



Joan Marie Shelly

August 19, 1933 - December 27, 2016

Age 83, passed away on Tuesday, December 27, 2016 at the American House Senior Living Facility in Grand Rapids, MI. Joan was born in Ypsilanti, MI, the daughter of Earl and Mary (Renton) Willoughby. After graduating from IU in Indiana in 1955, she got married to Nicolas Mihailoff-Shellyin in the spring of 1955 and she traveled the world together until her first born, Peter Boyd was born in Vienna, Austria in 1964. Then as they began to settle in the U.S. her daughter, Larissa Nicole was born in 1966 in Elkhart Indiana then along came her baby boy, Andrew Bruce. She was a fabulous and wonderful housewife and mom who loved to take care of her family. She worked at Stretch n Sew in Mishawaka, Ind. as a store manager. She was a marvelous and exceptionally talented seamstress. There was nothing she couldn't make or put together. She made beautiful clothing for her kids and grandkids growing up. She then moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan to start a new life for herself with her family in 1983. She enjoyed a wonderful job with MR-Mathematical Reviews with U of M for the next 20 years. In 1988, she moved out to the city of Saline, MI and enjoy a wonderful condo where she could plant her flowers and watch her grandkids swim in the pool in the summertimes when they came to visit. She lived there until 2013. From there she moved to Grand Rapids, MI to be closer to her daughter and her grandkids. She loved volunteering with Michigan Theater downtown as an usher for many years. She also volunteered with the Saline library and their Garden club for several years. Upon her retirement in 2007, she then made

new friends with the Saline Senior Center and enjoyed many fun times with her friends playing Manjong and card games. She loved her some Red Lobster, and going out to eat with her friends in the area. She loved and enjoyed every minute she could get with her grandkids. They were the apple of her eye and brought her lots of joy, laughter and happiness. Survivors include her daughter Larissa (Brian) Cassell, grandchildren Jessica Shelly, Valerie Marie Cassell, Joshua Ishmael Cassell, and Ella Louise Shelly, and her daughter-in-law Diane Shelly. Joan was preceded in death by her parents Earl and Mary, her sons Peter and Andrew Shelly, and her brother Boyd. Cremation has taken place. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at the Robison-Bahnmilller Funeral Home in Saline, MI from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 P.M. with a service starting at 1:00 P.M. Burial will follow in the Highland Cemetery in Ypsilanti, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Joan's name may be made to Saline Area Social Service, the Saline Senior Center, or to Habitat for Humanity. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home. To sign Joan's guestbook, to leave a memory, or for more information or directions, please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

Cemetery Details

Highland Cemetery

943 N. River Street, Ypsilanti, MI.
Ypsilanti, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 4. 12:00 PM - 1:00 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>

Memorial Service

JAN 4. 1:00 PM - 1:45 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>

Tribute Wall



“ *Joan Marie Shelly*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *Joan expected and inspired the best of work. Her innovations are still being used on a daily basis, even though she retired several years ago.*



Joan loved her family and all children. She was supportive when I became a mother and gave me great advice.

I miss Joan and can only imagine the depth of loss for her beloved family.

Terrie - January 09, 2017 at 08:31 AM



“ *I knew Joan from the saline senior center I worked there for over 7 years. Joan had a great sense of humor and great patience as I worked with her to work with her phone and getting emails and pictures of her family. She will be missed by many people from the senior center including me. My love and prayers go out to her family. Pam Molascon*

pam molascon - January 02, 2017 at 09:01 PM

DI

“ I first met Joan in 1988 when I began my career as a Mary Kay consultant. She was in my unit. After she left the company, she was one of my most loyal clients! I enjoyed meeting her for lunch and visiting her in her home. We talked about our children and grandchildren. She always had pictures of her grandchildren to share with me. I brought my grandson over one day and she gave him a star to play with. He was so happy to have it. I was touched by her genuine love for me and my family. Larissa and family - may God give you the comfort you desire. She is missed.

diane irwin - January 02, 2017 at 07:45 PM

NA

“ *"Ms. Joan" as my kids called her, was a wonderful neighbor for many years. She would always visit and bring a meal with each new baby we had. We enjoyed visiting with her and her grandchildren when they would visit, especially at the pool:) We will miss her...*
Naomi Dillen

Naomi - January 02, 2017 at 06:11 PM

BP

“Joan and I first met on a trip we took together with the Saline Senior Center. We became close friends and took many more trips together. Joan introduced me to the game of Mahjong and we enjoyed many Thursday mornings with our Mahjong group. As our friendship grew, we enjoyed many dinners and shopping trips together. After a fall left Joan housebound, she and I spent hours each week playing Rummikub and just enjoying each others company. In that spring we got together to watch the Triple Crown races. We had such a good time. I really missed her when she moved to Grand Rapids, but I knew she wanted to be closer to her wonderful family whom she loved dearly and was so very proud of. Fly free my friend and enjoy being with your boys again.



Barbara Phelps - January 02, 2017 at 10:37 AM

EG

“Joan was a part of our Mahjong group at Saline Area Senior Citizens and became a good friend. She so loved playing the game and becoming a part of a group of really good friends. I have shared some pictures of her playing several years ago. She was one strong little woman who just kept on keepin' on. I so missed her when she moved to Grand Rapids...but know she is flying with angels today.
Evelyn Griffin

Evelyn Griffin - December 31, 2016 at 07:11 AM

EG

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Evelyn Griffin - December 31, 2016 at 07:08 AM

TP

“ *Joan was a long-time coworker. I can still see her smile. My deepest sympathies to her family and friends at this time of loss.*



Twila Price - December 29, 2016 at 09:23 AM

JS

“ *Our condolences to Larissa and Brian, Valarie and Joshua. She loved you dearly and was so very proud of each of you and your accomplishments. You have a new angel on you shoulder...& whispering in your ear May your happy memories bring you joy. And the knowledge that she'll always be with you in your heart be of comfort. She'll be missed but fondly remembered.*



Janet & Dick Stuart - December 28, 2016 at 03:21 AM

SS

“ So sorry to hear of her passing. I always thought she was amazing. Love you
Sarah Scholl



Sarah Scholl - December 27, 2016 at 12:40 PM