



Lauri Ann Byarski

September 6, 1957 - June 11, 2020

Lauri Ann Byarski was born in Bad Axe Michigan on September 6, 1957. The first born of Lawrence and Ruthann Schmitt, she was the oldest of seven children. She was always fun to be around, very dedicated to her family, and an incredibly hard worker. She was the Snow Carnival Queen and an honor roll student whom friends say succeeded at everything she did. She studied abroad in Sweden and studied at Central Michigan University before returning to Bad Axe to begin a lifelong career in health care. At Huron Medical Care Facility she played many different roles; from nurse's assistant to purchasing representative, working hard to assist patients, residents and administration alike.

On September 23, 1978, the first day of autumn, she married Leonard Byarski Jr. at Sacred Heart Church in Bad Axe. Together they had three daughters—Amanda, Alissa, and Andrea. A very involved mother, she was often found outside teaching her girls to play kick-the-can, making sure they carried on the Schmitt family softball tradition, or sitting poolside reading while the girls swam. She loved to read and, after finishing every novel at the Bad Axe Library, began buying used books by the bagful. Her closet was not full of purses and shoes, it was full of books. If she were indoors, you would find her in her orange chair reading. She also enjoyed cheering for the Detroit Tigers and Redwings, painting ceramics, baking and knitting. She would always have a project beside her, busy knitting hats or scarves for those who needed them. She was an avid gardener as well. She grew many different varieties of fruits,

veggies and flowers, and preserved more than enough each year.

Lauri loved to travel and was always planning for the next vacation. She loved to camp in the summer, stay in cabins in the fall, and snowmobile in the winter. After many years of vacations in Northern Michigan the family moved from Bad Axe to Suttons Bay. There she continued her career in healthcare, working for Tindercare in Northport and later in Suttons Bay. She worked with many incredible women over the years, many of which became her best friends. She retired in 2016 when Alissa and her family moved back to Michigan and dedicated her time to being the world's number one grandma to her granddaughter Ariana. Her love for gardening continued, a love she had passed down to her daughter Alissa, and her projects always multiplied. She gladly invited Alissa to begin her flower farm on the family property, helped with planting, tended to the flowers and could always be counted on when an extra hand was needed styling flowers.

Her family meant everything. She never missed a family reunion, baby shower, wedding or weekly visit with relatives. Her church in Bad Axe was also very special to her. She taught catechism for many years at St. Columbkil, sang during mass and was very active with the Youth group. She was the mom that always went along on trips, helped organize the children's part of the annual chicken bbq, and was always willing to pack the van full of girls to take to the mall. She loved her children fiercely, demanded the best from them, and always set the best example. A righteous, hardworking, woman with a strong work ethic who believed in spreading kindness, she made sure her girls grew to be honest, independent women with strong morals.

She'll always be admired for her thoughtfulness, courage and strength over the years. She had a beautiful life, but it was not without hardship, yet she continued to radiated love and comfort. She will forever be missed.

On June 11th, 2020, just before the double rainbow lit up the sky, Lauri took her last breath with Leonard by her side. Her beautiful life will forever be treasured by those who survive her; her mother Ruthann Schmitt, her

husband Leonard Byarski Jr., daughters Amanda Byarski, Alissa Thomson (Jackson), granddaughter Ariana, brothers Fred Schmitt, Dave Schmitt, Ed Schmitt (Deborah), sisters Kathi Loewe (Ted), Kari (Schmitt) and many nieces, nephews and great nieces/nephews. She was preceded in death by her daughter Andrea Byarski, her father Lawrence Schmitt Sr. and her brother Lawrence Schmitt Jr.

An outdoor funeral is scheduled for Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Bad Axe at 11:00 am. Friends may gather at the cemetery on Tuesday from 10:00 am until the service time at 11:00 am.

Cemetery Details

Sacred Heart Cemetery

Bad Axe, MI 48413

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Cemetery
Bad Axe, MI 48413

Graveside Service

JUN **23**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Sacred Heart Cemetery
Bad Axe, MI 48413

Tribute Wall



“ *Lauri Ann Byarski*

January 28, 2023 at 01:32 PM



“ *Lennie, Amanda, Alissa and Arianna,*

Our deepest condolences and sympathies on the death of Lauri.

Betty Jo & Dan Glaza

Betty Jo Glaza - June 21, 2020 at 11:02 AM



“ *Sending our condolences to the Byarski family. May you find peace in memories of Lauri's kindness and love.*



Chuck and Sharon Abbott - June 18, 2020 at 01:17 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to Lauri's family. She will be greatly missed by friends from BAHS.*

Susan Edel Nosal - June 17, 2020 at 11:48 AM

MN

“ I'm so sorry to hear about Lauri's passing, I remember her from a long time ago at Huron County Medical Care Facility. Sweet and calming disposition. What a wonderful sign when reading about the double rainbow in her obituary! May you feel God's peace and comfort of family and friends at this time. Praying for your family at this time. Many hugs,
Michelle Nguyen (Wisneski)

Michelle Nguyen - June 16, 2020 at 09:07 PM

MG

“ Lennie, Amanda, Alissa and Arianna, First I want you to know how proud she was of her family. I can honestly say she is one of few people I know that never complained about her family. Alissa here face lit up the day she told me that you had found your niche with flowers and how happy that made her. She figured maybe she would get that beautiful granddaughter more often since you would be so busy. Amanda she was always keeping me up to date on you too. She was so proud of your independence and hard work. You and I met the day after Andie died when your mom so graciously let me into her home to grieve with her family. I'd like to think I was one of her best friends. We could go to the VI for lunch and they would have to kick us out for the dinner crowd. She often told me how much my mom helped her when Andie died but she returned that gift to me when I lost my mom a year and a half ago. As sad as I feel I like to think the good Lord takes the best. If there is anything I can do to help now or later on please feel to reach out to me. Losing a mother is so very difficult. You will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Melinda Gilland

melinda gilland - June 16, 2020 at 04:20 PM