



## Mary Jane Howe

January 29, 1936 - October 9, 2018

Mary Jane Backofen Howe (Jane), age 82, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, October 9, 2018, with loved ones by her side. She was born January 29, 1936, in Brookfield Township, to Shorty and Dorothy (Williams) Wolf. She married Maynard (Freck) Backofen in February of 1953, and raised 4 children with him. After Freck's passing, she reconnected with and married George Howe. She worked various jobs and retired from the Wesley Credit Union in 1997 as the CEO. She was very involved in her faith community, the Peace Lutheran Church in Charlotte, MI. Jane truly lived life to the fullest through simple pleasures; traveling, visiting with friends and family, bowling, and crocheting. Jane had an uncanny ability to reach people in a deep and positive way and an unobtrusive way of sharing her remarkable wisdom.

Jane is survived by her children, Jack (Susan) Backofen, Maynard (Sue) Backofen, Jodi Backofen and Sally (Annie Lange) Backofen; sisters, Joan (Duane) Royston, Judy (Bud) Faynor; grandchildren, Maynard (Andy) Backofen, Jessica Backofen, Alicia Backofen and Jason (Taylor) Backofen; and a multitude of step children, step-grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins whom she loved dearly. Jane was preceded in death by husbands, Freck and George; her parents, Dorothy and Shorty; and her brother and sister-in-law, Jerry and Shirley Wolf.

Family, friends, and others whose lives Jane touched are invited to Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte, MI to celebrate her life. Visitation is Sunday, October 14, 2018, 5-7:00 PM, and Funeral Services are Monday, October 15 at 3:00 PM with Pastor Tom Ott officiating. Interment will follow at Perry Cemetery. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to Eaton Community Palliative Care or Peace Lutheran Church in Charlotte. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Jane on her Tribute Page at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com). The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Cemetery

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# Events

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## Perry Cemetery

Stevens Road

Charlotte, MI, 48813

**OCT** **Visitation** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

**14**

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Pray Funeral Home

401 W. Seminary St., Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

**OCT** **Funeral Ceremony** 03:00PM

**15**

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Pray Funeral Home

401 W. Seminary St., Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Pray Funeral Home** - October 13, 2018 at 02:52 PM

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“ So thankful to visit with you, Jack and Susan over lunch a couple of months ago; one never knows when joyful opportunities to reconnect will happen. It's been a pleasure to have you and your family be a part of ours.

**Sally Churchill** - October 15, 2018 at 06:12 AM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Jane Howe.



October 14, 2018 at 03:32 PM

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“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Mary Jane Howe.



October 14, 2018 at 10:51 AM

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“ Allen and Julie Simons and family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mary Jane Howe.



Allen and Julie Simons and family - October 12, 2018 at 04:30 PM

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“ Mrs. Backofen Howe's smile would warm my heart; her laughter fill a room; her generosity remind me of the abundance in the world; her wisdom fill a library. My world will be a little cooler, a little dimmer, and a bit gloomier without Mary Jane Backofen Howe. But I am so grateful to be able to say I knew her.  
Cindy

Cindy Faulkner - October 12, 2018 at 09:20 AM

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“ Jane and met 21 years ago at Char Lanes in Charlotte, I was recently retired and looking for an opening on a bowling team and it just happened that Jane was looking for a bowler. Jane and I bowled together for 11 years and we won the league championship in 2001, 2002 and 2008. We always enjoyed the time we spent bowling together and more than once she would refer to me as her brother. Well, "Sis" you have left us but not forgotten and when we meet on the "other side" we will have to find another league to join and show them how it's done.

Your adopted brother, John Ramsay

John Ramsay - October 11, 2018 at 06:47 PM