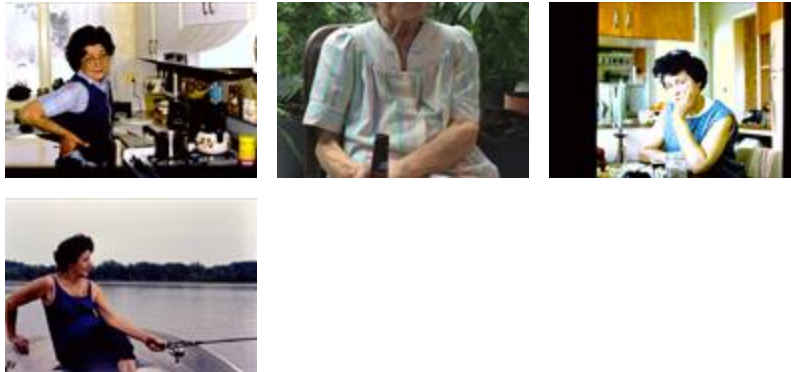
LS

“ As a long time neighbor we grew up with many family gatherings, parties, picnics at the pool and so many fun times with Bernie's family! She will be missed by all of us. Bernie had the sweetest accent and always could roll with the times. I enjoyed visiting her through the years and I wish her a wonderful reuniting with Bob and all that have gone before her. Sending our sympathy to the family.
Laurie and Jerry Stegenga

Laurie Stegenga - July 27, 2022 at 08:18 PM

KO

“ 4 files added to the album Bernadette



kelly ormsby - July 27, 2022 at 08:14 PM

JU

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Bernie about 1998 at St. Andrews church . I was there with my mom and we were new to the church. Bernie graciously asked us to go for coffee and donuts (she new we were newcomers).

Since that day she opened her heart my mom and her became great friends ,as well as I .

They did so much together!!!

Bernie was a loving, happy,beautiful person with a lot of stories to tell ! I so enjoyed being around her.

She was funny , witty and so caring !

Bernie you will be missed but now May you Rest In Peace . 🙏🙏🙏



judy - July 27, 2022 at 07:17 PM

KO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



kelly ormsby - July 27, 2022 at 07:06 PM

PC

“ Aunti Bernie was one in a million. My wife and I always felt welcome in her presence. We will never forget you as long as we live. we love you. God bless. Phil and kryz cefaratti

Philip Cefaratti - July 27, 2022 at 06:57 PM