



Carolyn Fellabaum

December 31, 2022

Carolyn Jane Fellabaum

6/12/1941 - 12/31/2022

The 1958 Butler High School Homecoming Queen retired her crown and sailed off to the Great Lake in the sky.

Carolyn Jane Taylor, was born in 1941 to Bruce (Father) and Irene (Mother) Taylor. She was raised by Cliff (Grandpa) and Josephine (Mom) Myers on “the Farm” in Vandalia, OH. Jane had a brother, Jim Taylor (Jean); stepbrother, Ray Muselman and half-brother, Jerry Davis (Jenny). She was preceded in death by her “Father”, “Mother”, “Grandpa”, “Mom”, and brother Jim.

Jane had a spirited soul and lived life to the fullest. She attended the University of Dayton where she donned a short skirt, majorette boots, stewardess hat with a prominent “D” on the front, and long sleeve shirt to entertain at basketball games and parades as part of the Flyerettes. Fittingly, she married her high school sweetheart, World Champion Twirler and Michigan State University Drum Major, Mike Fellabaum, in 1963. They made the Flint, MI area home, residing and raising a family in Swartz Creek for over forty years before retirement.

As true snowbirds, Jane and Mike continued their shenanigans in Gulf

Shores, AL, finding a home/condo in the Sailboat Bay Community. They continued traveling from sea to shining sea, national park to national park, football stadium to football stadium while they truly embraced life.

Always up for an adventure, as long as it took place after “the crack of noon”. Jane was an avid member of the self-proclaimed Gulf Shores Desperate Housewives, or “Desperates”, as they call themselves, which was also associated with the self-proclaimed Gulf Shores Mafia. She maintained her competitiveness by gathering with friends monthly for a mean game of Bunco. They also frequently attended the highly popular Women’s Health Luncheons.

Never one for a dull moment, Jane could liven up a day by lighting her menu on fire at a restaurant, thwarting a car theft (of her car) with casual conversation, or by proclaiming the boat was sinking when it merely had a wave break over the bow. A true connoisseur of fine, cheap whiskey, she enjoyed her Black Velvet and Coke Zero whenever possible. She also loved Necco Wafers, Tootsie Rolls, Little Debbie Swiss Rolls, Orville Redenbacher Tender White popcorn and wearing colorful shirts usually embellished with a tropical motif or appropriate holiday attire.

Mike and Jane have 3 children, Michael Bruce Fellabaum (Suzan); Lori Kay Hogle (Grant); James Ryan Fellabaum (Alice). The family spent many summers on their 36’ Catalina sailboat, Spartini, along with friends from the Huron Yacht Club in Caseville, MI. She took great pleasure in subjecting her children to hours of Roger Whittaker ballads while playing cards and board games for hours on end once they left the dock sailing towards the Canadian North Channel. Far from any chance of seeking refuge on shore, she would tease their hunger with delicious home cooked meals as their nostrils were permeated with the aroma of pot roast cooking in the propane oven.

The only thing greater than Jane’s obsession with cookbooks was anything

sewing related. She wasn't known for missing many fabric stores or quilt shops in her travels, but she was very well known for her culinary expertise in creating THE BEST crabcakes south of Maryland. She would carefully and painstakingly shell the fresh crab caught off the dock in front of the "Encondo", as her great grandson refers to her home, and prepare the delicacies to the delight of her guests. Crab cakes, crab quesadillas, crab omelets and crab pizza were on the menu.

After countless hours at gymnastic meets when her kids were young, Jane took the opportunity to become an entrepreneur. Starting with a small table at the gym, she then expanded into one of Michigan's largest dancewear stores, Debonaire Dancewear. For years thereafter, she fit thousands of students for the perfect shoe and uniform. True to her nature, she even tolerated a stalker who once used the dressing room as his launch site.

Jane was then promoted to number one cheerleader by her 9 grandchildren, Brooke Baker, Jordyn Fellabaum, Natalie Kinsey (Luke), Gabbie Hogle, Zach Hogle, Ashley Fellabaum, Naomi Fellabaum, Grayson Fellabaum, Kaitlyn Fellabaum and one great grandson, Lukis Fellabaum who all called her Nana. They sometimes jokingly referred to her as Nancompoop.

She traveled the country to watch the grandkids play volleyball, football, baseball, cheer, and wrestle. The evenings were known to have been spent bonding and having late night conversations.

Her legacy will live on through her children, grandchildren, and countless memories. Funny stories, sewing, craft projects and the infinite number of cookbooks and handwritten recipes. Jane was adored and will be terribly missed by all who knew her (and by all who ate her crabcakes).

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, May 27th, 2023, 1-3 PM at Oyster Bay Baptist Church located at 4280 Plash Rd., Gulf Shores, AL

In lieu of flowers or gifts, funds are being collected for a memorial in Jane's honor and can be sent to the family at 4170 Spinnaker Drive, Unit 1225-I, Gulf Shores, AL 36542 or venmo @Ryan-Fellabaum (last 4 digits of phone # 1351)

For more details, please visit:

<https://www.eventcreate.com/e/janefellabaumcelebrationoflife>

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 27. 1:00 PM (CT)

Oyster Bay Baptist Church
4280 Plash Road
Gulf Shores, AL 36542

Tribute Wall

WF

“ *Sandy Plugge's Fond Memories of Jane*
I have known Jane for over 20 years, when we met in SBNC (South Baldwin Newcomers Club). I always found her joyful to be around as her humor came forth. Jane would tell you exactly what she thought, which I appreciated.
Jane, I adored you and I miss you, but feel blessed to have known you.

William Michael Fellabaum - August 08, 2023 at 03:21 PM

WF

“ *Mike,*
I have beautiful memories of sending my son Ryan with the two of you and your Ryan on the Great Lakes. Teaching him so many facts of boating, safety, close quarters, and sailing.
Debra Carr

William Michael Fellabaum - August 08, 2023 at 03:08 PM

WF

“ *I was so appreciative that you thought of me for Jane's sewing items. As I was putting everything away I had many wonderful moments reminiscing where Jane and I were when she purchased a lot of the fabrics.*
I consider myself very blessed that we became friends. Know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.
Barb Raab

William Michael Fellabaum - August 08, 2023 at 03:07 PM

“ Dear Mike and family,

You have all been in our thoughts, especially as the time nears for the Celebration of Jane's life. We are so very lucky to have been friends with Jane and Mike for so many years.

I'm so grateful we joined HYC so many years ago.

One of the memories of Jane and Mike that we have is when we were sailing in the North Channel and Mike and Jane had gotten into Cockburn Island before we did.

When we arrived, Jane had dinner ready for all of us! How delightful that was after being out on the water for so long. I can't remember now if it was that day or the next, but

the guys got to talking to a local man, and he offered to take us for a ride in his car to show us the island. The car was an old one, and smelled a little like gas, they kept them

on the island for when they would come visit. We gamely climbed in, Mike F in the front, Jane, Mike T and I in the back. My Mike was setting by Jane, and as we drove around

the driver was telling us of the buildings in town and other sites, and then went out in the "boonies" well away from anywhere we knew, he also informed us that he might be

going to jail soon! My Mike laughingly says he still has scars from where Jane grabbed on to him when hearing that! The driver went on to say, he had a gun and fired it at a bird

or some animal that was being bothersome, while back on the mainland where he lived. In Canada you are not allowed to shot a gun where he lived, and they came and arrested him,

and he had a court date coming up. In the end he was a nice guy, with a way of telling a story!!! He sure got the reaction he was looking for from us!

Back when Jane still had her store, she used to come out to Millington when our Junior Women's Club held style shows. She would bring her clothes and models and participate in it.

Many years ago Jane talked me into buying my Berina sewing machine. We both bought one and I believe both machines have given us many many hours of sewing fun.

Another memory both Mike and I hold dear, is of Jane and Mike

stopping here last September. My quilt club was involved in a quilt event with a teacher we had brought in from Louisiana and Jane agreed to take a class with me. We worked on the quilt during our 6-hour class, and then Mike and Jane stayed here for almost a week while Jane and I worked on our quilt tops together in my sewing studio. I have so many wonderful memories of that time with Jane as we sewed. She felt a bit overwhelmed at first, but then realized that it was not that difficult. One section at a time. By the end of a day or two she was singing as she sewed. She completed her quilt top, and we packaged it up with some borders for her to add when she got home. It was so wonderful having Mike and Jane here with us. The guys did their thing, while we gals did ours. And I have to mention, Jane did fix us a delightful crab meal one evening!

Thank you Mike for allowing me to finish up Jane's quilt and quilt it. I have been working on getting it ready to ship back to you, but unfortunately it won't be there with you at Jane's Celebration of Life. I love working on it and will finish quilting it and send it back to you as soon as possible. All of the many fun and special times we shared roll around in my head as I work on her quilt. We are sending you and all of your family our love and many hugs. We will keep you in our prayers and continue to thank God we had so many special times with Jane and you.

*Much love and hugs,
Carole and Mike Titsworth*

William Michael Fellabaum - August 08, 2023 at 03:05 PM

WF

“ Dear Jane,
I miss you so much. I remember the fantastic things we did together. Our kids often talk about the great times in Georgian Bay. They want us to duplicate the Bad River experience. We really fell into a wonderful group in the Huron Yacht Club. It was a fantastic group I can remember a time you and I headed north with iced boxes of food to meet the guys in Roger’s City at the conclusion of the Double Handed Race. We just put everything in my car because you had no air-conditioning. . Ryan said “Mom, you have air-conditioning. That’s what this button is.
We often sailed from Michigan to Tobermory, Ontario over 100 miles across Lake Huron, often with several other HYC members/boats. Upon arriving in Tobermory, we were remaining on the boat until clearing Custom’s in Canada. Jane did not know about the rule. Many trips into Canadian waters included fishing for pan fish. Jane, you were always lucky. Sandy Peterson

William Michael Fellabaum - August 08, 2023 at 02:59 PM

WF

“ I met Jane at Sailboat Bay Clubhouse we were playing Mexican Train dominoes. I don’t think she liked me at first. But I grew on her. Then we started playing Bunco once a month. We became good friends. We teased each other. She was always willing to help. I do miss her and remember her often. I always catch myself wanting to say "where’s Jane".
Your friend forever ❤️
Karren Byrd

William Michael Fellabaum - August 08, 2023 at 02:34 PM

WF

“ I am so very glad Jane was my neighbor during the past 25 years. She exemplified “neighborliness.” I was a part-timer here, but we could pick up a conversation months after we left off chatting; we’d share news about the state of our families, our condos, our town here, and the world out there. Mike was her best friend, and their children and grandchildren had her constant care. But she treasured her neighbors here, and whenever, whatever, I needed, she would offer. Or, if I left something here, I knew Jane would take care of it. I trusted Jane to be here to say hello every time I returned! I miss her. Rest in Peace, Jane. Sheila Pirkle

William Michael Fellabaum - August 07, 2023 at 10:23 AM

WF

“ One Christmas – Jane Fellabaum gave me a special gift. She had taken dozens of pink buttons, of all varieties and fixed them on a ball for a pretty unique Christmas Tree ornament. I am sure it took much time. It is so heartwarming when a friend takes the time to make you a gift. Just like the ornament was special, so was Jane. Cathy Hagen

William Michael Fellabaum - August 07, 2023 at 10:21 AM

WF

“ The best thing about Jane is her smile, which always included a twinkle in her eyes. She loved people, her family, friends, sailing and playing games! One time when we were anchored out, she was fishing off her boat and I was fishing off my boat. She yells over to me and says, "I'm not getting any bites, but you are". The next thing I see is her and all her fishing gear in the dinghy and she comes over to park it right under my pole. She hands me the line and says tie me off ! We caught a lot of fish.! The memories we have are so precious!

MaryPat Ekleberry

William Michael Fellabaum - August 07, 2023 at 10:20 AM

WF

“ 1 file added to the album Memories of Jane



William Fellabaum - August 01, 2023 at 07:32 AM

WF

“ 1 file added to the album Memories of Jane



William Fellabaum - August 01, 2023 at 07:27 AM

WF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



William Fellabaum - August 01, 2023 at 07:24 AM

WF

“ How I wish I could have attended the "Celebration" held to honor Jane. She was such a delightful person and so fun to be around. The Christmas we shared in Tennessee was so nice.

William Fellabaum - August 01, 2023 at 07:14 AM

MF

Written by Judy Brooks, who passed away in July, 2023.

Mike Fellabaum - August 06, 2023 at 04:42 PM

WF

I met Jane five years ago when I was looking at a condo at Sailboat Bay. My realtor and I had just gotten off the elevator in building 1224. Jane and Lynn were walking by, and Jane said, "Oh, you are our new neighbor ". I had not even seen the condo, but I thought that was the best welcome I could get. After I moved in, I came to know Jane as a good friend and neighbor. I loved her sarcastic sense of humor and her friendship. She was a loyal friend, a wonderful neighbor, and will be greatly missed.

Elaine Craighead

William Michael Fellabaum - August 08, 2023 at 02:08 PM

GW

“ We have had some of our greatest adventures with our good friends, Mike & Jane. One of the good ones is our trip out to the Navajo Indiana Reservation to camp Mathew . And many other camping experiences all around the country.
Gary & Diane Wickham

Gary/Diane Wickham - July 16, 2023 at 09:00 AM

PW

“ We enjoyed every Sunday afternoon at the beach. Beer, sand, sun. Carnival cruiser. Mexican food on Tuesday. American Legion steaks on Friday. The Gulf Shores "good trouble" Mafia got together for weekly good times. Thank you Jane!
Pam & Ernie Westpheling

Pam & Ernie Westpheling - July 16, 2023 at 08:49 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Carolyn Fellabaum.

May 24, 2023 at 11:14 AM

CJ

“ Cindi & Preston Jones purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Carolyn Fellabaum.



Cindi & Preston Jones - May 21, 2023 at 01:03 AM

LH

“ So sorry to hear of Jane's passing. Wonderful Lady & always the life of any party! I had the honor of serving with her on the HYC bottom washing crew! RIP.

Lynn Hulber - May 10, 2023 at 07:22 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Carolyn Fellabaum.



May 05, 2023 at 01:18 AM