



Ruth Ann MacAlpine

October 16, 1951 - July 21, 2025

Ruth Ann MacAlpine, age 73, of Essexville, formerly of Bad Axe, Michigan, passed away peacefully on the morning of July 21, 2025, at 8:10 AM, following a years-long battle with a recurrence of cancer. Born on October 16, 1951, in Bad Axe, Ruth remained deeply rooted in her Huron County community throughout her life, dedicated to service, family, and the care of others.

Ruth built a remarkable career in public healthcare, serving as administrator of several county medical care facilities across Huron, Schoolcraft, and Bay counties. Her dedication to elder care and public service earned her recognition throughout the state. She was an active and respected leader within the Michigan County Medical Care Facilities Council, serving as president and on numerous committees, where she tirelessly advocated for the well-being of residents and staff alike. In honor of her lifelong commitment to improving public healthcare, she was awarded Lifetime Membership in the Council upon her retirement in 2019.

Ruth's compassion extended far beyond her professional life. In 2005, after her initial cancer diagnosis, she returned home to Bad Axe to support her sister Joyce during her own battle with the disease. Her strength, selflessness, and quiet determination touched everyone who knew her.

Ruth is survived by her loving daughters, René Weathers (husband Rodney) and Erin MacAlpine-Baum (husband Shane), who were the pride of her life. She is also survived by her significant other, Ron Davis; her sister Vicki

Yaroch (husband Pat); nieces Megan McCarney (husband Benjamin), Lindsay Rader (husband Tim), Jennifer Armstrong (husband Josh); nephew Jason Susalla; great-nieces Lucy and Shelby; and great-nephews Owen, Branden, Daniel, and Keagan.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Victor and Lucy Talaski, and her beloved sister, Joyce Deering.

Ruth's life was one of quiet strength, unwavering care, and deep commitment—to her family, her patients, and her community. She will be profoundly missed and lovingly remembered.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 11 am at St. Hubert Parish – Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bad Axe, Burial will be in the church cemetery. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, July 23, 2025 from 5 – 8 pm at the Kaufman Funeral Home in Bad Axe or Thursday at the church from 10 am until the service time at 11 am.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Ruth's honor to St. Hubert's Food Pantry, Huron County Safe Place, or Compassus Hospice of Cass City, each of which reflects the compassion and service that defined her life.

Cemetery Details

Sacred Heart Cemetery

Bad Axe, MI 48413

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 23. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kaufman & Co. Funeral Home, Inc.
84 Westland Dr
Bad Axe, MI 48413
(989) 269-3000
kaufmanfuneralhome@gmail.com

Visitation

JUL 24. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St Hubert Parish-Sacred Heart Catholic Church
311 Whitelam St
Bad Axe, MI 48413
(989) 269-772

Funeral Mass

JUL **24**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St Hubert Parish-Sacred Heart Catholic Church
311 Whitelam St
Bad Axe, MI 48413
(989) 269-772

Tribute Wall

DH

“ I am just reading this. I always looked forward to seeing Ruth. She will be missed. What an amazing and beautiful lady.

Danielle Haanpaa - August 18, 2025 at 08:23 AM

RB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Renee LeDuc Beniak - July 23, 2025 at 10:23 AM

RB

NACo trip, and this man said, "Free picture."? We said sure. Can't see one wrinkle. We were so small! Great laugh out of this.

Renee LeDuc Beniak - July 23, 2025 at 10:26 AM

JP

“ Karen and Jerry Peruski wish to express our condolences to the Family.

Jerry Peruski - July 23, 2025 at 09:54 AM

MW

“ I had the pleasure of working under Ruth when she was administrator at Huron County Medical Care Facility. She was a great leader and always fair.
Marilyn White-Kylmala

Marilyn White-Kylmala - July 22, 2025 at 07:17 PM

MC

“ MI County Med. Care Facilities Council purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Ruth Ann MacAlpine.



MI County Med. Care Facilities Council - July 22, 2025 at 09:48 AM

MC

“ MI County Med. Care Facilities Council planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth Ann MacAlpine.

MI County Med. Care Facilities Council - July 22, 2025 at 09:48 AM

SD

“ Extremely saddened to hear of Ruth’s passing. She was a wonderful boss, and I also considered her a friend. I admired her greatly and had much respect for her. Quite a lady! My deepest condolences to her family, whom I know she loved very much.

Sue Discher - July 22, 2025 at 09:32 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth Ann MacAlpine.



July 22, 2025 at 09:24 AM

MR

“ It's was a pleasure working with you at Bay county medical care facility, always had a smile 😊 may you rest in peace 🕊️

Melline Rahn - July 22, 2025 at 05:29 AM

MN

“ Mary Beth Nimtz lit a candle in memory of Ruth Ann MacAlpine



Mary Beth Nimtz - July 21, 2025 at 09:56 PM

KH

“ Rest in peace Ruth, you fought such a courageous battle. We will miss you more than you know. I will miss all our conversations, keeping up on the "Schmitt" family, and all your help with Relay For Life every year. You've earned your wings to join the rest of the Schmitts that have gone before you. Hope you keep them all in line! Love you like a sister.

Karen &Duey Holz - July 21, 2025 at 04:56 PM

TG

So sorry to hear about this loss . God Bless Ruth and may she rest in peace , Ruth has many angels waiting for her home coming . I send and will keep the family in my thoughts and prayers at this time . Much Love ,Theresa Gundlach

Theresa Gundlach - July 21, 2025 at 06:55 PM

IH

I am so sorry to hear about Ruth's passing! Her family will be in my thoughts and prayers thru this most difficult time. May you rest in peace Ruth, you have earned it!

Irene Heckroth (Schmitt)

Irene Heckroth - July 21, 2025 at 08:24 PM

JC

So sorry to hear of your loss .

Jean Cottick - July 22, 2025 at 12:17 PM

TS

Ruth was beautiful, intelligent and witty. I feel grateful to have known her through the Medical Care Facilities of Michigan and quickly counting her as a friend through many conferences and travel within the State and beyond. She was a lovely person and we all celebrate her beautiful life.

Theresa Spencer, former Chairperson of Lapeer County Medical Care Facility (Suncrest) Board of Directors and past President of National Association of County Health Facility Administrators

Theresa M Spencer - July 24, 2025 at 06:38 AM