



## Lois Frances Bening

May 14, 2016

### Obituary of Lois Bening

Lois (Duquin) Bening, a much beloved member of the Harbor Hills community and Buffalo native passed at the age of 80 on May 14th, 2016. After a determined and courageous battle with cancer she went peacefully with a lifetime of amazing memories with wonderful friends, and loving family that will miss her very much.

Lois was the beloved wife and companion of 62 years to Dave Bening, loving mother to David and Christy Bening (Ohio), Scott and Mary Bening (Indiana) and Tom and Linda Schmidt (New York). She was "Grammie" to Austin, Scotty, Elissa and Billy Bening and Amy Schmidt.

She leaves her devoted sisters and brothers-in-law Diane & Peter Zabel, Joyce and Butch Irving and Carol and Jim Beaver along with dozens of cousins, nieces and nephews, who knew her for her devotion to family even as the extended family members spread far and wide from their Buffalo roots.

She was preceded in death by her father Elmer Duquin and mother Doris (Hanley) Duquin and her brother James Duquin (Connie).

Lois' life was defined by her determination and creativity. As a lifelong teacher,

she inspired endless energy and imagination to the 1st graders of Buffalo's Sweethome district, while also passing on her knowledge and passion to the next generation of teachers as an adjunct professor at the University of Buffalo. For Lois, every lesson was a game, and every game a chance for her students to step out and learn something new - whether you were in elementary or graduate school.

Never one to slow down, Lois attacked retirement in 2000 at Harbor Hills with vigor. She began a new chapter with loyal friends and neighbors who were eager to learn, play and help as this "dynamo" taught all she touched to truly serve others. Whether sitting on the board of Love-Inc., volunteering at Hospice, caring for a sick neighbor or organizing theme-party fund-raisers, Lois set the bar for selfless caring with fun-filled memories that will stay with us forever.

Lois enjoyed golfing, teaching a new friend to lose at Bridge, playing Mahjong with the girls and traveling with her co-pilot and partner-in-crime, Dave. But for the past 25 years, her life's passion was spending time with and supporting her grandchildren. Lois was the architect and mastermind of what has become an annual New Year's Eve celebration to rival any Dick Clark or Ryan Seacrest countdown. Every year brought new themes as her family came together for Recyclables Fashion Shows, Fairy Tale Candy Sales and 70s themed Murder Mysteries. The themes were ridiculous, the planning meticulous, the costumes infamous and the rhymes felicitous. She set the stage for her grandchildren to act a lot sillier, to think a little wittier and to be a weird and wonderful family.

With Dave, she traveled across the country to cheer on her grandkids at ice rinks, tennis courts, dance studios, equestrian arenas and graduations,

always the biggest fan. Her five "stars" were a source of pride, joy and strength to push on when her health threatened to stop her.

Lois was a member of Christ Lutheran Church, Summerfield, FL.

A service and reception to celebrate and give thanks for a life well-lived will be held at the Harbor Hills Country Club (6538 Lake Griffin Rd., Lady Lake FL 32159) on Saturday, May 28th beginning at 11:30 A.M.

Lois' request is that in lieu of flowers, that friends and family consider a donation to the Harbor Hills Ladies' Charity who will continue her legacy of helping those in need in the community. (Checks to: Harbor Hills Ladies' Charity. C/O - B. Hanner, 39419 Harbor Hills Blvd., Lady Lake, FL 32159.)

Online condolences may be left at [www.beyersfuneralhome.com](http://www.beyersfuneralhome.com)

Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory, Lady Lake, FL

# Tribute Wall

BA

“ This is cousin Barb on the Hanley side. We were sad to hear of her passing. She certainly used every minute of her life and made the most of 80 years. I remember graduating with her in 1968 from Buffalo State College. We had even shared a class or two and she was always a star. Everyone gave her so much credit as a mother who raised children and also came back to school (college) to get her teaching degree. I know she will be missed by so many people, but her spirit will live on in the lives she touched.

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**Barbara Hanley Andrulis** - June 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ Pat and I were life long friends of Lois and Dave's. I can still remember double dating in Dave's car or in Jack Robenson's fur truck (those were the days). We were shocked and saddened to hear of Lois's passing. Unfortunately we hadn't had the good fortune of renewing our friendship for a long period of time. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Dave and his children as well as to all the Duquin family. With our profound sympathy and love Fran and Pat Ciurczak

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**Fran and Pat Ciurczak** - June 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Lois was a shining star in our retirement years. She spread love and happiness wherever she went. I will never forget her Christmas pajama parties for the "girls" of Harbor Hills. What fun we had donning our P.J.'s and crazy decorated slippers for the "elves" to vote on, feasting on the homemade goodies Lois had prepared and best of all, hanging our card on the Christmas tree with a gift for Cornerstone Hospice, Lois's favorite charity. I can only imagine her New Years Eve theme parties for her family. One time she had a group of us over for Mexican Train and we had all Mexican treats and came home with a sombrero as a prize. Her creativity and her years in elementary education combined to make her a fun person to be around. We will miss Lois and thank her all she did to make our community a better place to live. To her husband Dave, she was more than just a wife, but a best friend as well. We are sure she is in heaven, baking her famous "Buckeyes!" L. & M

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**Lew and Marian Jones** - May 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Our most sincere condolences to the entire Bening family. We heard many tales of the fun skits, especially on New Year's Eve. She will be greatly missed, but you will have these wonderful memories forever.

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**Tim, Brenda and Ryan McGillen** - May 24, 2016 at 12:00 AM

HV

“ We both have fond memories of this remarkable lady and her wonderful work and gift of herself to others. Our thoughts and prayers are with Dave and all the family. her work at CMCC and the tireless work for Harbor Hills Charities are long remembered. We will be away this week-end and unable to attend the remembrance and reception. Dave , you are so blessed to have had lois so many years. Sincerely, Howard and Sarah

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**Howard and Sarah Vesser** - May 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ *My most sincere condolences to the Bening family on their loss. My father, Cory Chen, always had the kindest and warmest things to say about Lois. We will keep your family in our thoughts and prayers. Very Respectfully, Clark Chen*

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**Clark Chen** - May 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ *I'm sorry to hear about the passing of your mother. May God continue to bless and strengthen your family through these difficult times.*

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**Marie Lockridge** - May 19, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Sorry for your loss Scott, you and your family are in my prayers.*

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**John Steele** - May 19, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ *Sending you love and prayers during this difficult time. Scott, your mom was an amazing woman! She will be missed. Much love, The Cochran Family*

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**John and Dawn Cochran** - May 19, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *We are thankful that we were able to know Lois. She never ceased sharing her special talents with her family, friends and others that she felt would benefit from them. Our condolences to Dave and all of her family members. Thanks for sharing her with us. Marsh and Margra Grillo*

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**Marshall and Margra Grillo** - May 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ We send caring thoughts to the family. The obituary really shows the great spirit Mrs. Bening must have had. Please let us know if there is anything that we can do.

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**Pamela Cox and Michael and Gavin Wince** - May 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ My deepest sympathies go out to you, your family and friends.

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**Shannon Putschaven** - May 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

VC

“ To Scott and Mary: Our love thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family. From the Chen Family in Taiwan

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**Vivian Chen** - May 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ I never had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Bening, but feel like i know her very well through the love that Scott has expressed and demonstrated over many years for her and for his own children. May she rest in peace.

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**Don Leopold** - May 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ I feel very fortunate to have experienced knowing our wonderful friend Lois since moving to Harbor Hills. She was so special and a great example to all of us on how to live our lives giving to others. To say she will be missed is an understatement. My most sincere condolences and prayers to her family. God Bless. Lillian

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**Lillian Riley** - May 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Dear Bening family, I am very sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this time.

John Gornto - May 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ We were fortunate to be neighbors of Lois & Dave! What a great lady and friend! Our prayers are with the family.

Larry & Sue bame - May 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Dear Dave & Family - Lois was a wonderful and caring woman that was loved by so many. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to you and your loved ones during this difficult time. Your loss is felt by all.

Charles & Frankie Smith - May 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ Scott, Mary and family my thoughts are with you at this very sad time.

Kate Leto - May 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ My most heartfelt condolences to the family and all who loved Lois. May god support you in your time of loss.

Teresa Nash - May 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ *Lois sounds like a most charming and wonderful person. We did not have the opportunity or the honor to know her, but she surely lives on not only in your memories but in the livelihood and love she instilled into your family. May you find comfort in the many cherished memories. Our Deepest Sympathy.... Roger and Amy Morgan (part of the MonoSol family)*

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**Amy & Roger Morgan** - May 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ *Lois Frances Bening*

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**Ross & Lexi Pangere** - May 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Please have comfort knowing she has moved on to a better place.*

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**Stan Lautar** - May 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family. May God give you the strength during this time of bereavement.*

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**Shirelle Combs** - May 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

FO

“ *Dave, what sadness filled our hearts when we heard of Lois passing..the Loss is immeasurable but also immeasurable is the love left behind. Our deepest sympathy to you and your family...she was deeply loved... Fred and Joyce*

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**Fred and Joyce Oeschge** - May 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ So sorry to hear of your loss.

PR Stout - May 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Dear Dave and Family: We have truly lost a great friend and advocate of life. Lois' dedication and commitment to helping others was profoundly admirable and an inspiration to all who knew her. She left her legacy at Cornerstone, on behalf of all of us, we hope you may find comfort in knowing others share in your sorrow. May she fly with the angels. God Bless.

Desiree Coleman-Cohrn - May 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Lois Frances Bening

May 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ ###GESTURE###

Ross & Lexi Pangere - May 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM