



Donna Jean Uitvlugt

July 30, 1934 - February 22, 2024

Donna Uitvlugt was born on July 30, 1934, the second daughter born to Stanley and Mabel Blackmer of Lake Odessa, MI. She graduated from Grayling High School. The family moved frequently when she was young, and Donna much preferred to be at home than at school. After marrying the love of her life, Cornelius, on September 19, 1952, she was delighted to set down permanent roots and make her own home and family on a beautiful dairy farm in South Boardman.

Donna Uitvlugt's days on earth centered around her family. When her five children were young, she was home to greet them every day after school. She was beside them in the early mornings and late evenings tending to chores on the farm. When grandchildren came along, she cherished attending their hockey, football, and baseball games. She showed them how to collect eggs from the chickens and bake cookies. The heart of a big, loving family, she loved the noise and chaos of a house full of babies, dogs, piano music, and pots

bubbling on the stove.

Donna loved the business of family life on the farm, but she found time to slow down and enjoy

the simple blessings in life, too. A devoted Christian, she found peace and inspiration in the

small wonders of God's world—the hummingbirds landing on her flowers, a delicious piece of

chocolate. She and her husband Cornelius shared a strong faith in God and in marriage.

Though their days were busy, Donna and Cornelius would share an afternoon “tea break” as

often as possible, enjoying cups of Red Rose tea and cookies.

Because she devoted her life to her family, and found great joy in nature and music, it was fitting

that Donna left this earth on Thursday, February 22, 2024 to the sound of piano music,

surrounded by her loving children, and under a beautiful full moon. In the five years since

Cornelius' death, Donna visited his grave frequently and often expressed her desire to be

reunited with him. Her family and friends have no doubt the two are together again, sharing their

afternoons under God's loving embrace in heaven.

Donna is survived by her beloved children Jacob (Barb) Uitvlugt of South Boardman, Martin

Uitvlugt of Leelanau, Annette (Daniel) Marvin of Kalkaska, Melette (Thomas) English and

Noland Uitvlugt, all of South Boardman; 10 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, 5 great-great

grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, and her best friend Diana who spent every Friday

afternoon with her. Donna was preceded in death by her loving husband of 66 years, Cornelius, her sister and brother-in-law, Jacqueline and Gary Hatfield, and her parents Stanley and Mabel Blackmer.

Per Donna's request, there will be a Celebration of Life for family and close friends this spring at her graveside.

In honor of the wonderful caretakers who allowed Donna to live out her last days in her home,

memorial gifts may be made to the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan, 1609 Park Drive,

Traverse City, MI 49696. We welcome your condolences, and encourage you to share your

favorite memories of Donna, at wolfeoneill.com

Arrangements were made by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

Cemetery Details

Boardman Twp. Cemetery

4668 Boardman River Rd. SW
South Boardman, MI 49680

Tribute Wall

PF

“ *Beautiful women full of life and smiles joy and pleasure to meet her* ”



Patricia Fuller - March 19, 2024 at 06:22 PM

DJ

“ *Diane Jasper lit a candle in memory of Donna Jean Uitvlugt* ”



Diane Jasper - March 01, 2024 at 01:04 PM

DG

“ *Deb Gullekson lit a candle in memory of Donna Jean Uitvlugt* ”



Deb Gullekson - March 01, 2024 at 08:29 AM

DU

“ I could right a book on the adventures Donna and I could get into!! We were known as “double trouble”when we went out in public. We had a lot of fun, if we were just having a picnic, or going to the beach to put our toes in the water. Or the countless times we went for a ride on her golf cart through the woods and loved the smells of just being outside in the beautiful world God had given us to live in. One of her favorite Christin Movies is “I can only imagine”

*I can only imagine
Surrounded by your Glory,
What will my Heart feel?
Will I dance for you Jesus
Or in awe of you be Still?
Will I Stand in your presence
Or to my Knees will I fall?
Will I sing Hallelujah
Will I be able to speak at all?*

*Rest in price my friend, until I see you again. Our partner In crime!
Diana U*

Diana Uitvlugt - February 26, 2024 at 02:35 PM

PN

“ Pat & Deborah Newell lit a candle in memory of Donna Jean Uitvlugt



Pat & Deborah Newell - February 26, 2024 at 02:05 PM

DU

“ *Diana Uitvlugt lit a candle in memory of
Donna Jean Uitvlugt*



Diana Uitvlugt - February 26, 2024 at 02:00 PM

LL

“ *Laura Latham lit a candle in memory of
Donna Jean Uitvlugt*



Laura Latham - February 26, 2024 at 01:00 PM