



Linda Ruth Sowle

June 7, 1951 - January 3, 2021

Linda Ruth Sowle, a caring, loving, and detail-oriented mother, grandmother and friend, died on Sunday, January 3, 2021. Linda, 69, of Holt, MI was born June 7, 1951 in Battle Creek, the daughter of Howard and Maxine (Toomey) Maurer. She graduated from Olivet High School and later earned an associate degree. Linda's first work was as a delivery room tech at a local hospital. Later, she worked as a policy specialist for the State of Michigan where she helped to develop the State of Michigan Medicaid billing system. Linda married Eric Wilmore and spent the next several years creating their legacy until his passing in 2011. Linda enjoyed baking; she was famous for her white chocolate raspberry cheesecakes. Baking was a skill she learned at a young age from her Aunt Iva Jean. Her hobbies included camping all over the state with family, bluegill fishing with her dear friend Julie Shaver, bowling, and her golf league at Centennial Acres with her dear friends. Many will remember Linda as a very giving person who was always there to help and had a talent to anticipate the needs of others. She was a cherished grandmother and best friend to her grandson, Jackson. Above all Linda cherished the time she spent with her family.

Linda is survived by her sons, Brett Wilmore and Jeremy Wilmore both of Florida; grandchildren, Jackson and Emani; siblings, Marcia (Michael) Petersen, Carl (Amy) Maurer; and great friend, Julie Shaver. She was predeceased by her husband, Eric Wilmore; niece, Monica Petersen.

Friends are encouraged to support Linda's family at funeral services which will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 8, 2021 at Pray Funeral Home with Laura Cooper officiating. The family will receive guests during public visitation which will be held from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 7, 2021 at Pray Funeral Home. Mask, group capacity, and distancing guidelines will be practiced. The funeral will also be webcast so you may watch it from any computer, smartphone, or mobile device that has internet access. Go to www.prayfuneral.com, click on Linda's tribute, then click on Photos and Videos from your computer (or Media from your smart phone). Just prior to the beginning of the service, a link will appear on this page to watch the webcast.

Linda asked that a memorial fund be set up for her grandson, Jackson's college fund, so if desired please make donations to Jeremy Wilmore in this regard. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Linda on her Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Cemetery Details

Perry Cemetery

2688 Stevens Hwy.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 7. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral Ceremony

JAN 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Linda Ruth Sowle



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 08, 2021 at 10:10 AM

TH

Thank you so much for broadcasting Linda's celebration of life. She is such a joyous, loving woman and has touched so many lives. I enjoyed laughing at the funny stories, many of which I was blessed to hear from Linda herself. I will truly miss her. Much peace, love and comfort to her family and friends.

Tiffany Holcomb - January 08, 2021 at 11:50 AM

MS

Thank you for putting up this video. Due to the Covid restrictions I felt it more important for the immediate family and best friend to have all the room inside they wanted. Even though I was not physically there I was emotionally and spiritually in attendance.

The service was lovely, I loved the stories and know there will be many more shared over time. Linda was a fantastic person, cousin and friend. There is a huge hole in our hearts. I especially loved the celtic music at the end. That was so fitting for Linda. May she rest in peace.

Martha (Maurer) Scott - January 08, 2021 at 01:06 PM

SS

Linda was my first "best friend" as our families interacted weekly when she and I were only toddlers. I have so many wonderful memories of that time. My heart goes out to her family

Shari Hammond Snider - January 08, 2021 at 02:43 PM

JB

So sorry to hear that Linda lost her long and hard fought fight. I will always remember Linda and her bubbly personality and that great smile of hers. Class of 1969 lost a true Angel who is now pain free. My prayers go out to Linda's family.

Janet Bowers - January 10, 2021 at 03:55 PM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Linda Ruth Sowle



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 05, 2021 at 05:17 PM

EC

"As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart." Proverbs 27:19.

Like the sun shining its glorious light through a mid-day storm you were. Like a precious stone - like a gentle breeze in a hot summer day, were your ways. Your heavenly smile and golden heart will remain with me for the rest of my days. There is great rejoicing in the balcony's of Heaven today, because of you. In Christ, Eddy Calcines

Eduardo Calcines - January 08, 2021 at 08:40 AM

BN

“ I will always remember her smile and laugh. She was fun to be around and a wonderful person I had the pleasure to know. She was sweet and caring and I will miss her.

Beth Newsted - January 08, 2021 at 07:25 PM

ND

“ *Its so hard to say goodbye to a forever friend. We had so much shared history. Linda was my cheerleading tryout partner every year from middle through high school and never failed to pull through. Our partnership was a given from the first year. From cheerleading to shared classes, sleepovers, and 4-H she always contributed to having a great time. Love you and will always remember wonderful memories of our times together.*

Nan Lynnette Van Dyke - January 08, 2021 at 12:48 PM

ND

“ *Linda was concerned about her fellow classmates (Class of 1969), always intimately involved in planning for and/or helping to sponsor our class get togethers as well as digitalizing the contact roster and sending out invitations. She was a friend to all. We will miss her sooooo much.*

LOVE FROM CLASS OF 1969

Nan Lynnette Van Dyke - January 08, 2021 at 12:32 PM


Maureen
Petersen

“ Aunt Linda, I'll miss you ❤️ One of my lovely memories with you was when you and my parents came to visit for my birthday and we built the sliding barn door for the master bathroom from scratch and we all went out to dinner and bowling with my friends. Love you lots!



Maureen Petersen - January 08, 2021 at 10:38 AM

AK

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Linda was a wonderful person and a beloved cousin. I greatly enjoyed the memories I made with her at our family gatherings over the years. She brought much joy and laughter to those around her. She will be greatly missed. All our love Aurora, Brandon, Logan, & Aiden Kneebone.

Aurora Kneebone - January 08, 2021 at 09:58 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Linda Ruth Sowle.



January 07, 2021 at 03:02 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Linda Ruth Sowle.*



January 07, 2021 at 01:01 PM



“ *Linda was loved and will be missed by so many. I cherished her as a close cousin, as someone I attended school with and doing many other activities with. There were always good times, lots of laughs and an easy conversation with her. I know she is in a better place now but it is still hard to believe she is not here to get a short text or message. I was so surprised she took the time and energy to send me a Christmas card this year. That was Linda. Heaven has some new energy with this angel.*

Linda, I miss you more than you can imagine.

Martha (Maurer) Scott

Martha Scott - January 07, 2021 at 11:25 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Linda Ruth Sowle.*



January 07, 2021 at 08:15 AM

TD

“ Oh, Linda, you will be missed. You had so many friends and people in your life. You were one of God's lights, for sure. I was blessed to know you for all these years. Kindness was your automatic means. Will miss the talks and you were always on my writing friend list. Thank you for passing on my birthday, I'm honored. Angel, look after all your friend and family from heaven. Your sons and grandchildren will miss you, but you will always be in their hearts. You were the kindness person, I knew. Just laugh one more time. Trini

trini dixon - January 06, 2021 at 10:37 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Linda Ruth Sowle.



January 06, 2021 at 10:31 AM

KG

“ Linda will forever be in my heart as she changed my life with her laughter and practical view of the world. She loved her boys and grandson to the moon and back. I will think of her every day and hope that she sprinkles her love on those she left behind. It is how Linda lived her life that matters because "It's not the quarry but the chase, it's not the trophy but the race". Your forever friend in Christ, Kathy.

Kathy Gaydos - January 05, 2021 at 07:13 PM

MC

“ I feel so blessed to have known this beautiful lady! It's hard to put into words how special Linda was. She was always there with a smile, a helping hand and a shoulder to cry on. She loved life and gave it all she had. I came to know Linda through our Euchre Club. I looked forward to our monthly gatherings, and Linda was a big reason for that. I think it was more about the laughter, friendship and food than it was about Euchre--she was always the life of the party!



She was such a loving grandmother, mom, daughter, sister and friend. Her family was so important to her and she loved them with all her heart.

Heaven is a better place because Linda is now there--I hope they are ready for her laughter, sense of humor and love! She will definitely shake things up! May you rest in peace my dear friend--you will be missed and never forgotten.

Mary Clark

Mary Clark - January 05, 2021 at 07:13 PM



“ 30 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 05, 2021 at 05:17 PM

“ I met Linda when we worked in Medicaid together, she was a policy specialist and I was a Managed Care Contract Manager. Linda was very knowledgeable and always willing to help when I needed her policy information relating to the contract and care. She was also one of the main organizers for the MSA holiday events, especially our famous 7th Floor Thanksgiving luncheon. Things happened when Linda was around! She got me started on making a large roster pan of turkey dressing for the entire floor of approximately 100 people. The task seemed too daunting to me, but she assured me it would be fine. She chopped and sautéed the carrots, celery and onions so I could add the other ingredients and let it cook for 1.5 hours, making the floor smell wonderful and the spread of food - fabulous!! After the meal you'd find her cleaning up in the kitchen, sleeved pushed up, doing dishes and getting stuff done. Many fond memories of working together.

In addition to being a wonderful caring person, she was very good at all that she did, Linda gardened. One year I was overloaded with green beans and Linda educated me on blanching and freezing green beans. She typically had her own garden and welcomed the opportunity to partake of my abundance. She pulled out her stool, gloves, buckets and we picked for two hours that night, talking about work, laughing and enjoying each other's company. Then she went home and got them into her freezer. What an energizer bunny!! She was such a joy, although strong in her ways and opinions. Linda worked hard and was a pleasure to know.

She will be missed. I have thought of her many times through the years after she retired. My condolences to her family and close friends who have been blessed by sharing her life with all of you. Love and prayers to all of you.

Charlene (Mead) Hyde

JP

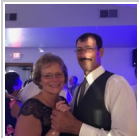
“ I remember Linda as a very down-to-earth person. I always enjoyed talking with her and what she had to say. Sending love and condolences to Linda's family and friends. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Every day on this earth is a gift from God. Cherish it and your loved ones!

John, Lisa and Katelyn Petersen - January 05, 2021 at 02:48 PM

JP

John, Lisa and Katelyn Petersen

John Lisa and Katelyn Petersen - January 05, 2021 at 02:50 PM



“ I was fortunate to know Linda. We met at work. She was such a great person, quick witted, talented, hard worker. She was always good for a laugh. Her smile brightened the room. So sorry that she is no longer with this world; but happy she is no longer suffering.
Teresa Simon

Teresa Simon - January 05, 2021 at 02:33 PM

NG

“ I was fortunate to have known Linda through work and our Euchre Club. She was the most awesome person I've had the pleasure to know. Loving, caring, funny, ready to take on any task, just an absolute joy to be around. She will be greatly missed but thankfully there are so many memories I will always have to treasure. Linda will be missed by so many ...
My sincere condolences to her family.



Nan Gordon - January 05, 2021 at 01:46 PM

SY

“ I worked with Linda at Medicaid for thirty years. We were all a second family to each other there and helped our friends absorb life’s ups and downs. Linda was such a caring person and a huge part of that family. She was available with a listening ear for everyone she knew and she was also a dedicated colleague, committed to her work. We shared plenty of laughs and stories over the years. I hope Linda’s family finds comfort and peace in knowing she was loved and appreciated by the many lives she touched.

Susan Yontz - January 05, 2021 at 12:10 PM

CH

“ I am forever grateful for the time I had to spend with Linda as my neighbor and friend in FL. Linda was a strong, beautiful and courageous woman. God has a new “Angel” that is dancing and singing and moving pain free. Thank you sweet Linda for the precious memories You and I created together.

Cindy Holliday - January 05, 2021 at 11:12 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Linda Ruth Sowle.



January 05, 2021 at 11:08 AM

LN

“ *Love, Adam, Brynn, & Theodore Newsted purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Linda Ruth Sowle.*



Love, Adam, Brynn, & Theodore Newsted - January 05, 2021
at 10:17 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Linda Ruth Sowle.*



January 05, 2021 at 10:05 AM

LF

“ *Aunt Linda was the best Aunt, mom, sister, grandma and friend. When she was around there was always laughter, love, good memories shared, and yummy food she would make. We will miss her in so many ways.*



Leslie Fields - January 05, 2021 at 07:24 AM

TH

“ Linda is one of the most loving, kind-hearted humans I know. She was so amazing to watch with her magnetic energy with kids! She always made me and my kids feel loved and well taken care of in her presence. She was my "work mom" and a beautiful friend, and I just loved learning recipes from her. Linda was so good at making people laugh, even when she wasn't feeling well. She had a great way of telling stories, ending with tears of laughter rolling down my face! Linda is one of the best people I know. Her love and laughter will love on through her amazing recipes and her beautiful family. Sending Linda's family much love and peace.

Tiffany Holcomb - January 04, 2021 at 08:58 PM

BG

“ Brenda Gwinn lit a candle in memory of Linda Ruth Sowle



Brenda Gwinn - January 04, 2021 at 05:39 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Linda Ruth Sowle.



January 04, 2021 at 05:36 PM