



Jill Macdonald

July 21, 1960 - August 17, 2012

Jill Kimberly Macdonald, age 52, of Traverse City, MI was suddenly lost to us on Friday, August 17, 2012. Jill was born July 21, 1960 in Muskegon, MI to Richard and Jacqueline Wagner. She was adopted by her stepfather Bruce Macdonald at age 6 and lived the rest of her life as Jill Macdonald. Jill graduated from Spring Lake High School and attended Western Michigan University pursuing a degree in political science. She was a valued employee of Hagerty Insurance in Traverse City in Human Resources. She had previously been a manager at the Border's Bookstore in Traverse City and Zingerman's Delicatessen in Ann Arbor, MI. Jill was an excellent cook and relished plotting and trying new food combinations with significant-other-husband-partner-co-purchaser, Matt eagerly participating. They were avid season ticket holders for U of M football and they made countless trips downstate to attend home games and enjoy a weekend spent with close friends, eating, laughing, arguing politics, and enjoying the perfect cocktail. Jill was a green thumb gardener and with Matt as the official soil and garden plot preparer, filled their yard and home with amazing plants, flowers, and summer vegetables. She was a voracious reader and enjoyed music and art that was left of the mainstream and her home was decorated to expand on those influences. She loved shoes and Matt enabled her by creating a one of a kind walk-in closet for her shoes, clothes, and treasures. Jill was at once sweet, sour, passionate, bull-headed, kind, funny, opinionated, intelligent, honest, and never afraid to speak her mind. She never put herself ahead of anyone or

anything else. Those qualities, along with her radiant smile and infectious laugh, endeared her to almost every single person she met throughout her life. Jill is survived by the long time love of her life, Matthew B. Tomorsky of Traverse City; her parents, Jacqueline Macdonald of Traverse City and Bruce Macdonald of Spring Lake, MI; her brothers, Richard Macdonald of Grand Haven, MI, Lucas (Colleen) Macdonald and family of Traverse City, Alan Macdonald of Broomfield, CO; her sisters, Lisa (Kirk) Ricker of Wyoming, MI, and Heather (Nathan) Dannison of Memphis, TN; her aunts, Sandy Wagner of Muskegon, MI, Janice Leonard of Marlett, MI, Judy Steffen of Cincinnati, OH, and Marian Fagan of Muskegon, MI; her uncles, David Macdonald of Grand Rapids, MI, and Garret (Barb) Miller of Charlevoix, MI; Matt's brother, Mark (Beate) Tomorsky and family of Los Angeles; Matt's sister, Elizabeth (David) Knott of Charleston, SC; as well as many other beloved relatives and literally hundreds of friends. A memorial service will be held at the Traverse City Opera House, 106 East Front Street, Traverse City, MI 49684, (231) 941-8082, at 10 a.m., Thursday, August 23, 2012. In lieu of flowers please consider a purchase from Land's End, as they have just lost their number one customer, or a generous donation to Child and Family Services of NWMI, 3785 Veterans Drive, Traverse City, MI 49684, or the charity of your choice. Condolences may be left on-line at www.wolfeoneill.com. Arrangements were made by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours.

Tribute Wall

NA

“ To Jill's family: I only recently learned of Jill's passing. She was my manager at Zingerman's in 1991 and was wonderful mentor to me during my time there. I am thankful for the role she played in my life. My deepest condolences.

Neil Anderson - May 27, 2023 at 10:01 AM



“ Jill Macdonald

January 30, 2023 at 04:02 AM



“ Jill Macdonald

January 30, 2023 at 01:03 AM

GK

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Gary Kirchherr - September 29, 2021 at 04:14 PM

ST

“ Jill, in Kalamazoo or Kale Street Hostel, London SW., your friendship & intelligent comical references meant so much to me. Living upstairs from you in Kzoo with (Marti & Steve -your roomies below...) were such wonderful times... learning to enjoy tacos & drinking gin & tonics! Nina Ott loved you too... I know she'd wish you well! I remember your kitchen with musical artist posters abounding & thought I'd never be as cool as you. Mark Ambrose in London thought the world of you too! I know he'd wish you well into the next life! Sorry I'm late at telling you how much you meant to me! Jill, no one was more hip than you. Genuine "hip" because you knew who you were & NEVER acted falsely! I love you Jill ! R.I.P. Sharon Salisbury Thompson Temecula, California

Sharon Thompson - September 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ Matt, I never met you, but Jill taught me so much in the years we lived together in Kalamazoo about friendship and love. Although I hadn't spoken to her in years, I cannot imagine a world without her in it. I like to think she is in heaven with my late husband, giving him grief, keeping him in line until you and I get there.

Ann - March 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I'm going to miss you and will always remember you!, you were a good friend and I love you.

Stephen Springgate - November 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. Jill made it easy to smile. We will miss her. Mike & Jane Boudjalis

August 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ *Jill's family-I worked with Jill (and Luke) at Amical several years ago. She was always smiling and her upbeat attitude was so infectious. Jill also took the time to teach us what she had learned from her previous restaurant experience. I'm sorry for your loss...Jill will be missed.*

Kristin - August 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NC

“ *I met Jill at Mustard's and looked forward to the times she was helping Luke out or when I saw her at Maxbauer's buying dinner. She was fun to talk to and laugh with. She was one of the people who came into my life for a brief time and I am so fortunate that I got to know her. I know she will be missed by those of us whose lives she touched.*

Nancy Crandall - August 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ *Matt, We are deeply sorry for the loss of a very special lady and friend. She will be missed by all who knew her. You are in our hearts and prayers.*

Keith - August 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CO

“ *Jill was a very sweet,kind and funny individual. I loved her smile!! She will be dearly missed at Hagerty.*

Cindy Oswald - August 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ *May God bless you and your family in this time of sorrow.*

Jennifer - August 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dearest Jill, this morning we will bid you a final farewell and as you travel on your journey may the stars sparkle and twinkle on earth for your soulmate Matthew bringing him peace. We love you forever Jill and miss you but also we have been so touched by your friendship and we are so glad that we were friends for so long. Peace to you sister and goodbye for now...much love...Marti & Leroy Alvarez

August 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Matt, I am truly sorry for your loss. I never saw Jill with a frown on her face nor did she ever have anything negative to say about someone. She saw promise in all things. She was a wonderful, intelligent, outgoing person. God bless you through this sorrowful time in your life.

Kim Fowler - August 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so saddened to hear the news about Jill. She was one of my best friends in high school. I spent a lot of time at the MacDonald house hanging out in Jill's room talking about life. When I think of high school she was and will always be a big part of those memories. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Nancy - August 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Jill made several visits to our campus in McPherson, KS over the last few years. The students and staff at the McPherson College Auto Restoration program will miss her. After a long day of interviewing, it was always fun to go out with Jill for a beer and a good steak. She always had to stop downtown for a Kansas t-shirt to take back to Michigan.

Chris Wiens - August 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *The obituary got it just right--Jill was a person of many wonderful qualities. I will miss her.*

Sonia Schmerl - August 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *We are so sorry about Jill's death and send our deepest condolences. Love, Barbara and Dave Foster*

August 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ *Matt you already know how I feel about you and Jill. I can only express to you my heartfelt sympathy for your loss. I'm am here for you Brother.*

Leroy - August 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ *Our deepest sympathies to you and your family. Jill was a very special lady and was admired by many.*

Margie Tipsword - August 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ *Oh Matt...we are sooo sorry for your loss. We didn't know Jill well, but could tell she was a very special person and the two of you seemed perfect for each other...She will surely be missed by many...Love you dear friend...*

Gail and Dave Maison - August 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Matt, She was a special lady because she was loved by you. I am sorry I am not able to tell you this in person but know you are in my heart and prayers

Kelly Bell - August 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Matt and families, So sorry to hear of your wife's passing. Mark put a note on facebook, and if you get a chance to read the notes, you've got a lot of good vibes and prayers coming your way. Again, so sorry. Mary(ellen) (Weber) Tracy.

August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ To the family of Jill, I am so sorry for your loss please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers...love and hugs to you Colleen and Luke, Liz, Mark and all. Peace to each one of you, Marti

August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Matt, I love you brother and no words, ...there are no words to express how sad I am knowing our Jill has walked on. She soars above the clouds on gentle breezes with the fliting butterfly, she rises and sets with the sun and will forever be part of your heart. Much love to you, I'm here for you. Your friend, Martha

August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Matt, My heart and soul pour out to you in deepest sympathy. I am so glad I got the change to meet Jill. Only the best for my little cousin. Jan (Tomorsky) Jungwirth

August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ Dear Matt, Betty and I are so sorry to learn of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Dennis Tomorsky - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Matt, my deepest sympathy goes out to you. I so enjoyed meeting Jill, and was thrilled to see you had finally found the love of your life. That love will always be with you. Love from your cuz.

Susie Tomorsky Prieto - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I am greatly saddened to hear of Jill's passing. She was one of the first people who befriended me when I moved to Spring Lake and I have many, many good memories of our shenanigans. She was truly an interesting person and I remember being able to talk to her for hours about anything and everything.

Diane Strome - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ So sorry to hear about Jill. She always brightened up the halls at Spring Lake HS with her great smile. Many hugs to the family at this time.

JoAnn - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Matt, My heart is heavy upon hearing this news and I wish I could be exchanging pleasantries rather than condolences after all these years. May every tear in sorrow be followed by a smile in remembrance and honor of all the moments and memories. - NelsonCandela, WFI

Candice Schopieray - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PE

“ I am so sorry for your loss, Matt. It sounds like she was a wonderful lady and will surely be missed by so many. Our prayers are with all of you at this difficult time.

Penni - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ Jill impacted so many people with her contagious smile and wonderful sense of humor. There are so many aspects of Jill that I will miss, too many to list. I didn't tell her enough when she was here how important she was to me and to this world. I will do my due diligence to keep her memory alive. Simply put, I am better person because I was friends with Jill!

Kristin Weber - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ND

“ We are in shock and very sad to hear of Jill's death. We always enjoyed running into her in town and catching up on the latest happenings. She was such a strong part of Amical's history as well. We will miss her smiling face and spirit of life. Our love to Matt, Luke and the entire family.

Nancy and David Denison - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ We will miss Jill's amazing smile and spirit. It was great to know her, we feel so lucky!

Sarah Deering - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I am very sorry to hear of Jill's passing. I graduated with Jill and had many fun times with her! My prayers to the family. Beverly Hilliard

August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ND

“ Your eternal home welcomes you Jill. Blessings and peace to all who are missing you and your spirit. Nancy Darga

Nancy Darga - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I am so sorry to hear of Jill's passing !! She was a classmate and friend and will be missed by many . Prayers to the family . Darcy Burnside

Darcy Burnside - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Matt and Jackie (Mark and Liz, too), I am so sorry for your loss and the bright life was Jill. You are all in my thoughts today and in the weeks, months and to come as you find a new life without her.
xo

Roberta King - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM