



Joan Carol Garrett

April 27, 1942 - January 10, 2026

GARRETT, Joan Carol. January 10, 2026. Age 83. Beloved wife of the late Gerald Garrett Sr.. Loving mother of Lauri (Doug) Sherry, the late Jeffrey (Charlene), and the late Gerald Jr. Proud and adored grandmother of Brett (Kali), Lauren, Jerry, Nicole, and great-granddaughter Livy Mae. Dearest sister of the late Richard Jr. (Shelvie) Schehr, Laurence (Joanna) Schehr, and Thomas (Lorie) Schehr. Also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Joan, also known as “Joann,” “Joanie,” “Jo,” and “Palm Tree Joanie,” was a woman who lived life fiercely and with so much love and grace. She always tried to make the most out of every day and took kindness everywhere she went.

She was born and raised in Detroit and was part of the first graduating class of Regina High School in 1960. She went on to work various jobs including a stenographer at Proctor and Gamble in downtown Detroit at the Michigan Mutual building. However, her most important and beloved job was being a mother.

In 1961, Joan met Jerry in a park and initially turned him down when he first asked her on a date. However, Jerry asked again, and they ultimately fell in love. They married in 1962 and started a beautiful family.

As a mother, she was always present and wanted nothing more than for her kids to succeed. She was a cub scout leader, attended every sporting event, and made the best buttercream frosting for birthday cakes. Above all, she always made sure that her children felt loved.

In the late 1970's she began making paper toll owls out of wrapping paper. Cutting and layering them with precision then mounting them on boards that Jer made. This crafting eventually turned into her and Jerry making and selling various crafts like wreaths and grapevine trees at craft shows. They created their company "A Little Something" and over the years displayed their creations at Meadowbrook Hall and the Festival of Trees. As the years went on, Jerry evolved their business into selling produce at farmer's markets. She didn't always enjoy the farmer's markets, but she put on a smile and did it for Jerry.

She had the wonderful ability to bring joy and fun into everyday life. She was a fashionista; always looked for a cute new outfit, enjoyed getting dressed up, and loved picking out new jewelry. You wouldn't catch her leaving the house without her signature lipstick on. She was also an avid golfer. She may not have always hit the ball far, but she sure was accurate. She even putted better than most amateur golfers. She was even lucky enough to attend the Masters Tournament more than once. She loved her time in Naples, Florida with the sunshine and palm trees. Palm trees were always able to make her smile and brought her so much joy. She couldn't wait to sit by the pool at her condo, watch the sunsets at the Naples Pier, and have an ice-cold beer at the Old Naples Pub.

In her spare time, she enjoyed baking, especially apple jacks and chocolate chip cookies, knitting and making dish cloths, working on pencil drawings, completing jigsaw puzzles, solving a sudoku puzzle or completing the weekly crossword puzzle from the newspaper, and of course, watching football.

Although not always fun to watch, she was a devoted Lions Football fan and was a season ticket holder for a few years.

The most joy in her life came from being a grandparent. She spent every day making sure her grandkids felt loved, were having fun, and were well fed. She made the most delicious strawberry jam and could make you the best piece of toast to go with it. She would serve cups of tea and cookies at night to help unwind from the day. Grandma's house was always stocked with her grandkid's favorite foods, snacks, and drinks.

She was at every school event, academic or athletic. She was at every birthday, every holiday, and if she couldn't be, she would still make you feel so special. The most important part was that she was always there. There for smiles, tears, advice, hugs, and a safe space.

She loved her family with her whole heart and spent her life protecting, defending, and caring for each of us in her own "Joanie way."

Joanie met every season of life with courage. She battled tragedy and multiple illnesses during her life, and though these hardships tried very hard to dim her light, take her smile, steal her strength and alter her kindness, they never won. She fought it all, every day, with grace and dignity.

She was known for her kindness, gentleness, and warmth, touching everyone she met. Anyone who crossed her path, quickly felt her care and knew that Joan truly valued them. She had a way of making people feel safe, seen, and comforted. Always putting others before herself, she went out of her way to lift spirits and bring even a little bit of joy to someone's day. Her generosity was natural and given without expectation, a reflection of her selfless heart. If you were fortunate enough to know Joanie, you knew you had encountered a

genuinely caring and remarkable soul.

Joanie's life can be a lesson to all. Fight as hard as you can, even when you feel like you can't. Smile, even if it feels like there is no reason to. Pray even when it feels like you shouldn't. Find joy in every day and always BELIEVE. She will be deeply missed, but the warmth and kindness she shared will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast." 1 Peter 5:10

Visitation Tuesday from 3:00-8:00pm at Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc., (Shelby) 54880 Van Dyke at 25 Mile Rd. Funeral Wednesday Instate from 9:30am until time of 10am Mass at St. Therese of Lisieux Parish, 48115 Schoenherr Rd., Shelby Township, 48315. Interment, Resurrection Cemetery. Please share memories with the family at their online guestbook at WujekCalcaterra.com

To watch the Mass at 10:00am, viewers can use the following link: <https://youtube.com/live/jXwLhqveKaY?feature=share>

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 13. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Sharing of Memories

JAN 13. 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Instate / Funeral Mass

JAN 14. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Therese of Lisieux
48115 Schoenherr
Shelby Twp., MI 48315

Tribute Wall



“ *Wujek ~ Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Joan Carol Garrett*



Wujek ~ Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. - January 12 at 02:14 PM

BS

“ *Joan was a very special person in my family's life, especially my wife Charlotte where they became like sisters and with our kids an aunt. She was always there if you needed her and she made you feel welcomed and loved.*

Bill Stroud and family

Bill Stroud - January 15 at 08:29 AM

JS

“ *In law by law, loving sister by choice,
Joan, you brought calm and kindness in every room..I will miss that
deeply!
Your love was quiet but powerful..
I will always be grateful for your warmth, your devotion to family and
your warm and tender heart!
Thank you for being such a blessing to your loving brother Larry, me
and Christina,Beth,Larry Jr. and their amazing children and the two
beautiful great granddaughters, they all loved you unconditionally!,
(fav.)
Your strength through all your hard times was inspiring so now you
can rest!
You left this world but not our hearts!!!!❤️.
Now in Gods loving arms forever 🌹🌴 Thank you for loving me~~
Joanna*

Joanna Schehr - January 13 at 11:57 AM

TT

“ *Toby, Emily, Zach, and Tracey purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Joan Carol Garrett.*



Toby, Emily, Zach, and Tracey - January 13 at 09:22 AM

TT

“ *Toby, Emily, Zach, and Tracey planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan Carol Garrett.*

Toby, Emily, Zach, and Tracey - January 13 at 09:22 AM

JD

“ *Jessie and Dayna Drewes purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Joan Carol Garrett.*



Jessie and Dayna Drewes - January 12 at 07:23 PM

JC

“ *When I first started dating Roxy, I was a goofy kid with little social graces. Joan always looked out for me and made me feel at home. That grace and kindness was always special to me. Joan, you will be missed.*

Jim Carmody - January 12 at 06:59 PM

DS

“ *Joan has always been a bright light in our Schehr family always had a smile on her face, she will be missed by all of us, and is with her heavenly family looking down on all of us*

Dan Schehr/ Pam Steenbergh - January 12 at 06:21 PM

GS

“ *Joan will be missed greatly. She was always an inspiration to me as a good role model with being an older cousin as well. Joan was so thoughtful that she threw me a beautiful baby shower when I was expecting my oldest son. Joan was always so sweet and pleasant, & always made you feel welcome, every time that I saw her. I was grateful to have her in my life, as a loving connection between my Dad & Joan's Dad, being brothers. We will always miss seeing her smiling face and beautiful kindness.*

*Love,
Gail & Don (Schehr) Schoof*

Gail Schoof - January 12 at 12:38 PM

MS

Joanie was special to everyone who spent time with her. Her smile, her sweet voice and positive attitude to keep going was amazing. She fought to the end to see her great granddaughter Livy and that was as her goal. We were not just friends we were family. We have been blessed to share our son Douglas with Joanie and Jerry all these years. They treated him as their own with respect and love that we could not have asked for more. We are family with many wonderful memories. RIP Sweet Joanie!💔

Michael & Sandra Sherry - January 13 at 11:28 AM

KA

“ For 21 yrs Joanie was my neighbor in Warren. Boy we all had some good times, even a street party at one time. We watched our children grow and play together. She was always a good neighbor and very talented. I remember purchasing some of her crafts. When I moved from Warren she gave us a going away party with all the neighbors. Did not see her much after that but always remember the morning coffee with her and many of the other neighbor ladies. Great memories. Rest in peace with Jerry, you will be missed.



My heart goes out to Lori and family 💔

Karen Aleman - January 12 at 12:25 PM

WX

“ With love, The Vergilio Family xox planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan Carol Garrett.

With love, The Vergilio Family xox - January 12 at 12:12 PM

WX

“ With love, The Vergilio Family xox purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Joan Carol Garrett.



With love, The Vergilio Family xox - January 12 at 12:12 PM

ML

“ Mary L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan Carol Garrett.

Mary L. - January 11 at 11:57 PM

TY

“ Terri Y. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Joan Carol Garrett.



Terri Y. - January 11 at 08:20 PM

TY

“ Terri Y. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan Carol Garrett.

Terri Y. - January 11 at 08:20 PM

IF

“ In loving memory Grace Klein & family. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan Carol Garrett.

In loving memory Grace Klein & family. - January 11 at 07:40 PM

IF

“ In loving memory Grace Klein & family.
purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the
family of Joan Carol Garrett.



In loving memory Grace Klein & family. - January 11 at 07:40
PM

LS

“ Larry and Tom Schehr planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan Carol Garrett.

Larry and Tom Schehr - January 11 at 05:50 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of
Joan Carol Garrett.



January 11 at 05:50 PM