



Elizabeth Rose Boven

December 27, 1929 - October 7, 2018

Elizabeth Rose Dimberg Boven Born Dec. 27, 1929, the 5th child of Gertrude Anderson Dimberg and Paul Carl Dimberg of Wauwatosa (Milwaukee) Wisconsin, Elizabeth (Libby) died Sunday, October 7, 2018 at the Inn at Freedom Village. After high school in Wauwatosa, Libby completed registered nurse's training at Wesley Memorial Hospital and Northwestern University in Chicago where she met her spouse Dr. Ronald Boven (deceased), a dental student at Loyola University. The Bovens were married in 1951 and Libby continued nursing in the OR at Wesley Memorial until Ron's completion of dental school in 1954. The Bovens were stationed in Omaha, Nebraska at SAC Command for two years in the Air Force during the Korean Conflict. After the service, the Bovens moved to Iowa City, Iowa where Ron completed his orthodontic specialty training. In 1958, the Bovens returned to Holland with their four children and Ron started his orthodontic practice, the first in Holland. During the years they were raising their children in Holland, Libby volunteered as a Sunday school teacher in the kindergarten class at Third Reformed Church, and as a garden therapist in the Garden Therapy Program that served the Special Education students in the Holland Public Schools. She was recognizable as the lady with 150 pumpkins in the back seat of her Nash Rambler ready for decorating. When Third Reformed Church opened their Day Care Center, Libby volunteered her services as both nurse and classroom aide. Every summer, Libby served a week as the nurse on site at the Holland Migrant Center where her children learned compassion and

gratitude while feeding, changing, reading and playing with migrant children. Libby also volunteered her time as a nurse at the Blood Bank and room mother for our classrooms. In 1968, Libby returned to St Mary's Hospital in Grand Rapids to update her nursing credential.

As an empty nester, Libby returned to nursing at Meadowbrook, now Rest Haven.

In addition, she took the training to become a Stephen Minister through Third Reformed Church where she was commissioned to offer one on one care to hurting individuals; Libby served several terms as a deacon there as well. Though no baker, she turned out dozens of cakes for Hope College students and delivered them to every dorm and cottage on campus. Libby was an active member of the Holland Hospital Auxiliary Program that raised funds from baby pictures for nursing scholarships for local students. She served the Holland Garden Club in numerous capacities including the executive board for 41 years. "Grandma Libby" was a doting grandma who enjoyed picking out clothes and dolls for Christmas or birthday presents, and decorating Christmas trees, Easter baskets and perennial gardens.

Following retirement, Libby served meals to the homeless at Western Seminary, and drove many individuals to appointments for the Good Samaritan Center. Although some of these clients were pretty questionable characters and these trips proved to be adventures, Libby was undeterred in her activism. She also drove elderly women to Circle and served countless meals at Third Church for weddings and funerals. For all her volunteer service, Libby was named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Holland Rotary Club. We considered her a professional volunteer. She had a heart for the very young and the very old.

In her spare time Libby enjoyed playing bridge with her Bridge Group, dining out at the Holland Country Club with friends, canoeing on the Pere Marquette River with the Forks Group and walking the beach, dunes and woods near their lake home. Libby and Ron were members of the Holland Historical Foundation, the Holland Academy of Senior Professionals (HASP) and the

Second Century Club at Hope.

Libby is survived by her children Lynda (and Steve) Farrar of Stockton CA, Sharon (and Dr. Stephen) Carter of Brook Haven GA, Margery Wirth (and Norman Jefferson) of Hoover AL, Peter R. Boven (and Rene') of Stone Mountain GA, her sister Carolyn Dimberg Rice of Navarre, FL, nephew David Boven (Heide) of N. Muskegon, niece Jean Boven Norden of Dublin OH, sister-in-law Phyllis Agnew of Vero Beach FL, fifteen grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. Her husband, Ronald Jay, died in 2000. Ronald and Elizabeth Boven have endowed scholarships at Hope College, Western Theological Seminary and the Holland Community Foundation. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Libby's honor can be made to Third Reformed Church or any of the organizations mentioned above. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, November 3, 2018 at Third Reformed Church, 111 West 13th Street, Holland with at time of visitation one hour prior to the service.

Tribute Wall



“ Elizabeth Rose Boven

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"Please accept my sympathy in the loss of both of your parents. Ron was a significant reason that I became a dentist. I had the privilege of being able to refer many patients to him knowing that they would receive great care. He was a mentor, colleague and business partner for many years. I still miss his smile, wit and interesting take on life. Libby was always kind to me, especially when my own mother died while I was in college. I remember her working tirelessly at 3rd church for many many causes. I learned a great deal from both of them. Interestingly, my wife Deb, was having a baby shower for a young Hispanic woman. This was at our house this past Saturday, at the time of Libby's funeral. Just before the group of about twenty young people was leaving, a woman from 3rd church showed up with a platter that was filled with sandwiches. The young women were thrilled to take some extra food home. Where did the sandwiches come from? Libby Boven and her family! It made me think that even in her death, Libby was still helping people and making people smile. Bob Sterken"*

Robert Sterken - November 04, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *"-My Sympathy to the Boven Family."*

Pauline Steketee Rypma - October 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JB

“*My thoughts and prayers are with the family of dear Mrs. Boven, I have fond memories of her while I was a teenager at Third . My Mother Lois Van Oosterhout was a friend of your Mother. She was a true believer in helping others.*”

Judy Van Oosterhout Bakker - October 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM