

Catherine Isabelle Hess

June 12, 1955 - October 15, 2025

Catherine Isabelle Hess, age 70, of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, passed away peacefully at home on October 15, 2025. She was born on June 12, 1955, in Sault Ste. Marie to Ronald and Muriel (Allard) Lane.

Catherine spent her early years in Sault Ste. Marie, Rose City, and Detroit, Michigan. A determined and loving mother, she earned her GED and later an associate degree from Lake Superior State University—all while raising her children and selling flowers. In her late thirties, she founded Go Getters, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting individuals with mental illness. What began as a small grassroots effort grew into a prominent nonprofit serving Wayne County for many years. After a successful career of service, she retired in 2002 and returned to make her home in Sault Ste. Marie.

Known for her big heart and generous spirit, Catherine was deeply involved in her community and faith. She was a faithful supporter of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, donated to hunger relief efforts, organized prayer chains, and was active in mental health advocacy groups, the Marion Prayer Group, and St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Catherine enjoyed life's simple pleasures: playing cards, crafting and selling her wares at local shows, camping, sitting by bonfires, and praying with—and for—those around her. Her compassion and faith touched many lives.

She is survived by her sons, Victor (Christine) Quintanilla of Florida, David Garcia Quintanilla, and Ronald A. Quintanilla, both of Sault Ste. Marie; daughters, Cassandra M. Hess of Sault Ste. Marie, and Deana Hess and Dawn Hess of Canada; grandchildren: Victor (Jennifer) Quintanilla Jr., Catherine J. Quintanilla, David (Heather) Quintanilla, Issaih Quintanilla, Jordan Quintanilla, Chance Quintanilla, and Issabell Quintanilla; and great-grandchildren: Seth, David, Noah, Gabriel, Aaron, and Raymond; siblings, Kimberly (Joe) Shultz of Sugar Island, Vickie Sumner, Muriel Lynn Evens, John (Lori) Lane, and Magie Lane, all of Sault Ste. Marie.

Catherine was preceded in death by her infant son, Joseph Hess; parents, Ronald and Muriel Lane; brother, Tony Lane; and grandparents, Isabelle and Cyril Allard.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, beginning at 10:00 AM, at the Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Building (Sault Tribe Cultural Center), 11 Ice Circle, Chi Mukwa, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Visitation will continue until 12:00 Noon on Thursday, October 23, 2025.

Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 1:00 PM at Holy Name of Mary Pro-Cathedral Catholic Church, 377 Maple St, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Catherine's final resting place will be at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens in Bruce Township, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that any memorial contributions be made to Family Life Funeral Homes, 4951 s. M-129, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, to help with the funeral costs.

Family Life Funeral Homes – Sault Ste. Marie assisted the family with

arrangements. Condolences may be left to the family at www.familylifefh.com.

Cemetery Details

Oaklawn Chapel Gardens

15264 S. M-129
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **22**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Niigaanaagiizhik Ceremonial Building
11 Ice Circle
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

Visitation

OCT **23**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Niigaanaagiizhik Ceremonial Building
11 Ice Circle
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **23**. 1:00 PM (est)

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church
337 Maple St.
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Tribute Wall

PC

“ My very first encounter with Cathy was in grade school in Rose City. She was a new kid. Right away she and our teacher got into a an argument about the correct way to draw the letter "k".

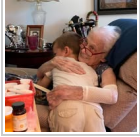
Cathy had her own way of doing it and stood up for herself. I didn't know we could do that! She became one of my best friends after that!

Peggy Church-Johnson - October 23, 2025 at 02:40 PM

MM

“ All my memories of Cathy were good ones, I loved how she would laugh a hardy laugh and I especially admired her for her love of the Lord Jesus Christ and the blessed mother, rest peacefully my cousin 🙏 amen

Mary Allard Manson - October 22, 2025 at 04:37 PM



“ I have so many fantastic memories of Cathy. My favorite one though was how excited she was. I had a dream when she teaching me about Christ and the blessed mother and I had a dream of the blessed mother pregnant I dreamt it was a horse, but we know it was a mule being led, and I told her about this dream and she was so excited because she said it was a visitation from the blessed mother, and she told uncle Gregory and he found a statue of the dream, but to see the excitement and feel her excitement for me was one of the most beautiful experiences of my life. Cathy was just the most loving funniest protective person that I've ever met. I will smile for the rest of my days when I think of her, and although our our hearts and my heart is broken because she's not on this earth, the excitement that I feel for her being with our father is unexplainable. I just know that she is so happy women like her don't come along too often she will forever be missed as she called me Cathy Sullivan.

Cathy Sullivan-Brown - October 22, 2025 at 02:34 PM