



## Dorothy "Jean" Austin

August 17, 1925 - October 10, 2020

Dorothy "Jean" Austin, 95, passed away peacefully on October 10, 2020, surrounded by her four children. Her ashes will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery with those of her husband, Capt. John M. Austin, USCG who predeceased her on May 14, 2011. She and John were married for 62 years.

Jean was born in 1925 in East Tawas, Michigan and graduated from East Tawas Senior High School. She attended Stephens College and Michigan State University. During World War II, she worked for the Army Map Service in Washington, D.C. Following the war, she was employed by the Simplicity Pattern Company until she met her future husband at a function aboard the USCGC Mackinaw in Cheboygan, Michigan. They were married in 1949. Her life was enhanced in support of her husband through many Coast Guard transfers. She lived in Parma, Ohio; Plymouth, Michigan; Sequim, Washington; Seattle, Washington; Brecksville, Ohio; St. Ignace, Michigan; Governors Island, New York; Shaker Heights, Ohio; and finally, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. After her husband's retirement in 1974, she and John traveled and explored the world together. They lived in Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, India, the UAE, and New Orleans.

She is survived by her four children, Brock (Jane); Laurie; Scott (Sherri); Karrie; special friend and neighbor Kathy Person and her God grandson Rowan Mauldin. Jean had ten grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren (not listed): Kyre (Fred) Sheahan; Ben (Brigid) Austin; Casey (Reid Olsen) Austin;

Audrey Waggoner; Lauren Waggoner; Missy (Mike) Reinikainen; Cailin (Matt Speed) McClung; Kelly (Harry) Longinidis; and John McClung. Jean was predeceased by granddaughter Shelby Austin in 2001. She is also survived by many graduates of the St. James Episcopal Church nursery where she volunteered for over 35 years.

She was a cherished friend, neighbor and mentor, and a tireless advocate for her family, her community, her church and the US Coast Guard. She never lost her sense of humor, and her wit and ability to turn a phrase endeared her to everyone. Everyone who knew her considered themselves lucky to have been a part of her life, and if you were really lucky you were the recipient of one of her zucchini bread. Her favorite song was "What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong and her philosophy was to "Die young, as late as possible" (in which she succeeded). Jean was fond of saying that she would not have changed a thing about her adventurous and travel-filled life. She loved her flowers, crossword puzzles and Isaac Azimov quizzes and she had a spirit of adventure which served her well as a Coast Guard spouse. Hers was a life well lived and she will be missed by family, friends and the Sault community.

Due to the pandemic, a memorial gathering will be held at a date to be determined. Memorial contributions in lieu of flowers may be sent to Hospice of the EUP, the Coast Guard Foundation or the USCGC Mackinaw Museum. The family was assisted by C.S. Mulder Funeral Home. Condolence may be left online at [www.csmulder.com](http://www.csmulder.com)

# Tribute Wall

JT

“ We are so sorry to hear of Jean's passing. She was a wonderful lady. The West Pier Drive In Crew will miss you terribly ...



Jenny TenEyck - October 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ What a lovely lady Jean was. She and Capt John were friends of my in laws. Jim and Evelyn Baril. I met her a few years ago. Great Lady. SO intelligent and friendly. Sorry for your families loss.



Pamela Baril - October 16, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ A lovely lady now reunited with my fine classmate John USCGA 1945.

John M Dempsey - October 16, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ Dearest Family,  
I was blessed to meet this beautiful soul two Summers ago. What an incredible lovely lady. I truly loved spending some time with her. I pray there is a lifetime of beautiful memories for you to remember until you are together again. ❤️  
Sandra Doran



Sandra Doran - October 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ I so wish I could have seen you one more time, dear Aunt Jean. I have so many fond childhood memories of you, Uncle John, Brock, Laurie, Scott and Karrie. I always loved your sense of humor and the joy you brought to everyone. You were a bright star in this world, and you will be missed by all of your family and friends. Whenever I pictured your face, I pictured your quirky smile and the laughter in your eyes. You lived life to its fullest, and left a legacy of love.

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**Anne Austin Narramore** - October 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ Aww Jean you were a brightspot in our days at the beauty shop, she always could make us smile!!  
Miss you!!!!  
Condolences to the entire family.  
A beautiful great lady.



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**Laura S True** - October 13, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TQ

“ So very sorry to hear of your passing.. I really miss seeing you because of this virus.. You were one of a kind, I thoroughly enjoyed spending time with you, you were more than a friend.. RIP MY DEAR FRIEND

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**Theresa Quinn** - October 13, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ We are so sorry for your loss. "Austin," as my kids always called her, has been a friend to our family and my parents for so long. From tap dancing in the church basement to sharing her wonderful spiniach casserole (she always called it her funeral casserole) to her yummy zucchini bread, we will always have great memories of her wonderful sense of humor and bubbling personality. Thinking of you all at this time. Pam, Gino, Amanda, & Alexandria Briglio.

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**Briglio Family** - October 13, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Jean will be missed. We were fortunate to meet her when we were members of St James Episcopal church. RIP Jean  
With love  
Debby Bradley and Mike Posten

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**Deborah** - October 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ So Sorry for your loss. She will be deeply missed. I will miss her smile and the times she she dressed as Raggedy Ann either before the Bazaar and or Christmas.



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**David Cook** - October 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM