



## Betty Ruth Charles

February 2, 1928 - March 8, 2021

To those whom I loved & Those who loved me:

“When I am gone, release me, let me go.

I have so many things to see and do,

You mustn't tie yourself to me with too many tears,

But be thankful we had so many good years.”

Betty Ruth Charles passed away Monday, March 8th, 2021 at Ann Arbor's St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Betty was 93 years old living in Saline, Michigan at Brecon Village.

She was born the 2nd of February, 1928 in Holland, Michigan the daughter of

Sarah and John Frier. Her brother was Donald Frier.

Betty grew up as a child in Napoleon, Michigan. She graduated from Napoleon High School in 1945

Betty met Spencer Bliss Charles from Napoleon at the Napoleon Methodist

Church after World War II. Spencer was in a Military Police division serving in North Africa and Italy.

They married October 20th, 1946. They lived together in Saline, Michigan most of their lives. They were members of the Saline First United Methodist Church.

Betty is survived by her three children, Julia Louise Waits, Robert Bliss Charles, and John Spencer Charles. Betty is also survived by her three grandchildren, Ian and Kristan Charles in Texas, Seth Waits in Alabama, and five great-grandchildren,

Easton, Waylon and London Charles in Texas, and Grayson and new baby Iris Bristow also in Texas.

After Betty's children left the house for school, jobs, or Alaska, Betty found a new challenging job as office manager for the new Saline Evangelical Home. Betty rolled that opportunity into a twenty year career.

The couple sang, danced, and enjoyed the Saline community. She was an excellent bowler. She also enjoyed playing domino's and cards regularly with her long time good friends.

As my dad would say- "She's quite a gal."

Betty and Bliss traveled all over the State of Michigan and a great deal of the United States, eventually traveling to Europe and Asia between all that working and living.

The couple visited Egypt, France, China, England, etc. and always brought back presents and pictures of their adventures to share.

There will not be a ceremony at this time due to the pandemic. Burial will take place at the Napoleon Cemetery at a later date. The family asks that you visit the funeral home's webpage at [www.rbfhsaline.com](http://www.rbfhsaline.com) to sign Betty's guestbook, to leave a memory you have of her, or to post a favorite picture. Thank you.  
The Charles Family.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Betty Ruth Charles*

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October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *Betty was my Girl Scout leader. We had wonderful adventures with her and Betty Weidmeyer. Camping, sledding, badge work, bridge parties, canoeing. During my many trips down the Pine River that canoeing badge saved me from many unintended dips in the water! Many in our troop became Curved Bar Girls (similar to an Eagle Scout for girls).*

*I spent many overnights with Julia. Betty always had homemade cookies in the cookie jar.*

*I have many memories that involve Betty and her family. And yes the hamsters and guinea pigs.*

*Liz (Merchant) Rohs*

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**Liz (merchant) Rohs** - January 06, 2022 at 04:45 PM

LC

“ Dear Julia, Robert and John,

*It is indeed a sad time with the passing of your Mom. She and your Dad were such delightful, adventuresome people. I have so many memories of parties, attending musicals, picnics at the lake, meals at the churches (more than one), playing bridge, dominoes and rummikubs at the Senior Center, And I admired your parents for their trips with the Nomads. They visited areas that had been devastated by hurricanes and helped rebuild them. Betty was a very caring person. May she be pain free and rest in the arms of the Lord.*

*Lucy Crossey*

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**lucy crossey** - March 20, 2021 at 09:53 AM

SS

“ Julie, Robert and John,

*My condolences to all of you. You had one fantastic mother and I was so blessed to have both your father and mother come to my wedding in Texas. They loved to dance and they were enjoyed by all at our reception. I remember the times our families got together for special occasions and the endless conversations we had to catch up on all the news during those times. Her memories will be cherished. God Bless You All.*

*Sandy Silkworth (Grunewald)*

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**Sandy Silkworth** - March 19, 2021 at 04:22 PM

NR

“ Julie, Bob, and John,

*Your Mom was a bright light in Saline and in my life. We had a special bond after spending a few days together in Seattle during a difficult time for both of us. She was a fierce mother and sure loved her kids. Wonderful memories at church activities and many other Saline events. Sending you hugs and much love.*

*Nancy Starling Ross*

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**Nancy Starling Ross** - March 19, 2021 at 10:06 AM

JA

“ Julie, Robert, and John,

*I always remember your mother smiling, friendly, listening carefully with a characteristic tilt of her chin. She was the most wonderful Girl Scout leader, teaching us so many useful and valuable life skills. I wish I had some photos to share of the adventures she lead us on. May your memories of her and your father, along with those of so many others whose paths she crossed, comfort you in the years to come.*

*-Jackie (Livingstone) Anderson*

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**Jackie (Livingstone) Anderson** - March 18, 2021 at 05:11 PM

RM

“ Betty had already been the Office Manager at Evangelical Home for 9 years by the time I arrived as Administrator in 1983. It was readily apparent her commitment to maintaining the office and looking after the business accounts of the Home. But she also looked outward to her community and oversaw the employee United Way campaigns, as well as various employee social events. Her focus, energy and humor were wonderful qualities that were valued by all who worked with her.

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**Roger Meiller** - March 18, 2021 at 04:37 PM

JC

“ A few memories -  
As children we where allowed to have Friends stay  
overnight, Hamsters, Ginny Pigs, Dogs, Cats, Walking sticks, etc.. And  
of course Betty fed them all.  
We had the great cottage at Stony Lake to visit every weekend to  
enjoy the water,  
boats, fishing, swimming and all the action at YMCA Camp Storer.  
Sail boats and the pontoon plane that occasionally landed on the  
water.  
Thank you Betty for all those years of love and support delivering  
each kid to Girl scouts, Boy scouts, dance class, baseball  
practice, track, and art Classes.  
The longest trip - They pulled a pop up camper behind a 65 Ford  
galaxy wagon with three kids in the back all the way west out route  
66 camping and exploring. On their way to visit old next door  
neighbors who moved to the west cost.  
In California we stopped at all the notable attractions. Disneyland,  
La Brea Tar Pits, And Knott's Berry Farm, to mention a few.  
On the way back home they traveled through the northern route  
exploring every national park and notable landmark on the map.

Thank you

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**John Charles** - March 17, 2021 at 07:07 PM

JC

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



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**John Charles** - March 17, 2021 at 05:54 PM

JC

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



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**John Charles** - March 17, 2021 at 05:37 PM

JC

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



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**John Charles** - March 17, 2021 at 05:31 PM

JC

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



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**John Charles** - March 17, 2021 at 02:37 PM

SS

“ *My condolences to the family. RIP Betty. Say hello to Bliss when you see him again. I have so many great memories of Bliss and Betty from our days together in the Saline Area Players - especially Bliss in the quartet in The Music Man.*

*Steve Sheldon*

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**Steve Sheldon** - March 17, 2021 at 01:28 AM

SW

“ We are so sorry to hear of Betty's passing. Our thoughts are with you. Rick and Sandi

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**Sandi walch** - March 17, 2021 at 12:14 AM

KL

“ Betty was a committed bridge player. When I moved to Saline in 1990 she invited me to join the bridge group. I've enjoyed playing bridge with the group all these years. My thanks and appreciation to Betty! My thoughts are with her family, especially Julia and her love and support for her Mom. God Bless You All with his peace!

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**Kathy Lawless** - March 16, 2021 at 04:40 PM

JH

“ Julie, Robert, and John,

*I absolutely loved your mom and I made some great memories the summer our family spent a few days out at Stoney Lake. Your dad and my dad worked together at Ford, your mom and my mom had some great times together laughing and talking. When I took the occasion to visit the UM church your mom was the friendly greeting committee, and your mom would pop into Brecon Village and visit my mom who lived there. Truly a wonderful, kind-hearted soul who will be sorely missed by many!*

*Jan Haupt*

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**Jan Haupt** - March 16, 2021 at 02:53 PM

MG

“ Betty was a lovely friend and played cards with both my Mother and Aunt. So sorry for your loss!

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**Melissa Graban-Seitz** - March 16, 2021 at 07:40 AM

OF

“ I remember getting to know Betty when she was the secretary at Jensen School and I was teaching there. She was very efficient and fun to be with. I am sorry for her passing.

*With love and peace,  
Olivia Fanning*

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**Olivia Fanning** - March 16, 2021 at 07:04 AM

JC

“ *Julia, Robert, and John,  
Whenever I saw your mom - whether at the Methodist Church where we all grew up, at their cottage at Stony Lake, or around town, she was always smiling, and greeted my parents, my four sisters and me with a hearty “Hi, how’s it going?” I am sure that you have many happy memories, and I hope those memories will bring comfort to you and your families.*

*Janet Livingstone Carson*

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**Janet Carson** - March 15, 2021 at 05:11 PM

B(

“ *Condolences and prayers for strength and comfort to her Family and Friends. After Bliss passed it was good to see her around town with other widows. She was always smiling and a nice person.*

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**Barbara Schmid Losee (Babs)** - March 15, 2021 at 04:41 PM

GH

“ *My prayers and thoughts are with you during these troubled times. I will always remember your Mom, Betty for making me feel welcome at Park Place when I moved in. I enjoyed playing many fun "games" with your mother, Betty.*

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**Geraldine Hale** - March 14, 2021 at 10:51 AM

JH

“ So sorry for the loss of your mother, Betty. She was a good friend and Park Place neighbor. Through the years, we enjoyed many games of euchre and dominoes, we served together as Saline Hospital Auxiliary members and members of the First Methodist Church of Saline. My Prayers go out to you.

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**Jeanne Hess** - March 13, 2021 at 06:17 PM

SM

“ My condolences to your family for the passing of Betty. I grew up in the Methodist church and I think I've known her my whole life. She served the church for many years with my mom, Elaine Carter, and she always spoke highly of Betty. It's so hard to lose mom. You're in my prayers.  
Sue (Carter) Mulka

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**Susan M Mulka** - March 11, 2021 at 02:33 PM