



## Norma Ethel Bishop

January 7, 1937 - November 25, 2022

Norma Ethel Bishop, 85, of St. Ignace, MI and Englewood, FL passed away peacefully on November 25, 2022, at Tidewell Hospice House in Port Charlotte, FL after being diagnosed with breast cancer in 2020.

A world without Norma? Unimaginable. She was one of those people who was supposed to live forever. Feisty, funny, cantankerous, witty, ornery, spicy, irreverent. And a life-long devout Catholic. She was all of that.

Norma was born and raised in St. Ignace, MI, to Norman and Dorothy (née McLeod) Paquin. She attended LaSalle High School (Class of '54) and worked several jobs during the summer months cleaning motels and cabins, and working various positions at restaurants in town. But the job she held as a teen that would shape her future was working in the ticket booth at the movie theater (The Show) in downtown St. Ignace. It was there she met the love of her life, Captain Jim Bishop (who kept coming back to the same movie so he could see her cute face through that glass). They married in September of 1954 and, in pretty quick succession, had three children. While raising those three children, Norma was first a homemaker, but also held many jobs: chief cook and bottle washer at the Dog N Suds Drive-In out on US-2 (an existing franchise!) that she and the Captain owned/operated (you could pet the deer!); ticket sales for her and the Captain's ferry boat service to Mackinac Island; ticket sales for Arnold Line Transit Company; Nurse's Aide at Mackinac

Straits Hospital; flower arranger at the St. Ignace Green House; and she also provided administrative support to the Captain when he ran their charter fishing business out of Charlevoix, MI in the 70s.

Norma was always the life of the party. In fact, some folks might say she WAS the party. She loved dressing up for Halloween - and for any occasion for that matter, and any chance she had to grace a dance floor, she was there shakin' a leg. She had a way of bringing people together and most always hosted the gatherings. And cook! Oh, how that woman could cook! As far as we're concerned, Norma was THE best cook (fry and otherwise) in the U.P. - and beyond. She happily shared recipes, but nothing was as good as when she made it. She added that extra little something that made it oh so delicious. Love? Lard? Probably lots of both. It brought her great joy to sit back after preparing a meal and watch family and friends savor her concoctions.

In 1988, Norma and the Captain bought a little place in Englewood, FL (aka Wrinklewood) on Manasota Key, and it's where they wintered, hosting all family members who rendezvoused there most every Spring.

Norma is predeceased by her parents; her husband, Capt. James J. Bishop, Sr.; and siblings Teddy Paquin and Roberta McPhee. Norma is survived by her siblings Larry Paquin, Frances Wartella, Kathleen Bell and Andre Paquin; her children, son James J. Bishop, Jr. (Michigan/Florida), daughters Ann Marie Bishop (Michigan/Florida) and Mary Jo Bishop (Nashville/Florida); her grandchildren, Mary Eileen Harris (Michigan), Katie Harris Keel (South Carolina), James Gardner Harris (South Korea), Angela Nefcy Kolar (Seattle), Jimmy Joe Bishop (North Carolina), Kiara Bishop (Michigan); and great grandchildren, Anna Jean Keel, James Ryan Keel and Zane Christopher Kolar.

Norma truly broke the mold. Let's gather to share stories and raise our

glasses to her at a celebration of her life on July 8, 2023, in St. Ignace, MI.  
Details TBA.

In lieu of cards and flowers, please consider a donation to Tidewell Hospice (<https://tidewellhospice.org>). Thank you.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Norma Ethel Bishop*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Norma Ethel Bishop*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of Norma's passing. Our thoughts are with you, Jimmy, Mary Jo and the extended family. Will always remember her laugh, sharp wit and most of all " Norma's meat pie" which she seemed to always have in the freezer for serving the unexpected "guest".*

*Thinking of you all*

*John & Valerie Harris*

John Harris - December 14, 2022 at 04:28 PM



*Thank you, John. I was just thinking about you guys the other day. Hope all is well with you. Hold your family tight 💕 MJ*

MaryJo ("MJ") Bishop - December 15, 2022 at 01:21 PM



“ *Sure going to miss Norma. One of my favorite neighbors. prayers to her family.*

tom girman - December 14, 2022 at 11:41 AM

FW

“ I will remember Norma in so many ways, she was a special person. Worked with her at MSH, always a good day when she was on. Two of my favorite memories-She would come into work and go into the first empty patient room and put a oxygen mask on at 15 liters for 5 minutes come out saying 'best way to get rid of a hangover. Asked her once if she had lost weight-was looking good she replied " yes, have been on a liquid diet, whiskey and water. Norma will be missed but never forgotten.  
With love to you and your family,  
Fay

Fay West - December 14, 2022 at 08:38 AM

MB

Thank you, Fay. That's a sweet (and funny) memory of Norma. 💕

MaryJo ("MJ") Bishop - December 15, 2022 at 01:22 PM

BT

“ Sorry to hear of her passing Eh.  
So many memories to share between all these fantastic families!  
Our hearts and prayers are with you all.  
Brian “Bullet” Tromblay and Family  
-Son of “Cap” and Carol Tromblay



Brian “Bullet” Tromblay - December 13, 2022 at 10:40 PM

LD

“ She brought so much love, light and laughter to the world. She will be missed.

Luann Dunsforf - December 13, 2022 at 06:49 PM

LD


“ So sorry to learn of Norma's passing. You wrote a beautiful tribute to Norma's life and she was everything you said about her in the tribute. She will be missed.

*Leona and Jim DeKeyser*

---

**Leona M DeKeyser** - December 13, 2022 at 06:12 PM

MB

Thanks so much 

---

**MaryJo ("MJ") Bishop** - December 15, 2022 at 01:23 PM

MA

“ Always the life of the party, I will miss our glasses of champagne, and her many kindnesses.

---

**Mary Alban** - December 13, 2022 at 03:13 PM

PS

Beautiful tribute to Norma!! She brought great joy to those who knew her at Gulf to Bay!!

---

**Pat Schwing** - December 13, 2022 at 06:28 PM

MP

I miss Norma. Her crazy antics (especially dancing!), funny stories, and good advice. Not to mention her Chicken and glissants! Love you, Norma Ethel, you are one of a kind! Rest in peace.

---

**Mary Beth Powers** - December 14, 2022 at 08:39 AM

KB

Rest In Peace Norma, you were a icon, you had a great life, as I didn't know if Dorothy was my mom or Norma was my mom, either or you were both strong women. May you rest in peace as you need a break. Love Kathleen

---

**Kathy Bell** - December 14, 2022 at 06:36 PM