



Julia L. Peterson

October 27, 1959 - May 9, 2020

Julia L. Peterson, 60, of Kingsford, lost her long, courageous battle with cancer, peacefully surrounded by her family on Saturday, May 9, 2020.

Julia was born on October 27, 1959, in Iron Mountain, daughter of the late William and Doris (Blanchard) Smeester. She had been a resident of this area her entire life and was a 1978 graduate of Kingsford High School. Upon graduating high school, Julia worked in the office at her family's business, US Special Delivery. After starting her own family, she returned to college in 1999 and graduated from Bay de Noc College in 2002 with an Associate's Degree in the Arts. Subsequently graduating from Bay, she attended Northern Michigan University and was majoring in Psychology with a minor in Religious Studies.

Julia Peterson was so many wonderful things. She was a daughter, sister, grandmother, mother, aunt, friend, avid reader, world traveler, and a warrior in her own right. In spite of life's tough challenges, she took it all in stride with a wonderful outlook on life. Julia had an insatiable appetite for learning and knowledge, loved to laugh and enjoyed playing pool, camping at Rivers Bend and crocheting. Later in life, she dedicated herself to taking care of her grandchildren and was a member of the Zonta Club.

She is survived by her children, Pamela Peterson of Iron Mountain and Robert

Peterson of Iron Mountain; sister, Lynne (Terry) Reed of Breitung Twp.; brothers, Bill Smeester Jr. of Beecher, WI, Brian (Lorie) Smeester of Kingsford, Dan Lantagne of Florence and Mike Smeester of Florence; grandchildren, Aaron, Amber, Kaitlyn, Elliot and Jason Peterson. She is also survived by her stepmother, Joann Smeester, best friend Sherry Kobe, and several nieces and nephews. She was especially close with her nephew Johnathon Reed, a compassionate caregiver to her, especially at the end.

Julia was preceded in death by her infant daughter, Jordina Marie Nowikowski in 1980.

Private family services are being held.

Burial will be in Iron Mountain Cemetery Park.

Condolences to the family of Julia Peterson may be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Cemetery Details

Cemetery Park

101 Cedar Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Tribute Wall

BS

“ 3 years ago today. I think about you Julie.

Brian Smeester - May 09, 2023 at 08:35 PM

CB

“ It was with great sadness that I learned of Julia's passing. Julia was a great friend and more for over 40 years. I loved Julia and will miss her greatly.

Chuck Bertelson - May 26, 2020 at 12:25 PM

CH

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of Julia's family. May God comfort you and bring you peace.
Charlene and Michael Hunt

Charlene Hunt - May 21, 2020 at 04:54 PM

DK

“ I'm so sorry for the loss of your mom, Rob, and to all of the rest of her loving family. I live next door to Julia, unfortunately, I didn't get the chance to know her well, but the times we talked, she had so much to share. A very kind woman, wish.

Sincerely
Debbie Klingenberg

deborah I klingenberg - May 18, 2020 at 04:32 PM



HD

“ I'm so very sorry to hear of Julie's passing. My thoughts and sympathies go out to all of her family.

Bud Duke

Harold (Bud) Duke - May 18, 2020 at 12:25 PM

WZ

“ Dear Lynne, John, and Julia's Family,

We can spend our entire life in our hometown, and barely see our old classmates. Julia was one of those classmates that I would see from time to time. Even when she faced cancer, she had a cheery greeting, a kind word, and an ever present smile.

I know she took on much, was challenged deeply, but her resilience and strength will always be admired and appreciated.

Love to you all and you grieve for her.

Sincerely,

Wendy Zambon

Wendy Zambon - May 16, 2020 at 07:01 AM

EH

“ Dear Lynne and Family,

I am sad to learn of Julia's passing. When I think of Julia, I see her bright smile and internal strength to march to a different drummer. Wishing you and your family peace and strength.

Best, Ellie House Harvath

“The sun, the moon, the wind, the stars, will forever be around, reminding you of the love you shared, and the peace she's finally found.” – Author Unknown

Ellen House Harvath - May 15, 2020 at 07:00 PM