



Vicki J. Lachowicz

January 18, 2015

Obituary of Vicki Lachowicz

Vicki Lachowicz, 78, returned home to God on January 18th after a courageous battle with leukemia. She died at her home, surrounded by her family. Visitation will be Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. at Beyers Funeral Home, Lady Lake, and a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Timothy Catholic Church, The Villages, on Monday, January 26th at 8:30 a.m. Interment will be at 11:00 a.m. at Knollwood Memorial Park, Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Vicki, affectionately known as Janie to her family, was born in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, to Felix and Victoria Sieracki. She was the 4th of 7 children. Her oldest brother, Eugene, died in 1944 when his submarine, the USS Golet, was sunk off the coast of Japan. Her oldest sister, Marian Osieczanek (Archie), lives in Denver, Colorado, her brother, Florian (Mary Ann), lives in Waupun, Wisconsin, her brother, Lee (Heather), lives in De Kalb, Texas, and her sister, LuAnn (Don), lives in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Her twin brother, James, died at birth.

Vicki was a graduate of Lincoln High School, Manitowoc, and Manitowoc County Teacher's College. She taught elementary school in Grayslake, Illinois. Vicki met her husband of 56 years, Jerry, when he spotted her across the

room, and was immediately smitten. He still feels the same way about her now. They were married at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Manitowoc on June 21st, 1958, and they moved to Green Bay so Jerry could finish his degree. Their daughter, Debbie, was born in 1959, followed by Julie in 1961 after a moved to Milwaukee. They relocated again to Sheboygan and their daughter, Patty, was born in 1965. After another move to Sheboygan Falls, their fourth daughter, Lisa, was born in 1966 and the family was complete.

Vicki took wonderful care of her home, her husband and four daughters, and spent their school years taking care of them and moving from Wisconsin to Grand Haven and Muskegon, Michigan, to Loveland, Ohio, Libertyville, Illinois, and then back to the land of beer and cheese, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. Vicki returned to work at a Sears store in Illinois, and in Wisconsin Rapids at two dental offices and then became a substitute teacher, which was her favorite job, next to wife and mother.

Vicki and Jerry left Wisconsin for The Villages, Florida, after Jerry retired in 1996, where they enjoyed golf, pickle ball, cards, shows and evenings with friends. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2008 with a party at a water park resort in Wisconsin, complete with big band orchestra. Vicki and Jerry enjoyed traveling, going on cruises to the Caribbean and Greek Isles, many trips to Europe, and pilgrimages to Egypt and the Holy Land, Lourdes, Fatima, Medjugorje, and a treasured trip to Poland, part of her heritage. She enjoyed getting together with her sisters and brothers and their children, and loved them all dearly. Even though she was in the midst of chemotherapy for leukemia, she attended a reunion of the entire Sieracki family in Wisconsin last summer, and was so happy to see everyone.

Vicki adored her 14 grandchildren: Andrew, Alex, Michael and Laura Millon, Patrick, C.J., Matthew and Nicholas Reiels, Tom, Amy and Sara Fuller, and Joey, John and Jake Gurskis. That's 11 grandsons and only 3

granddaughters. Jerry finally had his boys. Vicki loved to spoil her grandchildren, often serving them hot fudge sundaes at 10 p.m. and hiding powdered sugar doughnuts in the closet so the kids could eat them, much to the chagrin of the parents. She sent weekly cards to all the college kids to remind them that they were loved, also sending boxes of goodies whenever possible. She took numerous trips to be at as many grandchildren's events as possible, attending Baptisms, First Communions, Confirmations, graduations, Eagle Scout ceremonies, baseball and soccer games, plays and concerts. After every visit, she left a treasure hunt behind with a DVD or other gift as a prize. The grandchildren adored her and already miss their grandma so much.

Vicki loved her Catholic faith, attended church daily, and prayed constantly. We are comforted knowing she is with Jesus, her beloved Blessed Mother, her parents and all the family members that have gone before her. To our beloved wife, mother, grandma, sister, aunt, cousin and friend: We love you to the moon and back.

Tribute Wall

TH

“ Jerry, Debbie, Julie, Patty and Lisa, Our hearts go out to you. You have our deepest sympathy. It was such a shock finding out about Vicki's passing. We have such fond memories of her when you lived here in Wisconsin Rapids. She was always an inspiration when it came to family and just enjoying life. She always had a smile. We wish you the strength to meet the challenges you are facing and the courage to live each day to the fullest you possibly can. We send you prayers that God will hold you especially close during this most difficult time.

Tim and Pam Huebner - January 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Jerry, Our deepest sympathies to you and your family. It is our hope that your full life of memories will give you comfort. Vicki was a very special lady. Sincerely, Donna & Jere Dewitt

Donna Dewitt - January 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ I wish to pass along my most heartfelt condolences. Though I didn't get to see Mrs. or Mr. Lachowicz often I often remember them. Sincerely, One of the neighbor kids in Wisconsin who would always want to play in the mobile home.

Adam Timmermann - January 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Vicki J. Lachowicz

January 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Dear Jerry, Vicki's four beautiful daughters and their families, and her sisters and brothers and their families, we are so sorry for your loss. My father, Gene Schimmel, Vicki's Michigan cousin, passed away this past November and Vicki was one of the first to reach out with sympathy. I spoke with her by phone and heard much sadness in her voice. I felt the same when hearing about her this week though I only saw her occasionally in FL. It was not necessary to see her often to understand the beautiful person she was. My father spoke so warmly about "Janie" and "Poncho," and Jerry and Don, that I was not surprised when I met them to immediately fall in love. My beautiful mother is still with us but her advanced illness does not allow us to leave her to attend the visitation. I wish we could be there to express our sympathy. Our thoughts will be with you now and as you travel to Wisconsin to take Vicki home. Gary and Darlene Stockman and Eileen Schimmel Port St Lucie, Florida

Darlene Schimmel Stockman - January 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Vicki J. Lachowicz

Darlene Schimmel Stockman - January 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ We were so sorry to read of Vicki's passing today. I always knew her as a gracious, friendly and classy lady whose love of her family was obvious to everyone. Please accept our heartfelt sympathy during this time of immense pain. We will keep you and all the girls & their families in our prayers Jerry. God bless you all. Fondly, Jean & George

Jean & George Mathews - January 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Dear Julie and Family, So sorry for your loss. May your heavy hearts be comforted by wonderful memories. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Julie, your love for her really does shine through you. I hope you feel her presence and know she will always be close.

Julie Holloway - January 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ Dearest Lachowicz Family, You know how much Auntie Janie meant to me and I find myself recalling so, so many incredible memories of her, especially this week since first learning of her passing on Sunday. I am beyond heartbroken, as well, remembering all her caring love, encouragement, cards, phone calls, gifts and just all the wonderful time I was fortunate enough to have spent in her presence. It was never long enough... She was such a treasure and I feel so blessed to have been related to and loved by her! I will spend the rest of my lifetime missing her and believing she's now above, smiling down on her entire extended family while she enjoys her eternity in heaven in utter peace and comfort. I will love Auntie Janie forever. My hugs, prayers and condolences to all. Hoping your tears will dry up and fun, happy memories of sweet Janie will return to help ease your grief and sorrow. Your niece, Cehri Key

Cehri & Kent Key - January 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM