



Patti Jane Iliev

September 8, 1950 - August 23, 2025

A rose by any other name,
A flower by any other name.

Our flower's name was Patti Jane.

She was born on September 8th, 1950 the daughter of Clifford Benjamin and Betty Jane (Lilly) Lawrence.

A garden is cared for by the gardener— Patti Jane lived assured of a Higher Gardener. Steadfast in her faith, she was a believer in Jesus Christ the architect of life and Gardener of fulfillment and love.

Patti was a master gardener, a horticulturist. She knew the Latin, along with the colloquial name, for every plant that any human could inquire into. She loved to care for plants— and her tender care for the natural world was an accurate lens for how she cared for her fellow friends.

Patti made easy friends. She was generous with her time and truly loved people without judgement. She cared for people based on the fact that they were, simply, people— human beings, children of God.

All of creation is precious. The gardener knows and understands this. The

gardener waters and cares for every plant seeded in its garden tenderly.

Patti Jane tended to her garden intentionally. To her family, friends, community, and actual garden she was attentive and generous. She cultivated with time, love, commitment, and care.

The gardens she tended grew because of her commitment to care for what was in front of her. She watered her faith, family, friendships, and commitments. Those that knew her loved her because they felt the nourishment of her watering.

Like a beautiful flower in a garden, her life was vibrant. She radiated and provided joy and life all around— through her essence. Her love, kindness, generosity, and beauty lives on in all of us who were fortunate to be graced by her presence.

Patti Jane Iliev, age 74, of Ann Arbor, Michigan passed away peacefully early in the morning on Saturday, August 23 with family by her side.

She is survived, and left to cherish her memory, by husband Simeon, daughter Marquina, son Benjamin and wife Chelsea, grandson Lorenzo, elder brother James Benjamin and wife Vicki Lawrence, brother-in-law Decho and wife Glenda Iliev, niece Bianka Iliev and husband Paul Puebla, niece Jessica Super and husband and child Eric and Radi Super, niece Allison Iliev, niece Jenny (Lawrence) Charley and child Aiden Lawrence-Dixon, sister-in-law Kina Rasheva, niece Stiliyana Stiliyanova and Lyubo Bozhkov, niece Radoveta Stiliyanova and Jordon Slavchev, nephew Yavor Bozhkov and wife and children Dorothea, Adrian and Clara, nephew Stiliyan Slavchev along with numerous cousins, family members, and loved ones.

She is preceded in death by her parents Clifford Benjamin and Betty Jane

Lawrence, brother John Neil Lawrence, sister-in-law Joan Iliev and nephew Christopher Lawrence.

Friends may join the family for a time of visitation on Thursday, August 28th from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. Visitation will continue on Friday, August 29th at the funeral home from 10:00 A.M. until the time of Funeral Service at 11:00 A.M. Pastor Tyson Lemke will officiate the service. Burial will follow the service and will take place in the Oakwood Cemetery in Saline. A luncheon will also be held at Grace Bible Church, 1300 South Maple Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, starting at 1:30 P.M. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Patti's name may be made to Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf, 100 South Pine Street, Ste #283, Zeeland, MI 49464. Contributions may be made online by visiting <https://www.cccdjamaica.org/donate/> To leave a memory you have of Patti, for directions or to sign her online guestbook please visit www.rbfhsaline.com

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

227 West Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 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

AUG 29. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

AUG 29. 11:00 AM - 12:00 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>

Graveside Service

AUG 29. 12:25 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Oakwood Cemetery
227 W Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176

Luncheon

AUG 29. 1:30 PM (ET)

Grace Bible Church
1300 South Maple Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
<http://www.gracea2.org/>

Tribute Wall

SR

“ 74 files added to the album *Pictures of Patti*



Stephen Robison - August 28, 2025 at 02:43 PM

BR

“ *Dear Simeon and family,*

I am so sorry for your loss, and a great one it is. I have very few childhood memories that do not include Patti. We met when we were 6, and although I had not seen her in decades, I remember her so very well. I feel blessed that I was able to have a lengthy conversation with her a few months ago, reminiscing about Gustin School friends and neighbors. She was delightful on the phone, in spite of how she must have been feeling. She was a brave soul and a great loss to all who knew her. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

*In Christ,
Billie (Koshaba) Raney*

Billie Raney - August 28, 2025 at 12:31 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Patti Jane Iliev.

August 27, 2025 at 03:45 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Patti Jane Iliev.



August 27, 2025 at 02:59 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Patti Jane Iliev.

August 27, 2025 at 02:12 PM



“ Jill B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Patti Jane Iliev.

Jill B. - August 27, 2025 at 10:17 AM



“ Charles D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Patti Jane Iliev.

Charles D. - August 26, 2025 at 11:11 PM

SG

“ Sherine G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Patti Jane Iliev.

Sherine G. - August 26, 2025 at 03:13 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Patti Jane Iliev.

August 26, 2025 at 02:35 PM

KS

“ I have such fond memories of Patti from Saline Area Players and Christian Women's Club. She was kind to all.

Kathe Suddendorf - August 26, 2025 at 11:04 AM

BW

“ SIMEON , WE LOVE YOU AND PATTI SO SORRY FOR HER PASSING.MANY GOOD TIMES IN HIGH SCHOOL WITH HER & YOU.PRAYERS MY FRIEND.

BOB WYATT - August 26, 2025 at 10:28 AM

TH

“ We are saddened to hear of Patti's passing. She was a wonderful neighbor to us for 40 years. Many days I look out my windows and thank God that Patti was my neighbor because I can enjoy her beautiful gardens. Sorry for your loss, Simeon, Marquina, Ben and Lorenzo.

Therese and Allen Horning

Therese Horning - August 26, 2025 at 09:00 AM

MH

“ Dear Simeon, Marquina, Benjamin, and Lorenzo

We were so sorry to hear of Patti's passing. Our prayers go out to you and your family during this very difficult time in your lives. After reading your email, the memories of our time together in Germany came flooding back. Patti touched our lives in so many ways and will always remain in our hearts.

Please know that we are with you in prayer and in spirit.

*Love,
Mike and Linda Haze*

Mike & Linda Haze - August 25, 2025 at 07:03 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Patti Jane Iliev.



August 25, 2025 at 12:56 PM

CD

“ Simeon, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Patti was a wonderful soul and will be missed! I wish you well and sending prayers to help you through these hard times.

Cindy Dames

Cindy Dames - August 25, 2025 at 12:38 PM

SS

“ Dear Simeon, Marquina, Ben, Lorenzo
With the death of a loved one, we lose many things, but we never lose the time we shared and the memories of them. I will remember her as a fine, elegant, kind and always ready to share the joy and pain of others. May her memory be bright!
Stiliyana, Lyubo

Stiliyana Stiliyanova - August 25, 2025 at 11:13 AM

KG

“ Kina Gencheva lit a candle in memory of Patti
Jane Iliev



Kina Gencheva - August 25, 2025 at 10:59 AM

KG

“ Скъпи братко, скъпи племенници,
Приемете моите искрени съболезнования за загубата на
вашата обичана и всеотдайна майка и съпруга. Ще я запомня
с вниманието, уважението и разбирането, с което се
отнасяше към мен и моите деца. Имам безброй подаръци и
спомени от скъпата ми Пети, които винаги ще ми напомнят
за нея!
Бог да я прости!
Вечна ѝ памет!
Обичам ви и мислите ми са винаги с вас!
Сестра и леля Кина

Kina Gencheva - August 25, 2025 at 10:57 AM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Patti Jane Iliev.*



August 25, 2025 at 09:44 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Patti Jane Iliev.

August 25, 2025 at 09:44 AM



“ *I met Patti back in 1983 with The Saline Area Players. We were in several shows together since then and became friends immediately along with our pals, Betty and Sherry. We all shared many wonderful get togethers and memories! We watched our children grow up and shared successes, health scares, personal grief, personal victories, our FAITH, and just LIFE in general. Patti will be sorely missed in THIS life. We are all comforted in knowing we will see her again in the NEXT Eternal Life, all without blemish, or pain and suffering.*

I regret not being in town to celebrate Patti's life but please know I will definitely be there in spirit and LOVE FOR HER and her family!

*With deepest fondness,
Karen (Murrell) Klemm*

Karen Klemm (Murrell) - August 25, 2025 at 09:08 AM

TF

“ Twardak Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Patti Jane Iliev.



Twardak Family - August 24, 2025 at 07:19 PM

TF

“ Twardak Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Patti Jane Iliev.

Twardak Family - August 24, 2025 at 07:19 PM

SR

“ 1 file added to the album Pictures of Patti



Stephen Robison - August 24, 2025 at 03:53 PM

BR

Wow, Patti really was a beauty!

Billie Raney - August 28, 2025 at 12:35 PM