



Nancy Eleanor Brzozowski

November 11, 1941 - November 27, 2020

Nancy Brzozowski of Sterling Heights passed on Friday, November 27, 2020 after a long journey with cancer. She was the most educated person in any room, the hardest worker, artist, proponent of yoga only if it was strenuous, and embodied the spirit of New York even though she would never tell you.

She was the beloved wife of Richard (deceased), mother of Laura and Mike (Lyndsey), and adored her grandson James. She was attached at the hip to her mother who she would convince you had the best chicken noodle soup in the history of time (it may have been), and had nothing but praise for the people who sacrificed for her and raised her. She was a friend to many and hosted friends, coworkers, and students at her home on holidays when they had nowhere else to go, which truly embodied the idea of family.

Education was the keystone of Nancy's life. She was valedictorian at Utica High School and was so heavily driven by the sacrifices her parents made that she decided to get no less than 6 degrees (B.A.s in Education, Russian Language and Literature, and History from Oakland University, a M.A. in Russian Language and Literature from New York University, a M.S. in Education from Indiana University, and an M.S. in Library Science from Wayne State University). She spoke fluent Hungarian, Russian, and Serbian, and was a Fulbright scholar who travelled the world and understood what it was to teach other cultures and learn from them at the same time.

She took time off from the workplace to raise her kids and made sure to imprint her values on her son and daughter of hard work (continuously quoting JFK – “If a job is worth doing, it is worth doing well”), the value of education, and at times to sacrifice the enjoyment of your own holidays for the joy of others – at the risk of running out of storage for leftovers. She roller skated with her daughter on Saturdays, she read to her son every night and made him value immersing yourself into finishing a book - if there was a BookIt pizza involved.

When she reentered the workplace, her path did not lead her towards her original intentions, but she always found a way to play to her strengths for whatever was in front of her. She truly mastered living in the present moment with her work. Her true passion was to be an educator and brought that into whatever she did in any phase of life, personally or professionally.

In her later years, she decided to retire from her role as Library Director at Walsh College, and take some time for herself after giving everything she had to everyone else for over 70 years. She enjoyed painting rocks, sunflowers, podcasts, books about every imaginable topic, and being present in the new moment that was in front of her. If you were to ask about Joel Osteen or QVC – you had an interested party. Her son and daughter would bet \$5 that she could tell you the synopsis of a Hallmark Christmas movie about 2 to 3 minutes into it. She started to do yoga and her competitive spirit found a new place to be alive and encouraged her good friends to try in her words “strenuous” yoga with her.

Her last years were very hard for someone who approached any challenge without fear. Her last challenge with cancer could not be overcome by the non-traditional methods she embraced, how caring, how hard working, determined, compassionate, how beautiful she was inside and out, or any of

her other strengths or talents. She continued to defy the odds until the very last day – being sustained by her strong faith in God. She did things the way she wanted with that same competitive spirit she had brought to the world for so many years, and did so with the help of her loving daughter who was attached at her hip, just as she was with her mother. She will be missed, and there will definitely be no one else like her ever again. Rest easy, Nancy.

A committal service will take place Tuesday at 1:30pm at Resurrection Cemetery 18201 Clinton River Rd. (Clinton Township). Donations are welcome to the Capuchin Retreat Center. Share memories with the family at their "On Line Guest Book" @ WujekCalcaterra.com

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Previous Events

Committal

DEC 1. 1:30 PM (ET)

Resurrection Cemetery
18201 Clinton River Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Tribute Wall

SB

“ Nancy was a great woman with interesting ideas. She was a pleasure to work with a fun to talk to. The library world will miss her much as will others.



Steven Bowers - January 20, 2021 at 03:25 PM

MW

“ God bless you, my dear friend.

Michael Wrona

Michael Wrona - January 16, 2021 at 10:21 AM

CR

“ Thank you for this beautiful obituary. I worked with Nancy at Walsh for seven years where, in addition to work, we enjoyed a meditation class together. She worked to keep the class going by sharing the importance of self-care and urging attendance. Nancy was always ready to share information when she learned of your interests. For me, genealogy, yoga, and meditation were a few. Rest in Peace, Nancy. Thank you for all you gave.

Cindy Rush - December 07, 2020 at 11:07 AM

JM

“ Nancy had a quiet strength and powerfulness. She was a wonderful addition to our prayer meetings and I know that she was instrumental in helping many people. My youngest son, Ryan, went to Walsh College. I don't know that he went to the library there; however, he may have known her in passing her in the halls. I am sad she will no longer be with us in person; yet, I am glad she will be forever as peace and without pain. And she will be together with her beloved husband. May she, you and your family know she will be missed. Judy M.

Judy Michalski - December 02, 2020 at 09:32 AM

JC

I enjoyed Working with Nancy at Walsh College. I spoke with her many times and she gave me a lot of good information. Such an intelligent woman.

Jenny Carson - December 02, 2020 at 09:40 AM

WG

“ I miss you Nancy. Yesterday and today 12-1-2020, I woke up thinking I have to call Nancy and tell her..... And then I remembered: your body is here but your soul is with Richard in the dimension we call heaven. I want to thank you my friend for teaching me so much about the Metaphysical and Mystical phenomena. As usual you were a wonderful and knowledgeable teacher. I thank you and Richard for introducing me to the Michigan Gem and Mineralogical Society shows. I learned a lot and was able to pass on some of the knowledge to my own grandchildren. I remember when I first met you. Some of the International Supper Club members including my husband Leo and I went to a dinner outing in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. I hadn't seen Richard in years. (I was 3 yrs old when I was first introduced to him when he was born.) And you were on his arm coming into the dining room. We talked briefly then, but as the years passed we became good friends.(Nearly 100 years ago, Richard's mother Viola and my mother Irene lived together as teenaged girls with Viola's parents.) Nancy, whenever I look at my linen Chakra Meditation cloth, I remember when you introduced me to Crystal Pathways where you taught me about the power and energies of various crystals. I still carry on with me every day, the crystal gift you gave me as a source of energy when I held my first meeting as president of Friends of Polish Art. You taught me about the power of meditation music. You taught me about stone work. You urged me to learn Reiki, a healing modality. I did, and have helped many people using Reiki energy thanks to you. And the Micro-Crystal cards that you introduced me to were a tremendous help in giving painless peace to my mother before she died. Oh my friend, I really, really miss you. My partner Keith and I will be reaching out to you via the Angel Board which at one time we all used and discovered other dimensions in our 'reality'. I'm grateful to you for so many, many things. I plan to stay in touch often. God Bless Your family Laura, Michael, Lyndsey, and James. I will always love you Nancy, and I will always keep telling you that. So, until we meet again on the Other Side, keep your Channels open. We will be in touch. XOXOXOXOX
Wanda F. Gongola and Keith F. Pierce

Wanda F Gongola - December 01, 2020 at 10:25 AM

SF

“ *Such a beautiful tribute to your mom! I will miss her.*

Sue Field - November 30, 2020 at 05:52 PM

MG

“ *Mary Gibbons lit a candle in memory of Nancy Eleanor Brzozowski*



Mary Gibbons - November 30, 2020 at 04:54 PM

MG

Nancy was a valued member of our Edgar Cayce study group, a generous, compassionate woman who enriched us with her knowledge. Modest, Nancy never revealed the many college degrees she had earned. For years she bravely fought cancer by any means she could find. We will miss this gentle friend. Blessings to her family.

Mary Gibbons - November 30, 2020 at 05:22 PM

LI

“ Hugs to Nancy's family. Blessings and prayers to my friend Nancy on her new journey. Kudos to her for sticking with her non-traditional means of healing which was important to her and for giving the medical field a sneak peak into a mind that sees something different. Noting: ALL treatments have merit. I will always remember Mr. B for his knowledge and strong mind for which he liked to share with me and Mrs. B for her great intellect and questions on returning to Spirit and seeing her mother again. Grateful to have experienced their friendship and grateful they are once again together. <3
Linda La Croix



Linda - November 30, 2020 at 03:59 PM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Nancy Eleanor Brzozowski.



November 30, 2020 at 11:40 AM

JS

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Joyce Surchik - November 30, 2020 at 10:43 AM

LC

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss. We hold you close in our thoughts and prayers. The loss of a loved one is never easy, but know we are with you through your grief.
Laurie & Ken Cruley



Laurie Cruley - November 30, 2020 at 10:16 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Nancy Eleanor Brzozowski.*



November 30, 2020 at 10:11 AM

MA

“ *I am thankful that I was able to meet Nancy and get to know her a little. From what I could tell she was a strong, creative person with a zest for knowledge. I'm sure she is enjoying the never ending access to books in Heaven!*



May all the good memories of her bring you comfort and peace in these difficult times. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

*Much love,
Marcia*

Marcia - November 29, 2020 at 09:41 PM

LB

“ 1 file added to the album Mom



Laura Brzozowski - November 29, 2020 at 08:44 PM

LB

“ 1 file added to the album Mom



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Laura Brzozowski - November 29, 2020 at 08:33 PM

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Laura Brzozowski - November 29, 2020 at 08:28 PM

LB

“ 4 files added to the album Mom



Laura Brzozowski - November 29, 2020 at 08:27 PM