



## Jo Ann Duffany

April 2, 1942 - April 26, 2019

Jo Ann Duffany, born April 2, 1942, resident of Brownstown Township, former resident of Saline, Michigan, passed away peacefully at her home on Friday April 26, 2019 surrounded by her loving children, at 77 years of age. Jo Ann was born and raised in Superior, Wisconsin, graduated 3rd in her senior class, completed her Bachelor's degree at Viterbo University in Lacrosse, Wisconsin and later completed Master's degree in Education at Eastern Michigan University. She spent the nine years following high school dedicated to serving the needs of others as a Catholic nun, (Franciscan order) and began her career as an elementary school teacher. Her calling changed in the late 1960s; at which point, Jo Ann maintained her faith in the Catholic church but left the convent before making her final vows. She later met her beloved life partner at her best friend's wedding and married Robert Duffany (Bob) on July 10, 1971. Jo Ann and Bob moved around during the first few years of marriage, living in several states while maintaining careers and beginning their family, each of their three children born in different states. Jo Ann and Bob spent the majority of their married life raising their children in Saline, Michigan. Jo Ann continued to serve her community as a religious education instructor at St. Andrew Catholic Church. She was a sixth grade teacher of math and science at St. Francis of Assisi in Ann Arbor and a natural community collaborator amongst her peers in Saline. She was proud of raising her kids through elementary, middle and high school while Bob was on assignment for several years. After retirement she enjoyed meeting new people, playing

games, attending social events in her community, red hat society outings, visiting with friends, Bible study, her cards group, shopping, and spending time with her kids and grandkids and their many activities. She truly loved the human connection and had a knack for bringing people together. She is survived by her children, Ryan Duffany, Scott (Julie) Duffany and Shannon (Dave) Bolton; grandchildren, Evan and Amber Duffany; siblings, John Larson and Jeanette Tinker; sister-in-law, Kathy Duffany. She was preceded in death by her husband Robert G. Duffany, mother and father, Margaret and Leo Larson; sister, Nancy VanOvermeiren and brother, Larry Larson. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Friday, May 3, 2019 at 11:00 A.M. at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Saline. A luncheon will follow at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in her name may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital or to American Cancer and envelopes will be available at the church. Friends may join the family for a time of visitation from 9:00 A.M. until the time of Mass at 11:00 A.M. Burial will take place in Oakwood Cemetery in Saline at a later date. To leave a memory you have of Jo Ann, to sign her guestbook, or for directions please visit [www.rbfhsaline.com](http://www.rbfhsaline.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

227 West Michigan Ave  
Saline, MI 48176

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 3. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

## Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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

## Luncheon

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MAY 3. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jo Ann Duffany*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



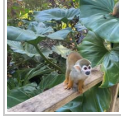
“ *I am so sorry to hear of JoAnn's passing. I know I'm a year late with this but I only now learned of it. I have been thinking of her and wondering how to find out more and a friend shared with me how to locate someone on the computer. JoAnn & I had "reconnected" In recent years so I was aware of her medical issues but I never expected to learn she had passed away. I'm a friend from her convent years and she and I chose similar paths —convent, teaching, leaving to get married, raising kids, etc. We enjoyed reminiscing about the old days in the convent, teaching in Catholic schools, our kids and grandkids. She was special to me and I will miss our conversations and sharing. I want to extend my sympathy and prayers to her family. Even tho we never met, I feel I know you. God give you comfort as you continue to lead good lives ...I know she was so proud of each of you  
Eternal rest grant onto her O Lord....  
Love  
Betty Tigges Richard*

betty richard - June 26, 2020 at 05:05 PM



“ *I have only known JoAnn for a few years but I have grown to really admire her. So enjoyable to be with, smiling, joking, and many sincere visits. I am so sorry we couldn't be with her beautiful family today, but you were close in our hearts. Sending love!!*

Sue Bannister - May 03, 2019 at 12:23 PM



*She loved you to Sue, she would often look forward to visiting with you and Dennis. She loved you guys. All the support has not gonw unnoticed, love you 🥰*

**Ryan Duffany** - May 10, 2019 at 11:18 PM



*“ I first met Jo Ann or "Mrs. Duffany" as I always called her in the early 90's when she was my 6th grade teacher at St. Francis. She was a very smart and thoughtful teacher. When our family moved back to Saline in 1993 I ended up becoming best friends with her youngest son, Ryan. I was lucky enough to spend a couple vacations with Ryan and family. One to Wisconsin and another to Florida. I also spent hours around their house chatting with Bob and Jo Ann. I feel lucky to have known both Mr. and Mrs. Duffany and will keep them in my memories. I'm so sorry to Ryan, Shannon, Scott, and the rest of your families.*

**Mike Winkler** - May 02, 2019 at 09:07 PM



*You were very much loved by my mom. So many great memories. Thanks for being there Mike, your still my bestfriend and if you ever need anything I'm there for you brother. I miss hanging out and hope that will change in the future . Bros till the end homie thanks for sharing and being there at the funeral it meant a lot to me. Your a true friend god bless you*

**Ryan Duffany** - May 10, 2019 at 11:12 PM

MM

*“ I'm so sorry that I can't be there tomorrow. Jo Ann was always so kind and she had such a great sense of humor. I loved the way she laughed. And she was such a good friend - to all. I only knew her for about a year, but she enriched my life with her kind ways. Jo Ann, I miss you.*

**Mary MacGowan** - May 02, 2019 at 08:21 PM

CM

“ I am unable to attend the service on Friday, due to a doctor’s appointment. Both Jo Ann and myself were fairly new to the Bridgewater community in Brownstown. I found Jo Ann to be a very nice person. I found out more of Jo Ann’s personality during the final weeks of her life. Her beautiful eyes when she looked at you made you aware that she knew everything that was happening. Not once did I ever hear her complain. A smile would cross her lips as friends were talking. It was a privilege to have known Jo Ann. I met two of her children, Shannon and Ryan who were devoted to her. I also met her friend, Sue, who expressed that Jo Ann was like a sister to her. To Jo Ann’s family and friends , Jo Ann showed strength, dignity, grace in her final days on this earth. I wish I could have known her longer. With my sincere sympathy, Catherine McDonald

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**catherine mcdonald** - May 01, 2019 at 10:09 AM

DH

“ Jo Ann was my cousin closest in age. Although it has been many years since we had seen each other i have many fond memories of when we kids out at the lake and around the Larson house in Superior. It is no surprise that she lived such a good life surrounded by family and friends. RIP cousin.

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**Dennis Hager** - April 30, 2019 at 03:05 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Jo Ann Duffany.



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April 30, 2019 at 11:11 AM

CL

“ To the family of JoAnn Duffany: Take time to ponder fond memories, take time to grieve and time to heal. May your faith, family, friends and loved ones bring you comfort during this difficult time. May the following words bring you comfort: “Perhaps they are not stars, but rather openings in heaven where the love of our lost ones pours through and shines down upon us to let us know they are happy.” Your mom will be a very bright light.

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**Carole Lewis** - April 29, 2019 at 07:06 PM

SB

Thank you Carole ❤️. You have been a constant reminder of the wonderful people whom have walked with us on this journey. My mom always enjoyed your impromptu conversations around Saline and when we'd see you while shopping ❤️

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**Shannon Bolton** - April 29, 2019 at 11:30 PM

SS

I have nothing but great memories of your mom and will miss her dearly. She was our neighbor and a dear friend. We had so many fun times on the screened in porch, shopping, movies, lunches/dinners and travels. She was such a brilliant lady which made being with JoAnne so much fun . I watched JoAnne go from being so vibrant to suffering over the last year. Never did she complain. Her children were and still are amazing individuals. JoAnne loved her children to the moon and back. They are a loving family.

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**Sandra Stapish** - April 30, 2019 at 04:47 PM

TS


“ Scott and family, I'm so sorry for your loss. Many prayers headed your way.

*Tracy Shelton*

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**Tracy Shelton** - April 29, 2019 at 03:16 PM

NE

“ JoAnne long time Saline community, St. Francis of Assissi school teacher, forming liitle minds and  s, and wonderful presence of faith hope and love at St. Andrew's parish Saline.

We are missing you! And we count on your presence with your family and friends as you now in Eternal life pray for us.

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**Noraleen Renauer, Pastoral Associate eme** - April 27, 2019 at 10:38 PM