



Lois June Ellison

August 9, 1935 - April 28, 2024

Lois June Ellison of Portland, formerly of Charlotte and Olivet, passed away with her children by her side on April 28, 2024 at the age of 88. She was born on August 9, 1935 in Olivet, MI, the daughter of Searl and Neva (Mains) Niver who preceded her in death. Lois was also preceded in death by her husband, Ronald Ellison; infant daughter, Teresa Lynn; and sisters, Ruth Niver and Mary Ritchie.

Lois is survived by children, Diane Ellison Swafford, Sam (Marilyn) Ellison, Sharon (Jerry) Martin; grandchildren, Michelle (Andy) Cooper, Matthew (Mary) McDonald, Sammy Ellison, Sara (Ryan) Fine, Marc (Leila) McDonald, Amy Ellison, Kim (Dylan) Lake, Kelsey (Austin) Lattimer; nine great-grandchildren; and special nieces, Mary Lou Hsu and Rebecca Despins.

Lois grew up on a farm in Lee Township just outside of Olivet Michigan. This homestead always held a special place in her heart. She often told stories of her life there and she and her family spent many holidays celebrating with her parents and siblings and enjoying the delicious meals cooked by her mom on the old wood stove. Her children continue to pass down these stories to their children to this day. This family legacy continues as the centennial homestead is now owned by her oldest granddaughter and the land is owned by her son.

Prior to her declining health, Lois took an active interest in Scrabble, testing

her brain power, reading and gardening. Her true passion, however, was genealogy and she spent her time traveling Michigan and other states researching family records and visiting burial sites. Her extensive collection of genealogy records and pictures are a testament to her research. Even as she declined, her memory was sharp and she could tell interesting stories of her family history. Lois was a strong woman who continued to live independently until a fire destroyed her apartment on January 5, 2024. She was then moved to Four Seasons Assisted Living in Portland and then Country Living Senior Care in Portland where she received excellent care until her passing. The family would like to give a special thanks to Gentiva Hospice for their care, kindness and compassion in caring for Lois' physical, mental and spiritual needs. Words cannot express how instrumental they were in helping us navigate her ever changing needs.

Friends are encouraged to support Lois's family at visitation and funeral services. Funeral services are Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte with Chaplain Arthur Bryan officiating. Visitation will be held on Thursday, May 2, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The funeral service will 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 Lois's tribute, then click on Photos & 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. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorial contributions to The Eaton County Adult Handicap Program or the Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association. Family and friends are encouraged to share remembrances and condolences online in Lois's Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, MI.

Cemetery Details

Maple Hill Cemetery

801 Tully Brown Rd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 2. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

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

Funeral

MAY 2. 1:00 PM (ET)

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

Burial

MAY 2 (ET)

Maple Hill Cemetery
801 Tully Brown Rd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Lois June Ellison*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - April 30, 2024 at 05:10 PM

RM

“ *Thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Momma Mia. I can't be there in person today but will try to be there online. Rest in Peace.*



Robin Mitschke - May 02, 2024 at 08:38 AM

CB

“ *Chuck Brandon lit a candle in memory of Lois June Ellison*



Chuck Brandon - May 01, 2024 at 10:37 AM

MC

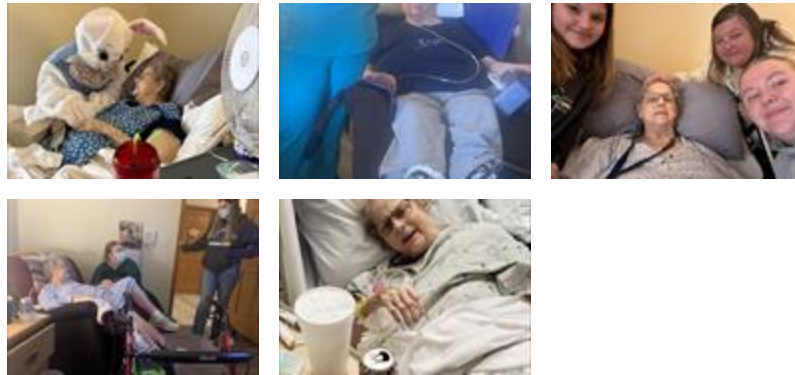
“ Michigan State University CAR purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Lois June Ellison.



Michigan State University CAR - May 01, 2024 at 08:26 AM

DS

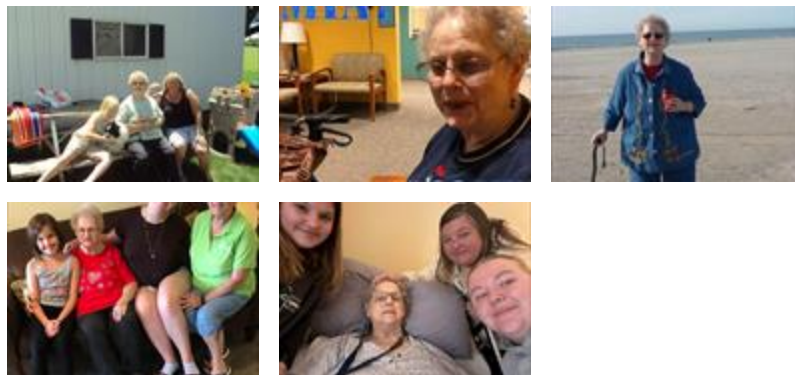
“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



Diane Ellison Swafford - May 01, 2024 at 06:56 AM

DS

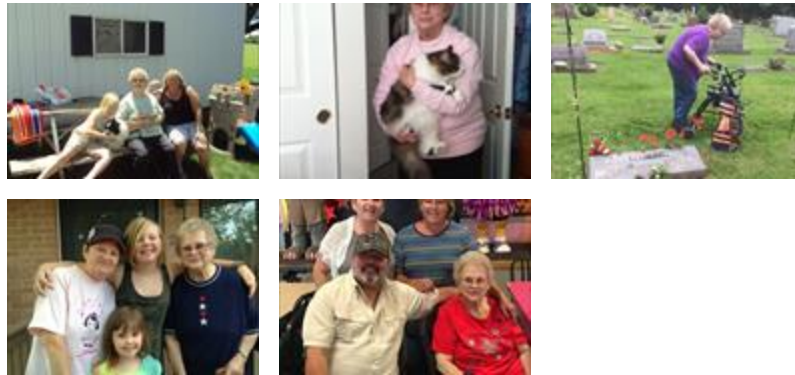
“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



Diane Ellison Swafford - May 01, 2024 at 06:43 AM

DS

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



Diane Ellison Swafford - May 01, 2024 at 06:30 AM

TW

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to momma Mia's family and friends

Tim Warren - May 01, 2024 at 04:58 AM

MA

“ Lois welcomed me into her life and home along with her husband Ron, I always felt welcome! Her son Sammy (Shooter) and I spent many years hunting on the farm. I shall always cherish the time we spent together 😊. Along with Lois and Ron aunt Ruth is very special. I remember aunt Ruth always being positive. Sharing life with the Ellison and Niver family will never be forgotten My condolences and love always Yote.

markgrusnis@yahoo.com - April 30, 2024 at 11:24 PM

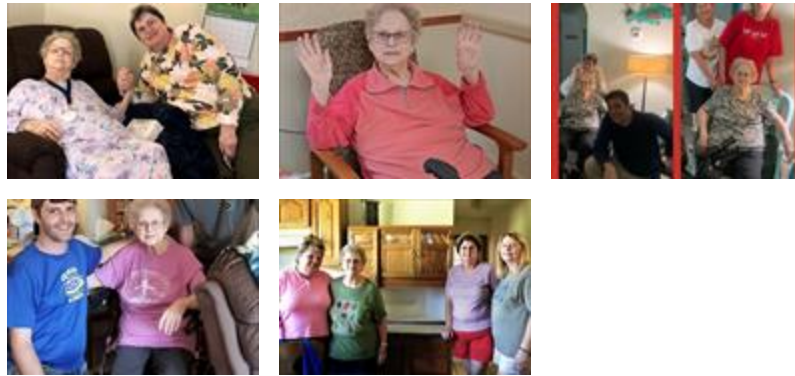
DA

“ Dawn A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lois June Ellison.

Dawn A. - April 30, 2024 at 09:07 PM

MH

“ 26 files added to the album *Momma Mia Aunt Lois June (Niver) Ellison*



Mary Lou (Ritchie) Hsu - April 30, 2024 at 06:07 PM

MH

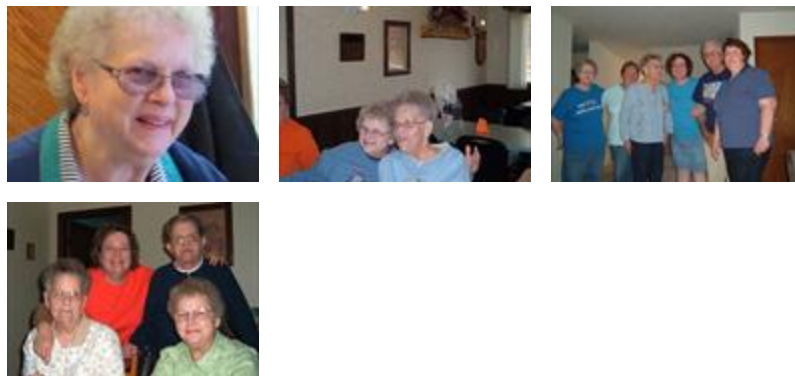
“ *Mary Lou (Ritchie) Hsu lit a candle in memory of Lois June Ellison*



Mary Lou (Ritchie) Hsu - April 30, 2024 at 05:08 PM

CJ

“ 4 files added to the album *My Aunt Lois*



Cindy Jardot - April 30, 2024 at 04:29 PM

CJ

I remember my Aunt Lois laughing, that is my primary memory of her. We visited her and the family often, starting in the little brick house in Charlotte, going to the old 2 story house in the country, to the old 2 story house in Charlotte and on. When we were tiny she showed Linda and I how to make a yummy sandwich out of just butter on white bread then spread with sugar. We played in the backyard under the grape arbor, we marveled at having neighborhood kids to play with, we watched The Wizzard of Oz at Sam's birthday party, we giggled at the things baby Sharon would say. During all of that Lois laughed and smiled.

Cindy Jardot - April 30, 2024 at 04:37 PM

MH

“ Aunt Lois June (Niver) Ellison (affectionately called Momma Mia) was more than an aunt to my sister and me. She was our second mom. We spent a lot of time with her and our cousins on our Granny and Grandpa Niver's 80 acre farm outside Olivet. We had so much fun and Aunt Lois let us be kids and have a good time. She would take us places in her big white Oldsmobile. She would take us to Pine Lake, Duck Lake, and several other places. Aunt Lois loved music and played piano. We all would be singing as she was driving us around. Cousin Diane and I will forever be grateful for her taking us to see our teen idol Bobby Sherman perform in Lansing. So many wonderful memories of spending holidays together at the farm. Aunt Lois and my mom Mary started on a genealogy adventure some years ago. My mom passed in 1991 and Aunt Lois lost some of her passion for working on genealogy. I started on my own genealogy adventure about 10 years or so ago and Aunt Lois was instrumental in helping me. I think this ignited her passion for genealogy again. She provided me with so many stories, photographs, and cherished memories. I have taken everything and made it into books for the family. Without Aunt Lois I would not have so much family information to share. I cherish every visit we've had with her where we would always talk about our ancestry. She was so quick witted and I will miss seeing her witty comments on Facebook. She was still witty shortly before her passing. Thank you Momma Mia for all the wonderful times we shared and all the laughter. You will forever remain in my heart and in my memories. Sending all my love to you in heaven. Your niece Mary Lou

Mary Lou (Ritchie) Hsu - April 30, 2024 at 03:51 PM

KB

“ Aunt Lois, to me was the silent one of the family, but her quick wit always chimed in. Just a genuinely sweet soul. She no longer has to miss her husband Ron and is finally at peace and out of pain. We'll unless Uncle Ronnie is misbehaving. Going to miss her at our Ellison gatherings.



Katherine Budrow - April 30, 2024 at 02:29 PM

SG

“ We are distant relatives in Washington, we had never met as I had only learned about my cousins in Michigan a few months ago but I so would have loved to have met you "aunt Lois," we would have talked up a storm about family geneology. I too love our family history.
I look forward, one day, to meet you and our ancestors in heaven.
God Bless you.
My deepest condolences to all of the family.
Sandy, a descendant of Lura Ann Mains, my great grandmother.

Sandy Grahnert - April 30, 2024 at 02:27 PM

NL

“ Nancy Lounds lit a candle in memory of Lois
June Ellison



Nancy Lounds - April 30, 2024 at 02:22 PM

KW

“ So sad to hear of Lois passing. I worked in the office of Butternut Creek where she lived for several years. I will always remember our little chats. She was always so sweet and thoughtful. She will be missed!!

Kristi Williams - April 30, 2024 at 02:07 PM

PJ

“ I worked with Lois at the insurance company for several years. She was a wonderful lady. RIP Lois.

Pam Brandon Burt Johnson - April 30, 2024 at 01:15 PM

CF

“ Chad Larder and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lois June Ellison.

Chad Larder and family - April 30, 2024 at 12:19 PM

CF

“ Chad Larder and family purchased the Beautiful i n Blue for the family of Lois June Ellison.



Chad Larder and family - April 30, 2024 at 12:19 PM