



Marilyn Webb

March 19, 1942 - December 3, 2014
Galesburg, MI

LIFE STORY / OBITUARY



VISITATION

Monday, December 8, 2014
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM EST
Northeastern Baptist Church
6536 East "G" Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

SERVICE

Monday, December 8, 2014
11:00 AM EST
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Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Followed by a luncheon in the church hall.

CONTRIBUTIONS

At the family's request memorial contributions are to be made to those listed below. Please forward payment directly to the memorial of your choice.

Northeastern Baptist Church
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Kalamazoo, MI 49048

A gracious, humble, and compassionate woman, Marilyn Webb was accompanied by a true servant's heart. Whether her family, her patients, or those within her church or community, she lived to care for others. Marilyn treasured her family, and in many ways she was still a kid at heart. With an unwavering faith engraved upon her heart, she was never overbearing or boisterous in her beliefs, rather, she exemplified what it means to be the hands and feet of the Lord she loved by the choices she made each day. Mare, as she was known to her family, could take whatever came her way and make the best of it, even when engaged in the fight for her life. She will be deeply missed while her memory is forever cherished by those too numerous to count.

During the first half of the 1940s, the eyes of our nation were focused overseas as WWII enveloped more and more of Europe. Countless young servicemen and women were called to serve while those who remained stateside became all too familiar with rationing on common goods while victory gardens were planted to lessen the demands on the nation's food supply. Amidst this eventful time was the year 1942 that was filled with great joy for a young couple from Paw Paw, Michigan, as they welcomed a healthy baby girl into their hearts and home on March 19th. Although her family was from Paw Paw, the local doctor was off serving in WWII so she was born in Allegan. Marilyn A. was the third of four children born to her parents, Harry and Astrid (Nelson) Webb, and she was raised on a large farm just to the west of Paw Paw alongside her siblings, Phyllis, Joanna, and William. Her father worked as a dairy farmer while her mother was a schoolteacher before raising her children.

In many ways Marilyn experienced a typical upbringing. She didn't spend much time helping on the farm as she was a voracious reader who usually had her nose buried in a book saying "Let me finish this chapter!" It was also not uncommon for her to be up all night reading. Mare, as her family affectionately called her, attended local schools, played the clarinet in grade school, and went on to Paw Paw High School.

After graduating from high school in 1955, Marilyn went on to the community school in Decatur and earned her LPN degree during which time she lived in an apartment with several friends. From there she spent about four years working in general nursing at Bronson Hospital, and then she went back to earn her RN degree, also from the local community school. With her RN degree under her belt, she spent the remainder of her career at Borgess, primarily on the seventh floor with surgical patients and also doing MRIs. Although she had a great sense of humor, she didn't tolerate anyone who looked down on others as she firmly believed that everyone should be treated equally. It wasn't surprising that Marilyn was always nice to the entire staff whether surgeons or janitors. She recently retired after 27 years of service.

For several years Marilyn was a member at the Northeastern Baptist Church where she was always very involved. She lived to care for people, but always behind the scenes with driving people where they needed to go being a favorite. Even when she was sick she wanted to continue caring for others rather than being a burden. Marilyn also enjoyed interacting with kids at school.

Second only to Marilyn's faith was spending time with family and friends. She liked eating out with others, and she attended the Gull Lake Bible Conference for several years. There, Marilyn always had her own cottage, and all the kids wanted to stay with her since she had plenty of popsicles, candy, and soda among other sweet treats. She liked going for boat rides and car rides, and she regularly took her grand nieces and grand nephews to pick fruit from local farms. As a lefty herself, Marilyn was forever trying to convert her nieces and nephews to be lefties as well. It has been said that Mare's cooking was always a surprise to say the least as pop tarts were among her specialties. There was also the time that she was cooking popcorn with her nephew, Scott. Things went terribly wrong when the lard started on fire, which started a fire with flames that reached the ceiling. In true Marilyn form, she still ate the popcorn that was burned to a crisp.

Although she enjoyed being out and about, Mare also loved being at home. She spent 18 years living at her home in Galesburg where she fully appreciated nature. In order to care for her sizable yard she purchased a John Deere riding lawn mower, but she rarely did much with flowers or trimming. Marilyn enjoyed feeding the deer around her home and watching them through her big window.

Described as a prayer warrior, a compassionate caregiver, and a woman of deep faith, Marilyn Webb was an extraordinary woman to know and love. She had a lifelong passion for reading, enjoyed listening to gospel music, and found such peace and joy within the words of Psalm 91 and Psalm 139. Marilyn's life was completely focused on others to the point of dodging questions about how she was doing or remaining independent and strong long after others would have surrendered to cancer. She will be deeply missed, but her family and friends find comfort in knowing that she is enjoying perfect peace in her eternal home.

Marilyn A. Webb, of Galesburg, formerly of Paw Paw, died on December 3, 2014 at her home. Members of her family include 3 siblings: Phyllis Webb, Joanna Neudeck, and William "Bill" (Pat) Webb and many nieces and nephews. Services will be held Monday, 11:00 a.m. at the Northeastern Baptist Church (6536 East G Ave.) where a visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m. Following the service a luncheon will be held in the church hall. Please visit Marilyn's personal web page at www.lifestorynet.com where you can archive a favorite memory or photo and sign her online guestbook. Memorial donations may be made to Northeastern Baptist Church, Life Story Funeral Home-Betzler 6080 Stadium Dr. Kalamazoo- 375-2900

