



Norma Jean Tessmer

July 20, 1946 - April 5, 2016

Norma Jean Tessmer, age 69, passed away on April 5, 2016 at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan, following a brief illness. She was born on July 20, 1946 to Clayton and Marcella (Newland) Auger in L'Anse, Michigan.

Norma grew up in L'Anse and met Art Tessmer. They married on January 13, 1968. In the ensuing years, they started their family and lived in many Michigan cities including Ionia, Fountain, and Pickford. They finally settled in Pickford where they've lived since 1977. Norma was employed as a teacher's aide at Pickford Public Schools for many years. She truly loved her job, the staff, and the students. Her job was very enjoyable, and on occasion she and her partner-in-crime, Cathy Thorne, did their best to either stay out of trouble or start the same. Norma retired from the school on March 30, 2007.

Although, Norma worked outside of the home, she was truly a professional housewife and mother, both of which were her true passions.

Norma had a wonderful persona. She was caring, friendly, enjoyed a good sense of humor and was very quick witted. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, traveling, cleaning her home (and cleaning it again) and visiting the local casinos. Her enjoyment of gambling was an extremely poorly kept secret. Her passing has left an unfillable void in the life of her husband, children and grandchildren, and others who loved her. She will be so

dearly missed. She was a wonderful partner for the short journey.

Norma is survived by her husband of 48 years, Art Tessmer; daughter, Tracy (Ray) Kopitsch; son, Tom (Kerri) Tessmer; grandchildren, Paige, Madyson, Emma, Raegen, Thomas, Cassandra, Braxton, and Mallory; sisters, Jane (Joe) Darcy and Robin (John) Henry; nieces and nephews, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; and many very good friends.

Norma is preceded in death by her parents, Clayton and Marcella Auger; father and mother-in-law, Art and Rose Tessmer; and grandparents, with whom she was especially close, Graydon & Marceline Newland.

A Memorial Gathering will be held on Monday, April 11, 2016 from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. at R. Galer Funeral Home in Pickford, Michigan. A Memorial Service will begin at 4:00 P.M.

Norma will be interred in the spring.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Pickford Community Library, P.O. Box 277, Pickford, MI 49774.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.rgalerfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

APR 11. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Pickford
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774
(906) 647-3400
flfh@familylifefh.com
<https://www.familylifefuneralhomes.com/>

Memorial Service

APR 11. 4:00 PM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Pickford
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774
(906) 647-3400
flfh@familylifefh.com
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Tribute Wall



“ *Norma Jean Tessmer*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Norma Jean Tessmer*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Norma Jean Tessmer*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *Jennie/Tom Nordstrom lit a candle in memory of Norma Jean Tessmer*



Jennie/Tom Nordstrom - April 12, 2016 at 09:48 AM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Norma Jean Tessmer.*



April 11, 2016 at 12:05 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Norma Jean Tessmer.*



April 11, 2016 at 12:44 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Norma Jean Tessmer.*



April 10, 2016 at 07:48 PM



“ *Art, Jane, Robin & families, so sorry for your loss. I had a great talk with Norma last summer. Shared some laughs & some of our troubles. Was so hoping to see her at our reunion last summer. I know you guys will have lots of great memories, as I have lots of them from our days in high school!!*

Rosie & Don Funke - April 10, 2016 at 01:03 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Norma Jean Tessmer.*



April 09, 2016 at 08:47 PM

HT

“ *Jane, Robin & Norma's Family...
So sorry to hear of Norma's passing.
Our sincere condolences.
Herb & Lou Tollefson*

Herb & Lou Tollefson - April 09, 2016 at 06:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of
Norma Jean Tessmer.*



April 09, 2016 at 03:39 PM

SM

“ *Norma was so sweet to me my first couple years working at
Pickford. She loved talking sports and always had fun with her quick
one liners and church lady smirk. So glad I was able to visit with her
and Art during Christmas break at the casino. Norma and her family
are in my prayers! Thank you for all the laughs you'll be missed by
many!❤️*

Susan Maloney - April 09, 2016 at 02:29 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the
family of Norma Jean Tessmer.*



April 09, 2016 at 10:56 AM

DW

“ *My thoughts and prayer go out to Art and the family, Norma was truly a wonderful person and I enjoyed our talks a lot. She will be missed so much.*
Donna Wiggins

Donna M. Wiggins - April 09, 2016 at 07:02 AM



“ *Michaele Linn lit a candle in memory of Norma Jean Tessmer*



Michaele Linn - April 08, 2016 at 10:49 PM

DF

“ *Words can not express how much I will miss my friend Norma. We had so many laughs over the years and shared so much. She could always make me laugh. She was a treasure and I will miss her.*

DiAnn Firack - April 08, 2016 at 08:37 PM

 Jason
Firack

“ *I honestly cannot smell Pine-sol and not be transported to Norma's house back in high school ! So many great memories at her house with Tom and then getting to work with her for awhile at the school. She will truly be missed.*

Jason Firack - April 08, 2016 at 12:11 PM

WA

“ I got the pleasure of meeting Norma over this past summer- I did her hair, and nails at Lakeside Hair and Spa a few times. She truly was such a caring person, her smile will be missed by everyone who knew her. Sending prayers to her family and friends -god bless

Whitney Autore - April 08, 2016 at 09:57 AM

SM

“ David and I have had the pleasure to get to know Norma and Art, through our daughter marring their son Tom. We have had many great times with them. Norma always had a smile on her face and was ready for a good laugh at all times. We will truly miss her, and want to express our deepest sympathy to the Tessmer family, and the family of Norma....

Sas and David

Sas Miller - April 08, 2016 at 09:30 AM

AD

“ Amber & David lit a candle in memory of Norma Jean Tessmer



Amber & David - April 08, 2016 at 08:28 AM

DB

“ Sorry for the loss of your sister and friend Jane.

Donna Beauchaine - April 08, 2016 at 08:00 AM

SR

“ Norma was a friend to so many. No matter what kind of day I was having, she could always make me laugh! She will be missed. Prayers for Art and family .

sandie rye - April 08, 2016 at 08:00 AM

GK

“ A lot of respect for all of you and prayers are with you. Your time together may have been short but the memories will last forever. May God give you the peace you will need in the future. Our best to you-----Judy and Gary Klop

Gary Klop - April 07, 2016 at 07:32 PM

VR

“ Vida & Jeffrey Rothstein lit a candle in memory of Norma Jean Tessmer



Vida & Jeffrey Rothstein - April 07, 2016 at 05:57 PM

BS

“ Dear Art & family, So sorry to hear of Norma's passing, she was a special person. I always enjoyed spending time with both of you. I always loved how she always had a quick come back for whatever we were talking about. Keep busy and visit the kids, it all helps. I will keep you all in my prayers. Barbara Swartz



Barbara Swartz - April 07, 2016 at 05:16 PM

LL

“ Lowell And Barb Hanshaw, L'Anse lit a candle
in memory of Norma Jean Tessmer



Lowell and Barb Hanshaw, L'Anse - April 07, 2016 at 04:57 PM

JW

“ I will miss our phone conversations and all of Norma's humor! She
was one of a kind and she will be greatly missed!
I always admired Norma for being so faithful with her visits to folks
who had serious health issues--I am just so sorry she had to leave
so soon!
Joan Wahl

Joan Wahl - April 07, 2016 at 02:52 PM

PS

“ Paul And Marian Schreiber lit a candle in
memory of Norma Jean Tessmer



Paul and Marian Schreiber - April 07, 2016 at 02:49 PM

RH

“ Rich & Deb Huyck lit a candle in memory of
Norma Jean Tessmer



Rich & Deb Huyck - April 07, 2016 at 02:34 PM

PO

“ Norma and I have been friends since the early 1980's. We have had many laughs together and I for one have always enjoyed my visits with Norma. We have shared many stories between the two of us. Norma will be missed not only by Art, Tracy, Tom and their respective families but by many of us who called her "our friend." You are now at peace Norma. I will miss you my friend. Patti Osterhout

Patti Osterhout - April 07, 2016 at 02:15 PM

PO

“ Patti Osterhout lit a candle in memory of Norma Jean Tessmer



Patti Osterhout - April 07, 2016 at 02:12 PM

BB

“ Bob And Dodie Batho lit a candle in memory of Norma Jean Tessmer



Bob and Dodie Batho - April 07, 2016 at 10:23 AM

CT

“ Carol And David Tembreull lit a candle in memory of Norma Jean Tessmer



Carol and David Tembreull - April 07, 2016 at 10:10 AM

TH

Norma was one of the nicest ladies I have ever met up here. She helped Jennie and I when we were at a stand still in our lives. She will be missed by so many and I'll NEVER forget the little smirk she would have a her face when she would see me coming. (made me feel like I was doing something wrong.) RIP Norma. God Bless You !!!!

Thomas Hill - April 08, 2016 at 10:57 PM

JS

*My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family Art. Norma was a special and caring friend. I will truly miss her!
God bless and keep you all.*

Janet Sitz - April 09, 2016 at 03:24 PM