



Carolyn "Sue" Cowell

July 22, 1949 - November 18, 2012
Paw Paw, MI

LIFE STORY / OBITUARY



VISITATION

Friday, November 23, 2012
2:00 PM to 3:30 PM EST
Betzler Life Story Funeral Homes
Paw Paw Location
60900 Michigan 40
Paw Paw, MI 49079
[\(269\) 457-3870](tel:2694573870)
[Driving Directions](#)

SERVICE

Friday, November 23, 2012
3:30 PM EST
Betzler Life Story Funeral Homes
Paw Paw Location
60900 Michigan 40
Paw Paw, MI 49079
[\(269\) 457-3870](tel:2694573870)
[Driving Directions](#)

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.

Donor's Choice
c/o Life Story Funeral Home, 60900 M-40
Paw Paw, MI 49079

People often consider themselves blessed by the many events of their lives, like sharing love with a spouse, caring for children, doting on grandchildren, experiencing new adventures every day. Carolyn "Sue" Cowell was one of these special people. Through her warmth, compassion and unconditional love, she exemplified all the wonderful things a wife, mother and grandmother should be.

In 1949, the United States was recovering from the effects of World War II, Harry S. Truman began his second term as President, and George Orwell had just published his controversial novel "Nineteen Eighty-Four." In Allegan, Michigan, the Boley family was celebrating something of much more importance - the birth of their daughter, Carolyn Sue, on July 22, 1949. Sue, as she was called, and her brother, Robert "Bob", shared a close bond, and created many unforgettable childhood memories together, growing up in Paw Paw, Michigan. Sue was always so bubbly and full of life, making friends everywhere she went. During high school, she always had a big smile for all her customers while working at the "Dogs and Suds." Unfortunately, she missed her senior prom because of work. With such an outgoing personality, it was only natural that Sue was named "Miss Congeniality" in the Miss Paw Paw contest in 1967.

Shortly after, Sue moved to Gobles, and met, Steven Cowell, on November 1, 1967. Their first encounter was a bit rough because they didn't really see eye to eye, so it took a couple of weeks before Sue accepted a date with him. However, things didn't get off to a good start then either when Steven showed up 7 hours and 17 minutes late! He had shot his first deer that afternoon and was so excited he brought a 12-pack to share with Sue to celebrate. This was certainly not what she had in mind for a first date. But, as fate would have it, the two fell in love and were married on July 20, 1968, giving their daughter, Melissa, a true family. In 1970, Sue and Steven welcomed the birth of their son, Steven Jr., who rounded out their family of four.

Over the next few years, the family moved around a bit, living in South Bend, Kalamazoo, and South Haven before putting down roots back in Paw Paw. While Steven provided for the family as a union laborer, Sue devoted herself to the role of a mother and homemaker, making their home a place where love was plentiful. She loved cooking for her family, and was famous for her fried chicken, homemade jams and delicious pies with Reddy Whip. Because Steven was an avid hunter and fisher, they ate wild game regularly, and no one cooked the game like Sue did! But Sue wasn't always stuck in the kitchen, she liked to fish too, and when they weren't biting, she'd work on her tan. Every year, she and Steven planted a "too large" vegetable garden, and much of their bounty was canned and shared with others. Once her children were older, Sue went to work at Kalamazoo Industries, and later as a clerk in the Pharmacy at Meijer. Being a social butterfly, Sue truly enjoyed meeting so many new people.

Sue was always one who enjoyed the simple pleasures in life. She loved the holidays surrounded by her family and making a feast for everyone to enjoy. Though when it came to special occasions like her birthday and anniversary, Sue absolutely loved going to Red Lobster "RL." In fact, one year she ate there 3 days in a row. Traveling was also something Sue loved - just going down the open road in their truck on some kind of new adventure. She and Steven often took trips on their bike too - life didn't get much better than that! In her quieter moments at home, Sue liked to crochet blankets, quilt and even made clothes for the family at one time. She liked watching old western movies and football games with Steven, and playing board games.

Above all, Sue's greatest source of happiness was her family. She adored her grandchildren and great grandchildren, and loved surprising them and putting smiles on their faces. There wasn't anything she wouldn't do for her family. Over the years, Sue numbered 3 beloved beagles to her family too. Sue was never one to focus on the hardships of life, so when she was diagnosed with diabetes and other health issues, she stayed positive and found comfort in her family. Sue will be forever remembered for her greatest gift, a heart that never emptied itself of love for her beloved family and friends. She will be dearly missed.

Carolyn "Sue" Cowell, age 63, died on Sunday, November 18, 2012, at her home in Paw Paw, MI. Visit with her family and friends on Friday, November 23, from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. at the Life Story Funeral Home, Betzler & Thompson; 60900 M-40, Paw Paw; 657-3870, where services will be held at 3:30 p.m. Burial at Almena Cemetery.

Sue was preceded in death by her son, Steven Cowell, Jr. Members of her family include her husband of 44 years, Steven Cowell, Sr.; daughter, Melissa Cowell - Mann; 2 granddaughters: Pamela Mann-Sipe and her daughters: Alexandria Kay, Patricia Dawn and Olivia Marie, and Kimberly (Nicholas) Stoll and they're expecting a baby in May of 2013, and her brother, Robert (Marge) Boley. Please visit Sue's personal web page at www.lifestorynet.com, where you may share a memory or photo and sign her online guest book before coming to the funeral home. Memorial donations may be directed to donor's choice.

