



Bette Jane Higgins

JAN 7, 1949 - JUL 29, 2024



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Bette Jane Higgins

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Bette Guimond Higgins passed away peacefully in her home, surrounded by her family, on July 29, 2024, after fiercely battling breast cancer for more than 7 years. She was a feisty, funny and beloved partner to Tom Champion for 22 years, and doggie mom to her best girl Sydney. Bette was preceded in death by her brothers Peter Guimond (Kathie), Paul Guimond (Lou), and late husband Ken Higgins. She is survived by her beloved sister Denise Ferro (Kenny). Bette was step-mom to Matthew, Ray, Adam, Andrea and Aaron. She was a beloved friend, cousin, aunt and grandma to countless people.

She will be deeply missed and celebrated for her infectious laugh and vibrant spirit. We will honor her through stories shared in our best Rhode Island accents that will never quite match the original.

In accordance with Bette's wishes there will be no formal funeral services. A private graveside service for immediate family will be arranged at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests you make a donation to the Susan G. Komen Foundation to support their mission to end breast cancer forever.

Online donations: <http://www.info-komen.org/goto/Teambettel>

Donations by check:

Write the following in the memo line: "NE OHIO MTPW -TEAM BETTE" then mail to:

Susan G. Komen
PO BOX 801889
Dallas, TX 75380



Obituary

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Bette's spirit will forever be a part of our lives, as the love she shared and the memories she created will never fade. She will always be remembered and cherished.

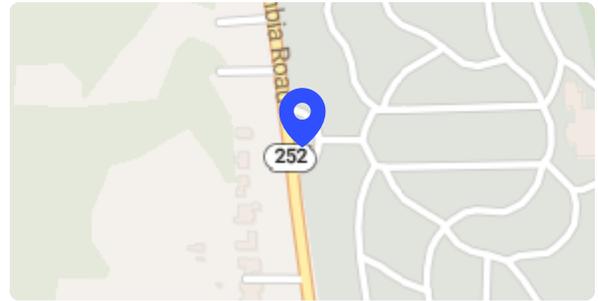


Events

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Cemetery Details

 **Sunset Memorial Park**
6265 Columbia Road, North Olmsted OH 44070





Tribute Wall

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Paula Johnson Merriss posted:

Tom& FamilyDenise& Family and to all of Bettes' FriendsI am deeply sorry on Bettes passing& send you all my Heartfelt Sympathy.Bette/ "Beege" & I became fast friends on her Family's move to Attleboro. We shared so much laughter& great times together during our Jr. High & AHS class of 1966 days...in& out of school, parties, the hop,at our houses, the pool, double dates,rides to see " Handbag Annie", hopping the rt 95 fence & over the brooks to get to our houses,& always our quips on " you're Uglee"!! So many many good times!!After many years we recently touched base again, sharing ,and laughing about it all!!Bette was Strong & Brave...& she loved you all dearly.She was ever grateful to you& her Caregivers& Professionals at Cleveland Clinic...she lived for each & every day. I will always hold Beege in my heart, remembering all we shared,her contagious laughter,the twinkle in her eyes & all the fun times. I'm so sorry for your/our loss.Beege...God Bless & Keep you in his Loving Arms Paula Johnson- Merriss

September 18 at 11:11 AM



Denise Ferro October 31 at 12:11 PM

Thank you Paula. That was definitely a walk down memory lane. Can never forget all the crazy stories from high school. Bette definitely could find humor in almost any situation.She was funny and tough and loving.I miss her and all that was..Denise



Dorothy Baunach October 28 at 5:40 PM

Thanks for sharing Paula - what lovely memories - and I can just see you crossing I95. I told Bette that I did that once in the 1960s in Paramus, NJ. Couldn't do that today. (I'm Dorothy, "Tommy's" sister.)



Paula Johnson Merriss lit a candle in honor of Bette.

Paula Johnson Merriss lit a candle in memory of Bette Higgins



September 18 at 10:48 AM



Mary Ellen posted:

What a gift Bette was in all our lives. From the moment we met in college all those years ago she was a shining star. I'm so sorry Tom, Denise and your families. Bette is always in our hearts MaryEllen

September 11 at 2:46 AM



Denise Ferro October 31 at 12:11 PM

Thank you MaryEllen.Denise



Tribute Wall

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MM

Mary Mccarthy posted:

I am so sad to lose my great friend of 58 years. We met in college and had adventures through that and renting cottages down the Cape, and all of life's events since then. She was a bright candle in the room, lots of fun and joy. She would come at the drop of a hat to help you. I never laughed so hard with anyone as Bette. A light goes out in the world with her passing. May she rest pain free, in peace.

August 4 at 4:58 PM

DF

Denise Ferro October 31 at 12:13 PM

Thank you Mary.Denise

LN

Linda Neitzel posted:

Tom, Brian and I are so sad to hear of Bette's passing....we enjoyed her spirit and she really lit up a room. Brian's and Linda

August 3 at 3:48 PM

RW

Rene Washkevich posted:

Our deepest sympathy for the profound loss of this beautiful soul. I love you guys so much and hope you can take comfort in all your happy memories. Love, Rene and family 🙏🙏❤️

August 3 at 5:01 AM

LB

Lois Brown posted:

I first knew Bette back in the later 1960's when her sister Denise and I went to nursing school together. We would go home to the Guimond home for the weekend to unwind. I have many fond memories of our times together there that lasted till both their parents had passed. One such playful memory was eating dinner at the table and all of us having mostly funny conversation. In recent years I feel privileged to offer support to Bette in her heroic struggle with breast cancer. She defined fighter ! Also to have shared friendship with her for so very many years. She leaves an hole in the lives of all family and friends who were lucky enough to have been in her life. Rest in peace now Bette. Much love. Lois

August 2 at 1:26 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Bette by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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