



Barbara J. Cotter

February 23, 1930 - May 7, 2018

Barbara J. "Bardy" Cotter died in Naples, Florida on May 7, 2018. The daughter of Bedford and Helen Butcher, she was born in Winchester, Indiana on February 23, 1930. She attended high school in Union City, Indiana and Western College for Women in Oxford, Ohio which is now a part of Miami University.

She married her high school sweetheart, Richard J. Cotter, on August 26, 1950 and they made their home in Hastings, Michigan until his death in December 1990. They spent many happy times in Hastings with their two daughters, Sally Nielsen (Ned) of Hilton Head Island, SC and Jill Walters (Nelson) of Holland, Michigan. She is also survived by her twin grandsons, Dr. Daniel Walters (Dr. Kristen Walters) of La Jolla, California and Richard Kent Walters of Seattle, Washington.

Bardy and Dick also spent time in Naples, Florida where Bardy eventually made her home following Dick's death. She spent summers in Holland, Michigan for many years where she delighted in spending time with her grandsons, beach time and playing golf. Bardy was an important part of the Hastings, Holland and Naples volunteer community. She was one of the founders of the gift shop at Hastings Pennock Hospital to benefit the hospital and spent countless hours in the shop, including organizing the annual Christmas Gift Show. A cancer survivor, she reached out to others with cancer

through the American Cancer Society volunteer and fundraising programs.

She was a member of the Hastings First Presbyterian Church, Naples First Presbyterian Church, Hastings Country Club and the Holland Country Club. She loved time with family and friends, traveling with her daughters and their families on cruises. She loved life, art and design, chocolate, skiing in Snowmass, tennis, golf, entertaining and music. She had an open home and heart, wonderful sense of humor and lit up a room with her vivacious spirit. The family wishes to thank her special friends, Susie O'berski and Ally Trillet, for their love and kind care.

A celebration of her life will be held on Saturday, June 16 at 11:00 a.m. at Alpenrose at 4 East Eighth Street in Holland, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, gifts to the Alzheimer's Association, American Cancer Society or a charity of your choice are appreciated.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Funeral Home - Family owned since 1978.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN 16. 11:00 AM (ET)

Alpenrose
4 E. 8th Street
Holland, MI 49423

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara J. Cotter*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Barbara J. Cotter.*



June 15, 2018 at 02:31 PM



“ *Love, The Dazy's—Carol, Kevin, Courtney, and Ella purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Barbara J. Cotter.*



Love, The Dazy's—Carol, Kevin, Courtney, and Ella - June 15, 2018 at 10:52 AM

BR

“ It was my privilege to have known Bardi for at least 30 years. What began as a business relationship transitioned to a great friendship.
She was a beautiful person, inside and out.
She had a remarkable sense of style and grace that set her apart.
She was as gracious as anyone I have ever met.
Being in her company was always fun, refreshing, and memorable.
She had great intellectual curiosity which always embellished time spent in her company.
I think that matriarch was a word created just for her.

She will be long remembered and sorely missed.

Sincerely,

Brian

brian - May 17, 2018 at 01:13 PM

CH

“Bardy was a very special friend to me and many members of my family. Whenever we would visit my parents in Hastings, soon after we arrived your mom would be on the phone inviting all of us (me, John, and my four daughters) to come swim in the pool. We had many good times sitting around the pool sometimes late into the night! I really considered her a sister as she was almost the same age as my dear late husband John.

When I remarried, she graciously invited Bob and I to a lovely brunch in Holland and in Florida to spend the night at her place before we boarded our cruise ship.

Bardy had a zest for life that most people just dream about. She lived it.

My heart is sad that she is no longer with us here on earth, but so very happy that she is with your dear dad. He most definitely was the love of her life. They were both so good to my parents and shared so many wonderful times with them. I know the four of them had a great reunion when Bardy passed from this life into our eternal reward.

Sending lots of love to all the Cotter family.

Colleen (Taffee, Goldkamp) Harmon

Colleen Goldkamp Harmon - May 17, 2018 at 10:33 AM

MJ

“Bardy was a classy lady and I am so glad I had the opportunity to get to know her a little while my mother (Ann) was a resident at ILBS. Thoughts, prayers and love to you and your family.

Marianne Johnston

Marianne Johnston - May 15, 2018 at 07:56 PM

KR

“ Dear Jill and Sally,

I am sending my sympathy on the loss of your Mother. She was a vivacious talented and wonderful lady. She was like an older sister to me and I will treasure my memories of her and our wonderful fun times at LeCiel.

Kathy Rook

kathy rook - May 14, 2018 at 08:13 AM

LH

“ *Bardy was a special person to me. I am so glad I got to know her as a neighbor at Spyglass condos in Holland, MI. She was like a positive “mother figure” to me which I never had. She loved to paint and to decorate, which are 2 of my passions also. She had a zeal for life and a great sense of humor. I will miss her and have been so blessed to have known her. To Sally and Jill & their families...I am so sorry for your loss.*

Lori Hyde

Lori Hyde - May 13, 2018 at 11:17 AM

SG

“ *Jill and Sally, my heartfelt condolences on reading of the passing of your mother. She lived across the hall from my late husband, Steve, while he was at Inspired Living in Bonita Springs. A charming and spunky lady!*

Sally Gifford, Bonita Springs FL and Grosse Pointe, MI

Sally Gifford - May 13, 2018 at 10:08 AM

JW

Thank you so much for your kind words Sally and our condolences on your loss of Steve. What a good guy!

Jill Walters - May 13, 2018 at 08:47 PM

JK

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



jane kapp - May 13, 2018 at 09:43 AM

JK

“ I was truly blessed to have had Bardy in my life as a dear friend for over 28 years. She was a beautiful lady inside and out. You will be truly missed in so many ways.
My thoughts and prayers are with the family.
Your dear friend,
Jane Kapp

jane kapp - May 13, 2018 at 09:42 AM

JW

What a wonderful picture Jane. So representative of your great picture.

Jill Walters - May 13, 2018 at 08:42 PM

RE

“ I worked at Inspired Living where Bardy lived. I cleaned her room. I just adored her. She was a lovely lady. Her daughters were very good to her. I will miss her very much. Much love and condolences to her family and friends. Renee Glazier (Inspired Living)

Renee - May 12, 2018 at 04:58 PM

JW

Thank you Renee. We will miss you. You were so kind and sweet to Bardy and to us.

Jill Walters - May 13, 2018 at 08:42 PM

SB

“ *Bardy was one of the first ladies I met when she lived in our condo building. The Girls Night Out group always yearned for her to bring her French Silk pie to the gatherings.*

Best of all was her great attitude, smile and friendly ways.

To her family I sent my thoughts and prayers.

Sherry Butler

Sherry Butler - May 11, 2018 at 04:38 PM

JW

Thanks so much Sherry! Yes, that pie was her hallmark.

Jill Walters - May 12, 2018 at 07:54 PM