



Denise Julia Rapp

November 8, 1963 - January 5, 2026

Denise Rapp, age 62, of Washington Twp, passed away on January 5, 2026.

Denise Julia Rapp was born in St Clair, Michigan on November 8, 1963. She is the daughter of the late Bernard and Eleanor (Mazur) Zaremba.

Denise met the love her life, Norbert Rapp, in 10th grade. They were married on April 19, 1991 and have been happily married for 34 years.

Denise graduated from Holy Cross High School in Marine City in 1981. She attended St Clair County Community College earning an associate's degree and worked in sales representing various automotive suppliers. Denise's greatest love and passion in life centered around her family and her 2 sons. She poured her heart and soul into her family and took pride in her sons' accomplishments. Denise enjoyed spending time at the cottage on Higgins Lake and always captured the most beautiful sunrises one photo at a time. Her favorite activities at the cottage included kayak rides with her dog Meatball, hanging out at the sandbar with friends, and game nights playing Catan. More recently, Denise crossed off a few bucket list trips including: an Alaskan Cruise with Norbert, Road Trip to Washington with Anton, Grand Ole Opry with Conrad, Antelope Canyon in Arizona and annual girls trips with her 3 besties. Denise had a love for bringing smiles to everyone which shined through with her homemade "Gourmet Rapples" business where she enjoyed

making gourmet pretzels and apples.

Denise is survived by her beloved husband, Norbert and 2 sons, Anton and Conrad. Brothers: Bernie (Cindy) Zaremba and twin Dennis (Hank). She will be dearly missed by several nieces and nephews along with great nieces and nephews.

Denise was preceded in death by: her parents Bernard and Elenor Zaremba, Sisters Marie Langlois and Barbara Northrop, and Nephew Randy Zaremba.

Visitation will take place on Thursday, January 8th from 3:00-9:00pm with a 7:45pm Rosary at Wujek-Calcaterra and Sons 54880 Van Dyke at 25 Mile Rd (Shelby Township). Instate 9:30am followed by a 10am Mass on Friday, January 9th at St Clement of Rome Catholic Church, 343 S Main St, Romeo, MI 48065.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made the Lupus Foundation of America, <https://www.lupus.org/>

Share memories with the family at their "On Line Guest Book" @ WujekCalcaterra.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 8. 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

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

Rosary

JAN 8. 7:45 PM (ET)

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

Instate / Funeral Mass

JAN 9. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Clement of Rome Church
343 S. Main (VanDyke)
Romeo, MI 48065

Tribute Wall



“ *Wujek ~ Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Denise Julia Rapp*



Wujek ~ Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. - January 07 at 11:02 AM

SP

I am deeply sorry to hear about your loss. Please know that our thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time. May you find strength and comfort in the cherished memories you shared. With deepest sympathy, Sarah and Mark Pratt

Sarah Pratt - January 08 at 10:54 AM

SA

“ Uncle Bert, Anton and Conrad-

There are no words for the pain felt for this tremendous loss. Know that we will always be here to love and support.

Aunt Dee was more than an aunt to me. After my mom passed, she stepped into my life in a way that can never be fully put into words. She became my steady place, my safe call, my sense of home. Loving me came naturally to her, and she did it with a strength and tenderness that carried me through my adult life.

She loved my kids fiercely and without condition. To them, she was warmth, laughter, and comfort—someone who made them feel deeply known and endlessly cherished. Watching her with them was a reminder of how love can stretch across generations and heal places we didn't even realize were still hurting.

Aunt Dee had a way of making ordinary moments feel like they mattered. Being with her felt like belonging. She showed up, she stayed, and she loved with her whole heart. Because of her, I always knew where “home” was—not a place, but a person.

I will carry her love with me always—in how I care for my children, in how I show up for others, and in the quiet moments when I need to feel grounded again. I am who I am because she loved me when I needed it most.

I will miss her every day. And I will be forever grateful that she was mine. 💜



Sarah Ayers - January 10 at 08:53 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Denise Julia Rapp.*



January 08 at 05:40 PM

JS

“ *Jimmy Singelyn planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Denise Julia Rapp.*

Jimmy Singelyn - January 08 at 05:40 PM

LZ

“ *Love, John, Angelina, and Zachary purchased the Lavender Love Bouquet for the family of Denise Julia Rapp.*



Love, John, Angelina, and Zachary - January 08 at 01:24 PM

JC

“ *John Costa purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Denise Julia Rapp.*



John Costa - January 08 at 10:28 AM



“ *Marty and Diane Victor purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Denise Julia Rapp.* ”



Marty and Diane Victor - January 08 at 10:18 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Denise Julia Rapp.* ”



January 08 at 09:42 AM



“ *DENISE, I had the best time with you guys up north I love doing this with y'all. I was hoping to do it again this year. I sure miss you girl. I'm thinking of the family today. I wish I could've been there and you looked down at me I love you so much. We been so together for so long I'll be talking to your family. Rest in peace my friend I love you.* ”



Karen dorr - January 08 at 09:26 AM



“ *It was a gift to be loved by Aunt Dee.*

We will miss her. Whichever memory makes you smile the most, whichever one makes you the happiest to have had her love ... I hope we all hold those memories closest to our hearts.

Uncle Bert, Anton, & Conrad, may you each be embraced in all of our healing & loving energy and may you handle this time with strength, grace & ease.

Love, Michelle (Jaeger) & Allen Wicks



Michelle Jaeger - January 07 at 11:15 PM

CE

Such a beautiful tribute to your Aunt Dee, Sarah. She was a beautiful woman. I just watched the entire video that the funeral home posted. Denise definitely lived her life to the fullest with her family always by her side. I pray for comfort for all of you, especially Bert, Anton and Conrad, that these memories will bring you comfort and peace.

Cindy Emery - January 10 at 11:34 AM

GB

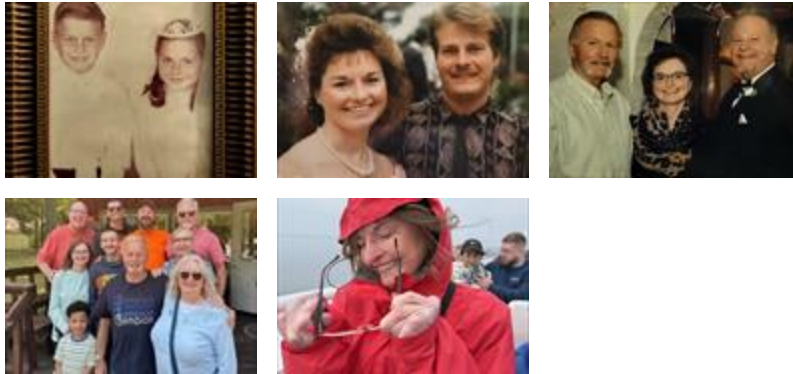
“ So many precious memories with Denise! Scott and I will greatly miss you, your laugh and sense of humor ! God blessed us with your friendship ! May you rest in peace until we meet again.
Scott & Grace Bourdeau



Grace Bourdeau - January 07 at 08:27 PM

HM

“ I admired Denise for her strength and courage through her fight with lupus. As I read through all the memories about Denise, it does not surprise me that everyone says the same thing: No matter what she was going through, you never knew because she was always smiling and laughing. We did a lot together, but the memories at the cabin will always be some of the best and funniest memories for Dennis and I. Denise always made sure you were comfortable, fed and loved. Our hearts are broke knowing we will never hear her laugh or telling us to go get more to eat, but we know she is pain free and with her loved ones who have gone on before. We love you and R.I.P. Denise.



Henry Maskiewicz - January 07 at 07:18 PM

BN

“ My sincere condolences to you Bert and your family. Losing the love of your life is heart breaking and hope your many wonderful memories of your life together helps ease the pain. God bless you and your boys.

Bob Neumaier - January 07 at 02:50 PM

MC

“ Norbert, Anton and Conrad, my heart truly breaks for the three of you during this incredibly difficult time. Your mom was a wonderful lady—always full of love, kindness, and happiness, and such a joy to be around. She touched so many lives with her warm heart and beautiful spirit. Denise will never be forgotten and will always hold a special place in our hearts. Rest in peace, Denise. You will be deeply missed and loved forever.
Love Joe and Monica Cavaliere



Monica cavaliere - January 07 at 02:00 PM

AW

“ Denise when look back at my Elementary School and High School days you will always be remembered as that Girl who was so fun to be around and always so kind.
You were also one of my Mom's favorites and
She remembered you fondly.
Thank You for all the nice memories of my youth.

Alex Walson - January 07 at 11:44 AM

KD

“ My dear friend Denise, you will be so missed we’ve known each other since you were 12 years old dancing in the polka dancing will always miss. I love you, dear friend. Thank you for taking me to your lake house. I pray every day for you. I’ll miss you now you’re with your sisters. I love you. I’ll be looking up at you every day. I will take care of your family down here.



Karen dorr - January 07 at 10:56 AM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Denise Julia Rapp.



January 07 at 06:35 AM

RA

“ Robert, Suzanne, and Aryell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Denise Julia Rapp.

Robert, Suzanne, and Aryell - January 07 at 06:35 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Denise Julia Rapp.*



January 06 at 11:06 PM



“ *My dear friend Denise, thank you for all the adventures, laughs, conversations and love. My life is better because of you. I miss you so much already.*

To Bert, Anton and Conrad, may God comfort you during this difficult time. You're in my prayers. 🙏 love, Tammy



Tammy Mansour - January 06 at 10:23 PM

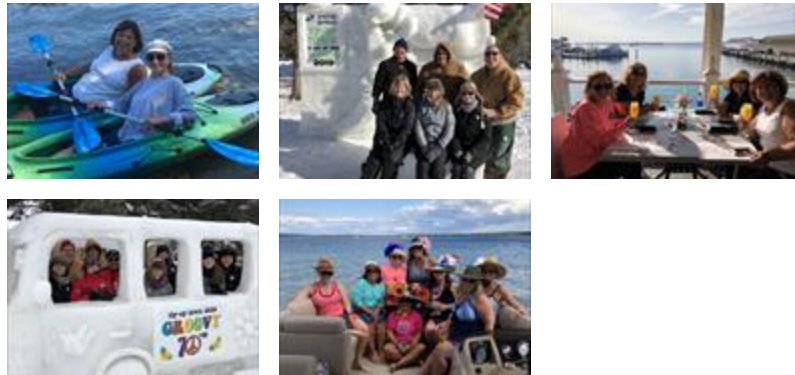


“ *Denise lived life to the fullest and made the best of all situations. She is so proud of her boys and it shows. We will miss Denise's delightful treats for special occasions! Her pretzels and apples were the best! Until we see you again! Kevin & Jill Popis*

Kevin Popis - January 06 at 09:02 PM

TM

“ 21 files added to the album *Cherished Memories*



Tammy Migliore - January 06 at 09:01 PM

ES

“ *Emma and Steve purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Denise Julia Rapp.*



Emma and Steve - January 06 at 08:53 PM

KD

“ *I'm so very sorry to hear this sad news. Norbert and sons my prayers will be with you all. Denise was the nicest girl in high school. I have many fond memories of her throughout the years. RIP sweet Denise 🙏💕 Karen (McDonald) Distelrath*

Karen Distelrath - January 06 at 07:57 PM

LB

“ I have such wonderful memories from st Lawrence she was a great lunch mom and cared about everyone a very happy loving person she will be missed especially her sense of humor I am so sorry for your loss

Linda Balok - January 06 at 07:51 PM

LB

“ We will miss you, sweet friend. □ Higgins Lake won't be the same without you — your quick wit and gentle spirit. Always so full of humor and grace. We pray for your eternal peace and that God will help ease your family's pain. 🙏

With love, Lisa & Mark

Lisa Bianchi - January 06 at 07:17 PM

JS

“ So very sorry Norbert and Sons for the loss of you sweet Wife and Mother. I was thinking back today with a smile on my face of "our" cheerleading days ❤️ together and the smile Denise always had and her infectious laugh during our crazy days at school. Praying you find peace in the love and faith you share with family and friends. Jennifer Strong (Jenny Vance)

Jennifer Strong - January 06 at 07:01 PM

PS

“ I am so sorry to hear about the loss of Denise. May God hold her family very tight during this very sad time. 🙏💔

Patty (Roosen) Schneider - January 06 at 06:51 PM

MN

“ So very sorry Norbert and boys. Denise had a smile that would light up a room. We met freshman year at Holy Cross almost 50 years ago. Your light is shining in heaven at the right hand of the father. God bless

Mike Neu - January 06 at 06:22 PM

MR

“ Simply the best! What a wonderful person she was. Only will ever have great memories of her.

Mitch Rastigue - January 06 at 05:11 PM

CE

“ Such a beautiful smile. With all of her health and life struggles that smile was always present. And the beautiful laugh that went along with it. This world will miss Denise but I am sure she was welcomed in heaven by Jesus and her family's loving arms.

Cindy Emery - January 06 at 04:31 PM