



Joan D. Nelson

May 28, 1954 - May 16, 2025

Joan D. Nelson, 70, of Kingsford, passed away on Friday, May 16, 2025, at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

She was born on May 28, 1954, in Iron Mountain, Michigan, daughter of the late John and Dorothy (Olson) Kulman. A lifelong resident of the area, Joan graduated from Kingsford High School in 1972.

Joan pursued her passion for public service by attending Northern Michigan University, where she graduated from the Police Academy. Joan married Larry Nelson on May 7, 1988 at First Presbyterian Church in Kingsford. She served with dedication at Kingsford Public Safety for 12 years before stepping away to focus on raising her son, John. Later, she took a position at the Dickinson County Courthouse as a clerk & deputy magistrate. While working there, she earned an associate degree in criminology from Bay de Noc Community College. Her commitment and skill led to her appointment as Dickinson County Magistrate, a position she held with distinction for 17 years.

She was an avid Detroit Red Wings fan and found joy in photography, crocheting, and quilting.

Joan is survived by her loving husband, Larry Nelson; her son, John Nelson of Kingsford; her sister-in-law, Michelle "Mickey" Kulman; and numerous nieces,

nephews, and cousins.

A Celebration of Joan's life will be held on Thursday, July 24 from 5:00 to 9:00 pm at Venue 906 in Kingsford.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Joan D. Nelson online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

The family has entrusted Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the arrangements.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL **24.** 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Venue 906
900 W. Breitung Ave.
Kingsford, MI 49802

Tribute Wall

JG

“ Larry and Johnny, my deepest condolences for your loss. I will always remember Joan's sense of humor. Her humor always showed up at the right time. Joan will be missed.

Janet Guminski - May 27, 2025 at 07:37 AM

BR

“ Larry and Johnny, i am deeply sorry for your loss. May Joan RIP and all your memories be there to fill your hearts.



Brenda - May 25, 2025 at 01:43 PM

CN

“ Rest in peace Joanie. Your courthouse family will forever miss you and your unmatched wit and sense of humor. Thank you for the many years of service to our community, and the laughter, smiles and fond memories along the way. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Larry, John, and the rest of the family. Please accept our deepest condolences.

Chris & Mary Ninomiya

Chris Ninomiya - May 22, 2025 at 12:34 PM