



Murrie Ann Tompkins Gibson

April 13, 1942 - July 26, 2016

Murrie Ann Tompkins Gibson

Murrie was born to Seth and Rebecca Tompkins in Traverse City, MI on April 13, 1942 and died in her home of 33 years in Clare, MI on July 26, 2016. She is survived by her daughter, Dawn Duddleson, son-in-law, Jim Elder, and granddaughter, Molly Elder; daughter, Shannon Barnes, son-in-law, Peter Barnes, and grandchildren, Maren and Ethan Barnes; son, Christopher Gibson, and granddaughters, Shakira and Audrina Davis; sister, Linda Ligon; and brother-in-law, Dan Denawetz. Her sister, Fran Denawetz, preceded her in death.

Murrie's earliest memories were shaped by an active life in and around the apple and cherry orchards of the family farm on Old Mission Peninsula. At 17, she accepted an invitation to participate in the Miss Peninsula Contest, thinking it would be a good experience, never guessing that she would be crowned the 1960 National Cherry Queen! She played the clarinet in her high school band and continued a lifelong love of music by singing hymns in church and folk songs in the car.

She channeled her endless creative energy into ceramics, counted cross-stich, and quilting. She was a textile artist and made her living for many years as a weaver, producing beautiful altar cloths for churches all over Michigan. Her faith was strong, and she was very involved in her church. She was a passionate teacher: to her children and grandchildren, to kids with disabilities, to weavers and crafters, to Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, and for 16 years, as

an elementary school teacher's aide.

She loved "her" Detroit Tigers, card and board games (Euchre, Sorry, and especially Hearts!), and nature (birds, flowers, and gardens). Over the last decade she became involved in historical reenactments, especially of the French and Indian War era, which combined her love of teaching, camping, crafts, and good natured fun.

She was intensely interested in people and their stories and could strike up a conversation with anyone, anytime. She was especially enthusiastic about keeping up with her many friends (some going all the way back to childhood), her nephews and nieces and she absolutely reveled in being a grandmother! She built a supportive, loving, and extensive network of friends during her many years in Clare.

Services include the Visitation at the Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home on Friday, August 5, from 4:00-8:00 PM (1005 N McEwan St, Clare, MI); Funeral Service at the Clare United Methodist Church on Saturday, August 6, at 11:00 AM (105 E 7th St, Clare, MI); and an Open House on Saturday, August 6, from 5:00-9:00 PM (608 Cottage St, Clare, MI).

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Heifer International or the Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society Memorial Tree Program.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 5. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)

1005 North McEwan St.

Clare, MI 48617

(989) 386-7451

wymanfh@chartermi.net

<https://www.stephenson-wyman.com/>

Service

AUG 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Clare United Methodist Church

105 E. Seventh Street

Clare, MI 48617

Tribute Wall

JB

“ You were a beloved sister in Christ and a wonderful prayer partner. I will miss our Bible studies and theological discussions. Your deep faith and devotion have been an inspiration to me and all who knew you. Rest well in the arms of the Lord dear friend. May the love of God fill the emptiness in the hearts of your family and friends.

*Till we meet again,
Janice Buckley*

Janice Buckley - August 05, 2016 at 08:33 AM

TF

“ The Gibson Family purchased the Lovely One Sp
athiphyllum Plant for the family of Murrie Ann
Tompkins Gibson.



The Gibson Family - August 04, 2016 at 07:43 PM



“ Sacred Garden Spray was purchased for the
family of Murrie Ann Tompkins Gibson.



August 04, 2016 at 12:12 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Murrie Ann Tompkins Gibson.



August 03, 2016 at 07:18 PM



“ Saddened to hear of Murrie's passing. What a wonderful and kind woman! Prayers for my friends.

Helen Bacon - August 02, 2016 at 12:01 PM



“ Murrie and I worked together at Camp Rotary for a long time. She was a beautiful person who loved children and scouting. We would always share a good laugh together because she was always fun to be with. Later in years, the wife and I would visit with Murrie and play cards at her home on different occasions. We will miss her dearly .

Rich (WAZ") and Kathy Wasmer

Rich Wasmer - July 30, 2016 at 06:42 PM



“ Murrie we love you to the moon and back! We have been on some wonderful journeys together, but this one is your own. Take your beautiful journey with the Lord ! Enjoy my friend and rest comfortable ! Look over all of us at our events and let us know you're there! Love Bob & Barb

Bob & Barb Ruby - July 30, 2016 at 05:44 PM

CR

“Gibby,
So sorry about your mom.

Men and Cindy Rulapaugh



cynthea rulapaugh - July 27, 2016 at 10:44 AM

MB

sending love to Dawn, Shannon and Christopher along w/ the grands as they start their healing, knowing that they were loved and that the rest of the family is still here, ready w/ hugs and love as you walk this new path of memories. Michelle

Michelle Barnes - August 02, 2016 at 10:59 AM