



Amy Jo DeKruyter

May 15, 1970 - December 20, 2022

Heaven welcomed Amy Jo DeKruyter, age 52, of Holland, MI, into her eternal home on Tuesday, December 20, 2022. A beautiful mother, wife, sister, and daughter, she died after a year-long journey with multiforme glioblastoma. Amy's unforgettable smile, sparkling eyes, listening ear, and warm welcome marked a life of love, service, and deep Christian faith. Born in 1970, she attended Zeeland Public Schools, traveling to Bolivia in her senior year of high school as a Rotary exchange student. After a double major in Spanish and Psychology/Sociology at Hope College ('92), she earned a Masters in Social Work at Western Michigan University ('95). These early interests in other cultures, languages, and peoples, and in working to enrich the lives of others, can be traced across Amy's life. Her love for teaching was seen in her years as a substitute teacher—often in Spanish—at Borculo Christian, Zeeland Christian, and Zeeland Public Schools, giving piano lessons, leading Community Bible Study groups, and teaching children's worship at church. She also worked and volunteered for many years at South Olive Christian School. Teaching was often combined with Amy's passion for community service. She was a Crop Walk coordinator for more than ten years and taught classes on canning and pie-making through Zeeland Recreation. Church stood at the center of Amy's life. She worked for the Reformed Church in America as Coordinator for Volunteer Services ('96-'06), served on the boards of Western Theological Seminary and Camp Geneva, and continually volunteered at North Holland Reformed Church, whether coordinating

Christmas programs, organizing youth group hayrides, or making pies for the Ottawa County Fair.

Amy loved many outdoor activities, such as running, biking, ice skating, downhill skiing, hiking, camping, and gardening. She found joy in picking fruit, pie-making, canning, and making maple syrup, activities that she loved to share with others. Her competitive spirit could surface in almost any domain, whether running, playing games with family, or collecting junior ranger badges at national parks. Amy's life revolved around her family infused with her love of God. She was a beautiful, supporting wife to her husband and lovingly devoted to her three children.

Amy is survived by her husband, David DeKruyter; children: Ana, Peter, and Jack; parents, Robert and Nancy Haveman; parents-in-law, Gordon and Joyce DeKruyter; siblings: Jody and Dan Machiela, Ron and Beth Haveman, Tracy and Daniel Smith; in-laws: Tim and Julie DeKruyter, Doug and Deb DeKruyter, Brad and Linda DeKruyter; as well as many nieces, nephews, and cherished friends.

Visitation will be from 1-4pm and 6-8pm on Wednesday, December 28, 2022 at North Holland Reformed Church, 12050 New Holland St., Holland, MI 49424. Funeral services will be at 11:00am on Thursday, December 29, also at the same location. The service will be recorded and posted on the Facebook page of North Holland Reformed Church. Burial will be in Blendon Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to RCA Global Missions.

Funeral arrangements are by Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home. To leave condolences online, please visit www.langelandsterenbergh.com.

Cemetery Details

Blendon Township Cemetery

Tyler Street between 48th Ave and 54th Ave
Hudsonville, MI 49426

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 28. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

North Holland Reformed Church
12050 New Holland Street
Holland, MI 49424

Visitation

DEC 28. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

North Holland Reformed Church
12050 New Holland Street
Holland, MI 49424

Funeral Service

DEC 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

North Holland Reformed Church
12050 New Holland Street
Holland, MI 49424

Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Amy DeKruyter Funeral Service in memory of Amy Jo DeKruyter*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - December 31, 2022 at 12:22 PM



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Amy Jo DeKruyter*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - December 28, 2022 at 09:29 AM



“ *We are so sorry to hear of Amy's passing. We can't imagine the huge loss that you are all feeling. Amy was such a joy-filled passionate woman, and we felt honored to know her. May you be wrapped in the loving arms of Jesus, as she is.*

Peter and Patty Ford - January 10, 2023 at 08:13 PM

JZ

“ Dear Dekruyter Family- Amy was a dear, ever generous and kind friend who I met through RCA Missions. She was a blessing to all who worked with her - including me! Know that her efforts to grow the kingdom still have impact today around our world. Her smile was contagious!

Joy Zomer - December 28, 2022 at 08:21 PM

LB

“ Hugs to the DeKruyter family. You are in our thoughts and prayers. We are so sorry to hear about Amy. May God bless you His peace that passes all understanding. The Blacquiere family.
Rick, Lynn, Bradley, Lindsey, Charlotte, Elodie and Matthew.

Lynn Blacquiere - December 28, 2022 at 01:55 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.

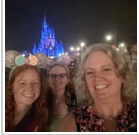


December 27, 2022 at 07:49 PM

RJ

“ Dave and family: Our hearts break for yours. You are have our deepest condolences and continued prayers for God's grace, comfort and peace to help carry you during this most difficult time and in the months/years to come.

Robin & John Nicely, Sam & Jacob - December 27, 2022 at 05:03 PM



“ So many memories of dear Amy. Amy went water skiing on Wall Lake with us on Labor Day of '21. She was so fit and active. Of course, she popped right up on the water skis and had a huge smile as she was pulled around the lake. After her diagnosis, we often said - you will be water skiing next summer on the lake with us. Also, my college age memory of us biking in Englewood. We stayed with Grandpa and Grandma DeWitt and used the old bikes to bike from 36 Pearl st. down Manasota Beach Rd up the main drag of Englewood in a big circle. probably close to 16 miles. What a fun afternoon we had. May you find comfort and peace in your memories! Love Julie and Dale

Julie Grimes - December 27, 2022 at 04:51 PM

RO

Dave and family, good memories of Amy and Robin together with her sweet smile and sweet disposition. She will be missed by you and your family dearly.

Rosemary Van Oosterhout - December 28, 2022 at 07:38 AM



I just saw Amy's picture in the commons, along with a description of her life. Though I did not know Amy personally, her service on the board yielded a double benefit for me, both as an M.Div. student and as a D.Min. graduate. Thanks to the family for sharing her with so many. My heart goes out to you David in particular and your three children. I too lost an irreplaceable partner in Jeannette to cancer. May the God of all comfort, comfort your hearts...

Jonathan Brownson - June 23, 2023 at 10:29 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.*



December 27, 2022 at 04:36 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.*



December 27, 2022 at 12:23 PM



“ *Dwayne & Deb Masselink purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.*



Dwayne & Deb Masselink - December 27, 2022 at 10:42 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.*



December 26, 2022 at 03:32 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.*



December 26, 2022 at 01:13 PM



“ *I remember Amy when we attended North Holland and we had so much fun with the children's choir. She was so talented and such a beautiful Christian woman. She definitely loved her family and I'm praying for all of the children and her husband. God bless you during this holiday season and know she is celebrating Christmas with Jesus this year.*

Barbara L Alderink - December 26, 2022 at 10:51 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.*



December 26, 2022 at 08:50 AM



“ *As much as i do not know Mrs. Dekruyter, I can tell she was a great mother and a wife, know that she is in a rest of peace up in heaven. our prayers for all her family.*

Jensy - December 25, 2022 at 10:49 PM

RO

“ Amy is truly an inspiration for all of us left behind through her focus on her Creator, her eternal destiny and the family given to her by the Heavenly Father. Nothing else is more important- but how easy it is to forget this. She did not forget. And now she has enjoyed eternity in the company of the Eternal Son. Let us all follow her example. Our prayers for all her family! Roy

Roy - December 24, 2022 at 03:25 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.



December 24, 2022 at 12:53 PM

JD

“ I first met Amy when I taught with Dave. She was so welcoming and kind. Later in life, I spent time running with her. One of my best memories is running with her in the Zeeland Turkey Trot. As I struggled across the bridge and up the hill that followed, she continued to say encouraging words convincing me that I could do it. Each time I run that way, I think of Amy. She will be dearly missed.

Jamie Dannenberg - December 24, 2022 at 11:03 AM

NH

“Every day that I got to spend with Amy this past year she asked me about each of my 4 kids and Kevin. She would talk about her prayers in our long journey to have our family and the fun she had substitute teaching in Spanish in my children’s classes over the years. She would talk every time about the RCA missions “all around the world”- “that the world may know” - and about how she loved Guatemala. Thank you Amy - for all your work spreading Jesus’ gift of salvation to so many. Bela longs to know her first mom in heaven someday. Amy would tell me with excitement about what Ana, Peter and Jack were doing with joy in her eyes about their jobs, school, sports and music events and show me their pictures growing up. And her Junior Ranger badges. 😊 She would tell me about what a hard worker and good husband Dave is and about all of their families showing me pictures, so excited for gatherings together and when family was coming to town. She would check her laundry room calander making sure she wouldn’t miss a birthday or anniversary. Every time we would sing - mostly hymns and songs of praise, but also Coming to America and Old time Rock n Roll. It wasn’t lost on me that she could remember so many hymns, so many Bible verses having committed them to her heart. For all who brought meals, know she told me each lunch we shared how good the food was! She was also real about the hard stuff, frustrations with not being able to get the words out, with not being able to clean or bake like she wanted. But that didn’t stop her from her diligence in doing her physical therapy. A couple times she would insist on vacuuming this past fall - with me moving the vacuum to new areas where she would vacuum all around her then move to a new section. There was never a time I spent with her- even in December- that she couldn’t figure out a way to get across what she wanted to say or ask. It might take time - but her strong determined spirit remained. And when it was time to go, every single time - she would look at my eyes and say to me before I left “Love you Niki Heil. Good mom. Good job.” In the midst of her earthly body preparing for heaven, she was still working to pour love and service to others. Oh Amy - I love you too. You are a good mom and you, my friend, did a good job. I can only imagine the Joy when you saw

Him face to face. My heart shatters for your family. The loss of you here is immense and far too soon. We all await that day to be with you singing again - knowing you will be part of the welcome and hospitality team in heaven greeting everyone from "all around the world" ♡♡

Niki Heil - December 24, 2022 at 08:11 AM

BV

“ *Dennis and I are grieving with Amy's dear family. She was such a special person. We will be forever grateful for our friendship. May she Rest In Peace and Rise in Glory!*

Betty Voskuil - December 23, 2022 at 09:47 PM

KF

“ *Karianne Reger & Family purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.*



Karianne Reger & Family - December 23, 2022 at 04:29 PM

PF

“ *President Christy and the NWC family. purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.*



President Christy and the NWC family. - December 23, 2022 at 04:18 PM

ST

“ When I first met Amy I remember thinking, how beautiful. She had a smile that lit up the room and Amy and Dave were so warm and friendly. Her tribute tells of her beauty inside and out. What a wonderful and beautiful servant to the Lord. I was truly blessed to have met Amy. My heartfelt condolences to Dave, his children, to Bob and Nancy and Amy's sisters and brother and all extended family. Sandy Talburt

Sandy Talburt - December 23, 2022 at 01:45 PM

DT

“ Our friendship began in her RCA time and continued to CBS coregroup leaders. Her story fully told who she was. While Amy will be so missed, praise the Lord her suffering is over. Blessings and prayers for her family and friends. Sally Tapley

David and Sally Tapley - December 23, 2022 at 12:29 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.



December 23, 2022 at 12:18 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amy Jo DeKruyter.



December 23, 2022 at 08:14 AM