



## Jeanne E. Thompson

March 14, 1940 - February 24, 2024

Jeanne Emily (Jarvie) Thompson, age 83, of Newberry, Michigan, died on February 24, 2024, at EUP Hospice House of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. She was born on March 14, 1940, in Sault Ste. Marie, to Silho Weikko and Lempi Aleene (Oja) Jarvie.

Jeanne grew up in Sault Ste. Marie and graduated from Sault High School in 1958. After high school she attended Northeastern School of Commerce in Bay City, Michigan, completing the secretarial course. Upon graduation, she returned to Sault Ste. Marie and began working at Coates & Klein Law Firm. In September 1961, she married Richard Haapala, and had two daughters, Heather, and Erika. The family enjoyed many summers at the Haapala Cottage in Cedarville, Michigan and many get-togethers with dear friends, including Virginia (Toots) & Don Golanka.

In 1980, Jeanne began her career at Lake Superior State University Norris Center where she worked in the Recreation/Exercise Science Department and eventually retired from the Criminal Justice & Fire Science Department. Through her years there she had many work-study students who thought of her as their second Mom.

Jeanne was a member of the Faith Lutheran Church where she sang in the Choir for many years.

In 1988, on advice from friends Jack and Ruth Truckey, Jeanne was set up on a blind date that would change everything. Jeanne and Jim Thompson, from Newberry, went on a blind date that was the beginning of a beautiful life together. Jeanne and Jim married in 1991, in Gulf Shores, Alabama blending their families. Jeanne and Jim enjoyed spending time at the hunting camp, traveling, golfing, doing crafts together, and entertaining with friends. When Jim's health started to decline, Jeanne was an excellent caregiver to Jim, keeping him home as long as she possibly could.

Jeanne was also an avid reader and crafty. In the early years, she sewed all her daughters' clothes and items for her twin niece and nephew, Erin (Haapala) Pearson and Andy Haapala. She enjoyed knitting and would often knit hats to donate to local charities. But golfing was by far her favorite activity. She could be seen on the Newberry Country Club course 5-6 times a week with her golf partners, Mary Saunders, Scotty Bronz, and Laverne Haggar, right up through the fall of 2023. Her clubs were always in the trunk of her car because you never know when someone would want to play.

Jeanne loved her many lunch and shopping trips with her dear friends Scotty, and Laverne. She will be dearly missed by her many friends and Jarvie cousins. She was the kind of person who, when you mentioned to others, would elicit expressions of love and admiration from those who knew her best and anyone who was to cross her path.

Jeanne is survived by her daughters, Heather Haapala of Sault Ste. Marie and Erika (Dan) Frechette of Naples, Florida; grandchild, Ryan Morley of Brimley, Michigan; seven stepchildren, Stephen Thompson of Tennessee, Becky (Fred) Russo of Michigan, Pattie (Mark) Izmond of Michigan, Scott (Shelley) Thompson of Illinois, Cindy Thompson of Washington, Kevin (Dee) Thompson of California and Karen (Ivan Fende) Thompson of Michigan; thirteen Thompson grandchildren that she adored; special niece and Goddaughter,

Laurie (Sedestrom) Krell of Michigan; special nephew, Matthew Gray of South Carolin; nieces and nephews, Erin (Haapala) Pearson of Florida, Andy Haapala of Michigan, Sue (Gray) Rothermel of North Carolina and Marty (Sedestrom) Guthrie of Virginia.

Jeanne is preceded in death by her husband, James Thompson; parents, Silho and Lempi Jarvie; sister, Mary; brother-in-law, Don Gray; son-in-law, Michael MacInnis; nephew, Rob Gray and her beloved dog Sarah.

Celebration of Life will be in the Spring of 2024.

Memorials may be left to the Hospice of the E.U.P, 308 W. 12th Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783.

Family Life Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.  
Condolences may be left to the family at [www.familylifefh.com](http://www.familylifefh.com).

# Previous Events

## Service

MAY **22**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Faith Lutheran Church  
1600 Park St.  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

*Luncheon to follow.*

# Tribute Wall



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Jeanne E. Thompson.*



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May 21, 2024 at 05:16 PM



“ *Alex & Mindy Rivers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jeanne E. Thompson.*

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**Alex & Mindy Rivers** - May 21, 2024 at 05:16 PM



“ *Cynthia (Cindy) Thompson purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Jeanne E. Thompson.*



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**Cynthia (Cindy) Thompson** - May 15, 2024 at 01:05 PM



“ *Cynthia (Cindy) Thompson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jeanne E. Thompson.*

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**Cynthia (Cindy) Thompson** - May 15, 2024 at 01:05 PM

MG

“ Matt Gray purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jeanne E. Thompson.



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**Matt Gray** - May 09, 2024 at 03:01 PM

MG

“ Matt Gray planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jeanne E. Thompson.

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**Matt Gray** - May 09, 2024 at 03:01 PM

DW

“ We knew Jeanne both as a fellow member of Faith Lutheran and a Newberry neighbor. She was always very kind and generous. Our love and sympathy to Erica and Heather and the entire family. Dale and Judy Williams

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**Dale/Judy Williams** - April 24, 2024 at 04:15 PM

EH

Awww Judy! It was so nice to see your name here. Thank you for your kind words. I hope you and Dale are doing well.

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**Erika Haapala-Frechette** - May 02, 2024 at 08:42 AM

AN

“ Oh, I was so sad to hear of Jeanne's death. She was a very special lady. She was one of a kind. Happy sad as she is now continuing her journey to God but will be missed by so many. It won't be the same without her at the golf course. Love and prayers to Jeanne and all her family and friends

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**Ann Nelson** - March 07, 2024 at 07:32 PM

EH

*Thank you Ann.....I am certain the golf course will miss her too...she truly was a very special lady. Erika*

**Erika Haapala-Frechette** - May 02, 2024 at 08:42 AM

MS

“ *Her smiling face will be sadly missed at the golf course.*

**Michael Soeltner** - March 06, 2024 at 05:22 PM

SW

“ *So sorry to hear of Jeanne's passing. I had spoken several times with Ryan and knew her cancer was back. She fought this disease and it took a beautiful person from all that loved her and knew her. I had known Jeanne from the time she played golf with the ladies league at Kincheloe. Always a smile and a laugh for you. And if you were a friend and maybe not always a hug from her also! She will certainly leave a big hole in the hearts of many many people. But I'm certain she's still playing golf!*

**Sue Williams** - March 04, 2024 at 06:26 PM

EH

*Thank you Sue....I am certain she is golfing too! Be well, Erika*

**Erika Haapala-Frechette** - May 02, 2024 at 08:44 AM

LH

*This is difficult! U see, Jeanne has been my BFF & also our bestest, Grec. We lost Ev, now Jeanne. She helped me in my constant grieving over my son & Kens. I can't believe she is gone. She's been my golf partner for years, & she was my partner in faith, friendship, secrets, sharing, lunches, laughing, crying, hard times, laughing til we cried, & like a BLINK, she isn't here, but in spirit! I know Erika, HeatherRyan, Olive, Sara, & also, Montacello the turtle. Mostly through my great friend Jeanne. Til we meet again, I'm sure going to miss U Jeanne!! While U are golfing with Grec in heaven, say hi to Kenny for us!! Love & miss U so much!*

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**laverne Haggart** - May 04, 2024 at 11:10 PM

GJ

*“ I was deeply saddened to learn of Jeanne's passing. We worked closely together at the Norris Center from 1987 to 1989. She was one of the kindest and most gracious people I have known. She was also invariably bright and cheerful--a genuine pleasure to work with. Her family and friends were blessed to have such a wonderful woman in their lives. That knowledge should bring comfort to all of you as you grieve her loss.*

*Gary Johnson, Sault Ste. Marie*

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**Gary Johnson** - March 04, 2024 at 01:29 PM

CS

*“ I am so saddened to hear of Jeanne's passing. I worked for her as a student worker back in 1973 in the Norris Center. She was so kind and supportive to all the students who came through the department. I also golfed at the Oaks in Kincheloe on the same Ladies League team for several years. She was one of the kindest people I have ever had the honor of knowing.*

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**Cathy Smith** - March 03, 2024 at 09:10 AM

LC

“ I was so sad to read about Jeanne. We had some good times growing up together at the Lincoln School and all through High School. I was glad to have seen her at our class reunion last summer. she will be missed.

*Linda Kay Countyman, Bellaire, Mi*

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**linda j countryman** - March 03, 2024 at 08:54 AM

LH

“ We have way too many memories that are soooo special! Golfing, shopping, sharing heartbreaks, great news,lunches, & chats. In other words, always there to support U. I sure am missing U my , my dear BFF! Me

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**Laverne Haggart** - March 02, 2024 at 09:27 PM