



## Bonnie Benton McKown

October 3, 1934 - December 22, 2025

McKOWN, Bonnie age 91, December 22, 2025

Born Bonnie Benton Gorman on October 3, 1934 in Battle Creek, MI

Bonnie attended Royal Oak Schools from kindergarten through graduation in 1953. It was there, in Whittier Elementary School, where she met her life long girlfriends Jodi, Marty, Florie, Mausi and Lillianne.

She was very involved in dance; honing her craft at Borgo Sisters School of Dance. Those lessons resulted in many dance performances at Royal Oak High School including a solo of the Mexican Hat Dance, among many others.

Bonnie's first job was at Birmingham Cleaners during her high school years. In later years she was a bookkeeper for Fettes Manufacturing, a successful business that she and her husband, Jim, owned.

Bonnie was the beloved wife of James (Jim) McKown for 73 years come this February. Their relationship started when she was 14 and riding on the handlebars of his bicycle.

The young couple had five children in rapid secession: Jeffrey (Sharon) McKown, John (Roz) McKown, Jean (the late Tony) Camilletti, Julie (Peg)

Nathe and the late Jay McKown.

The extremely generous and kind-hearted lady had many talents, hobbies and pastimes. She loved spending time with her family, hanging out with her girlfriends, dancing, listening to music, shopping, sewing, cooking, extensive traveling, bowling, holistic medicine, putting jig saw puzzles together, spending extended time in Fort Myers Beach, reading and solving mysteries with Jessica Fletcher.

She was the proud grandmother of Jared (Francis) McKown, Brett (Lisette) McKown, Keith, Erica (Justin) McCann, Rachelle (Tyler) Wilton, Paul (Ashley) McKown, Jenna (Cam) Camilletti, Tana Nathe, Amy (Kyle) Bouchard, Cody (Erin) Wilcox and Casey (Brandon) Kilcherman.

She was the great grandmother to Evy, Cole, Ellie, Kalen, Gordon, Reed, Wren, Lily, Lilah, Liam, Bea, Greta, Blair, Monty, Braxton, Ellorie and Easton.

A memorial service will take place on January 24th at 11:00am at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. (Shelby Township) 54880 VanDyke at 25 Mile Rd. Friends may gather at 10:00am. In lieu of flowers, donations to Boys Town is appreciated.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

JAN 24. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons - Shelby Township  
54880 VanDyke Ave  
Shelby Township, MI 48316

## Memorial Service

JAN 24. 11:00 AM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons - Shelby Township  
54880 VanDyke Ave  
Shelby Township, MI 48316

# Tribute Wall

KM

“ Mrs. McKown was truly an amazing lady. I will always remember her smile and her laughing in her kitchen as that was the heart of the McKown Home. The Hagoods share many sweet memories of her and her dear husband. It was always apparent the love they had for one another. Georgia “once” babysat for the McKowns and spent most of the evening on the kitchen counter because Jolly wouldn’t stop barking at her. I spent the night countless times during our youth and there would always be Sunday pancakes. She was always warm, gracious and authentic.

*A beautiful life, a beautiful legacy.*

*Love,*

*Katy Molinari*

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**Katy Molinari** - January 23 at 11:09 PM

BD

“ Barb, Rachel, & Jon Ducastel purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Bonnie Benton McKown.



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**Barb, Rachel, & Jon Ducastel** - January 22 at 12:52 PM

BD

“ Barb, Rachel, & Jon Ducastel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bonnie Benton McKown.

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**Barb, Rachel, & Jon Ducastel** - January 22 at 12:52 PM

TF

“ The Tucker family purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Bonnie Benton McKown.



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**The Tucker family** - January 22 at 10:03 AM

TF

“ The Tucker family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bonnie Benton McKown.

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**The Tucker family** - January 22 at 10:03 AM

SM

“ Bonnie, you and your family felt like an extension of my own, growing up, you will be deeply missed.

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**Sarah Morrison** - January 22 at 09:36 AM

KC

“ There was Lucy and Ricky, Bogart and Bacall, Fred and Wilma, Micky and Minnie , but Bonnie and Jim topped them all! A real love story! I loved Bonnie, she was a smile, a warmth, a hug, a cure! She was the heart of the McKowns. She will live on forever thru them! Hugs to all of her family and friends who are so sad right now! Her light will make you all smile when most needed! RIP Bonnie, I'm so happy you came into my life via Julie! ☐

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**Kathleen Campbell** - January 11 at 09:40 PM

BT

“ I really enjoyed the short time I had with Miss Bonnie, and she really enjoyed my cooking. I'll miss her dearly.  
Bob

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**Bob Tobolski** - January 11 at 01:14 PM

RH

“ First, prayers to all of the family, what an amazing person she was! The memories have been flooding in these past few days, just thinking about my childhood with the Mckown's. Jim and Bonnie were my example of what a loving couple looks like. They were my go to so often. Bonnie often rescued us from the snowy walks to school. I remember many talks by the sewing machine, just being kind and a good listener! When I was a smoking teenager she took a couple of us friends to a hypnotist to help us quit! Big heart, always friendly and welcoming. Just a few years back I remember Bonnie and Jim feeding each other a taste of dessert!! The love they had, I will never forget. Thanks for all the memories Bonnie and Jim□

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**Robin Howard** - January 05 at 03:45 PM

DM

*Believing in God, I know Bonnie's last breath on earth was her first breath in heaven. While my heart breaks for you all, I know Bonnie is reunited now with her family and friends gone before us. I know they are welcoming her home.*

*I thank God to be among the thousands blessed to have had Bonnie in my life. In business and as a great friend and neighbor, Bon will be missed but, never forgotten. Her family is her legacy. I thank God that Her love and spirit will be carry on through them. Because of Bonnie we have been blessed with one another.*

*I send our love from my family to yours. I know Bonnie wouldn't want us to be sad but, only to remember her with the love and wonderful memories she so bountifully shared with us all.*

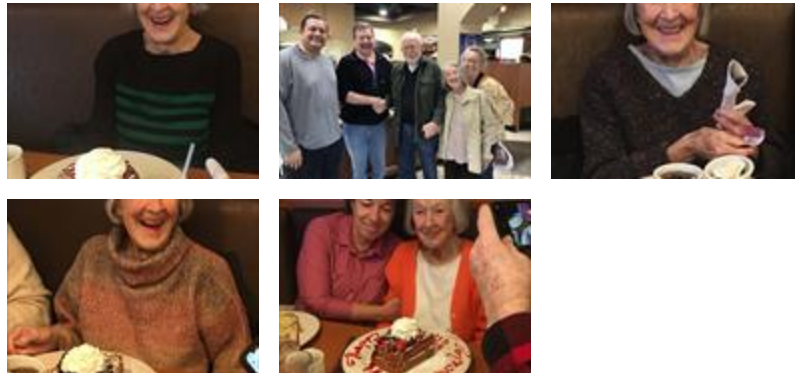
*God bless you through this difficult time. May God continue to Bless your family through her love. ♡♡*

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**Deborah Misner** - January 11 at 01:59 PM

CC

“ 26 files added to the tribute wall



Codruta-Alexandrina Calvert - January 03 at 03:34 PM

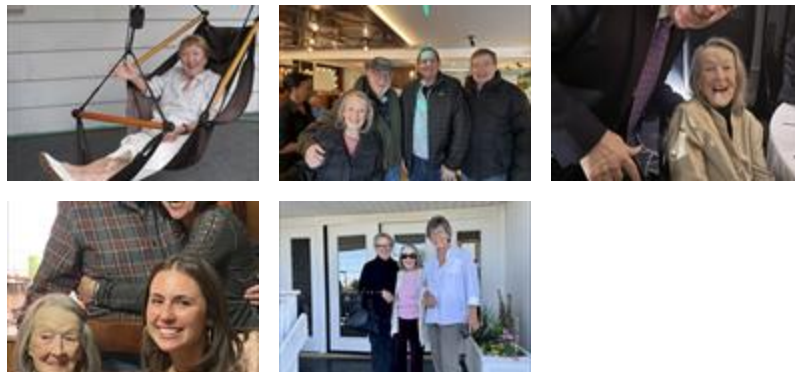
KM

“ Best wishes to the whole McKown family during the difficult time. Mike and I feel blessed to have known Bonnie and Jim. Bonnie was so very kind and generous with her time when we met them in Florida a few years ago. Good luck to all of you as you move forward without Bonnie. Mike Green and Kitty McNamara

Kitty McNamara - December 30, 2025 at 07:47 PM

JC

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Jean Camilletti - December 30, 2025 at 02:17 PM

JC

“ 14 files added to the tribute wall



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**Jean Camilletti** - December 30, 2025 at 02:13 PM

JC

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



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**Jean Camilletti** - December 30, 2025 at 01:46 PM

PW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Peg Wilcox** - December 30, 2025 at 01:36 PM

PW

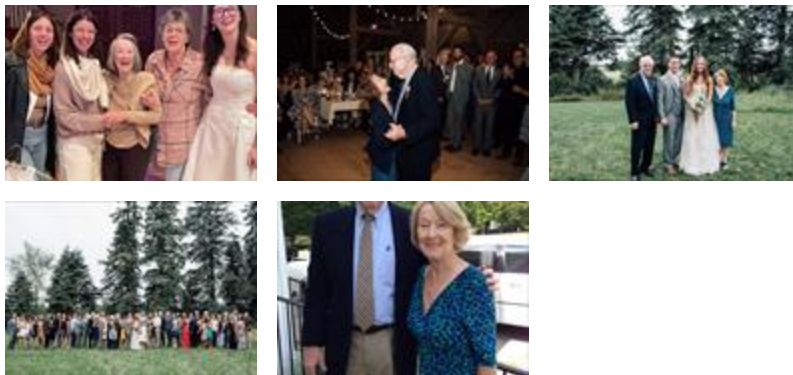
“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Peg Wilcox - December 30, 2025 at 09:13 AM

PW

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Peg Wilcox - December 30, 2025 at 08:52 AM

PW

“ 20 files added to the tribute wall



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**Peg Wilcox** - December 30, 2025 at 08:46 AM

PW

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



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**Peg Wilcox** - December 30, 2025 at 08:39 AM