



Jill Hurni

October 11, 1949 - September 13, 2013

Jill Hurni of Cadillac passed away September 13, 2013 at Spectrum Health-Butterworth Campus in Grand Rapids. She was 63. Jill was born October 1949 in Kalamazoo, Michigan to Jack Smith and Joyce Elaine (Robinson) Hurni and they preceded her in death.

Jill received her Bachelor's Degree of Speech Pathology from Michigan State University before continuing on to earn her Master's degree from Western Michigan University. Jill moved to Cadillac in 1971 after college and began working at the Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District. After 37 years of working at the ISD, Jill retired to enjoy her life. She also enjoyed working as a private tutor. Working at the ISD and local districts as a speech and language pathologist was a passion to Jill. She touched the lives of the students she worked with and made many lifelong connections.

Jill was a member of the American Federation of Teachers; she had served as Chief Negotiator for her peers and also served as Treasurer of the Union. She was well known for her sense of humor and joyful laugh as well as her love of her furry children. She enjoyed gardening, shopping and making homemade cards. Throughout her life and illness Jill modeled her motto, "Be Brave. Æçâ,¬Â

She is survived by her sisters: Jan (Mike) Ross of Mason, Jacqueline Crain of

Fort Wayne, Indiana, Jerel (Greg) Franklin of Fernley, Nevada; special cousin, Linda (Robin Henke) Taylor of Livonia; nieces and nephews: Max (Jenny) Crain, Erin (Keith) Hodel, Trevor (Mollie) Franklin, Alisha (Jason) Kinneson and Michael (Richelle) Ross; a great nephew, Logan Ross; step niece and nephews: Glenn Ross, Scott Ross, Suzanne (Paul) Stanton and Neill (Lisa) Ross; furry child, Maggie and special friend, Kathy (Ken) Sitkiewicz of Cadillac.

A celebration of life will be held 11:00 a.m., Saturday, September 21, 2013 at the Peterson Funeral Home in Cadillac with Chaplain Pam Wizner officiating. Friends may meet the family one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society for Pancreatic Cancer, Hope Lodge in Grand Rapids or Fourth Floor Lacks Cancer Center of Saint Mary's Hospital. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall

TL

“ I didn't have the opportunity to visit much with Jill over the last couple of years but each time I did I was amazed by her strength, her cheer and her extraordinary bravery. She taught her colleagues, as well as her students, throughout the years and after working with her at WMISD for many years, I will be grateful to her for all she has taught me! Rest in peace Jill, you have truly touched so many of us!

Tami Lloyd - September 23, 2013 at 02:57 PM

CH

“ Ms. Jill taught my son Nate how to speak correctly. He met with Ms. Jill at Forest View from kindergarten through 2nd grade. He never realized he was in "speech class" ...he just thought he was picked every week by Ms. Jill for a special fun game time! She loved him so much she even kept him around for an extra few months just so they could continue the speech 'games' ! He loved her too! We will forever be thankful to Ms. Jill for helping Nate past his speech impediment. What a very special lady!!

Connie Houk - September 21, 2013 at 11:14 AM

LY

“ I have known Jill for 39 years. I will miss her a great deal. She was always there for me and I hope I was for her. Rest in peace my friend.

Linda Young - September 21, 2013 at 09:44 AM

LY

“ I've known Jill for 39 years. She was a great friend that I will miss alot. She was always there for me ans I hope I for her. Rest in peace my friend.

Linda Young - September 21, 2013 at 09:39 AM

VT

“ I'm sorry to hear of Jill's passing. She was so enthusiastic and had such compassion for her students. She will be missed by many . . .

Vickie Andrus Todd - September 21, 2013 at 09:14 AM

TH

“ im very sad to hear of the lose of a very amazing person !!!u are all in my thoughts and prayes !!

Tammy Harrington - September 19, 2013 at 01:06 PM

JG

“ Jill, was a awesome teacher, she was wonderful to me and m sisters. She will be greatly missed.

Jodi Mathews Goulder - September 19, 2013 at 10:33 AM

CN

“ I cleaned for Jill for many years - she was great to work for and a special person - my condolences to her family

Char Nix - September 19, 2013 at 09:39 AM

SB

“ *Jill will be sadly missed. She was a wonderful person. Always a smile on her face.*

Sandy Bengelink - September 19, 2013 at 06:59 AM

SD

“ *Jill was the speech teacher for my son and for my students. She cared for her students and brought out the best in them. She will be remembered for her smile, joyful laugh, and kind words to all. Prayers for the family.*

Susan Dick - September 18, 2013 at 05:59 PM

DM

“ *Jill was our neighbor for several years on Benson Rd. She was a very caring and special person. She was passionate about children and education. She worked with our daughter and they became extremely tight. Our sincerest condolences to her family.*

Dan & Shawn Minor - September 18, 2013 at 03:42 PM

DL

“ *So sad to hear of Jill's passing. She was a good friend when we lived in Cadillac and accompanied us when we moved to South Carolina. I'll remember her sense of humor and love for "Treasure Hunts". Rest in peace. Dave Lash, Westminster, SC.*

Dave Lash - September 18, 2013 at 01:16 PM

SH

“ I worked with Jill at Great Lakes Title where she worked part time doing our final policies, it did not take us long to become friends. My sincerest condolences to her family, Jill was such a wonderful and sweet person. I will never forget her.

Sara Parmenter Haskin - September 18, 2013 at 12:23 PM

LW

“ Jill had such passion for her work and the children. I will always remember her dedication to her career and her union colleagues.

Liz Walker - September 18, 2013 at 12:15 PM