



## Mrs. Joan "Joltje" Hof

December 31, 1924 - March 30, 2014

Joan "Joltje" Hof, 89, of Holland, passed away on Sunday, March 30, 2014, at her home.

Joan was born December 31, 1924, in Gaastmeer, the Netherlands, to Jetze and Sjuutjite (Valk) Wildschut. Joan was born into the Wildschut shipbuilding family of Gaastmeer that for generations was known for their quality and craftsmanship. After WWII, Joan married the love of her life, Berend Hof Sr. on December 20 of 1945. Joan and Berend's families were active in the Dutch underground during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. The Wildschut and Hof families hid Jews and RAF airmen in their homes and communities. Berend was also the four-time Dutch speed-skating national champion but was unable to compete in the Olympics due to the war and that he had skated professionally. Joan and Berend immigrated to the United States in 1950 and raised their family in the Holland/Zeeland area. The Adrian Van Koevering family's kindness is appreciated to this day in assisting their family's transition to America. Sadly, in 1996, Berend Sr. preceded Joan in death following 50 years of marriage.

Joan and Berend leave a legacy of a loving family that survive them. Joan is survived by her children: Shirley Hof, Henny and Garry Overbeek, Pieter and Katie Hof, Louisa and David Norris, Berend Jr. and Heather Hof; grandchildren: Aimee (Brent) Caudill, Kim Hof, Ben (Lisa) Overbeek, Chris

(Ann) Overbeek, Ryan Kiekintveld, Wolfgang Hof, Pieter Julian Hof; great-grandchildren: Amber, Jessica, Kodee, Mackenzie, Grant, Trevor, Hunter.

Funeral services will be 3:00 pm, Tuesday, April 1, 2014, at the Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th Street, Holland, MI 49423. The Rev. Robert Nykamp will officiate. Visitation will be one hour prior to the funeral service at the funeral home. Burial will be in Zeeland Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Harbor Humane Society.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Joan "Joltje" Hof*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *Thinking about you and your family during this time. I am very sorry for your loss.*

**Reyna - Grand Haven, MI - Friend** - April 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *The way she would be in complete distress and crack a joke to help me. Her dry sense of humor and quick wit. The way she would keep offering you drink and a cookie til you took one. How strong she was all the way to the end. The way she looked at me with total love in her eyes and call me her angel. Her love for all animals even Brent's snake. Her friend (Hum) she has had from childhood more than 80 years. The way she would bite into a smoke fish or eel with its head on like it a candy...gross... The way she would cringe when I got back from a walk with Casey and put my cold hands on her face and kiss her. The way she would call Brent boy because she couldn't say his name. Sunday coffee after church around her dining room table. Her honesty about her faith fear and all. Her love and pride about her family. She has been a blessing to me.. Love u Beppa*

**Aimee Caudill - Holland, MI - Granddaughter** - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ We pray that God and your memories give you all strength and comfort. What a touching life Joan and her husband lived. "Well done good and faithful servant, well done." Love to you all. Take care.

---

**Paul and Natasha (Rietveld) Postma - Zeeland, MI - Cousin of Aimee Caudill & Kim H.** - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ We enjoyed reading about the legacy left behind by both grandparents. Certainly a family history to be proud of and to pass along to the younger generations. May this history, along with many loving memories, sustain the family as you grieve the loss of a wonderful woman. Our hearts are with you all.

---

**John & Angela Brown - Long-time Friend of Aimee** - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Joan was a lovely lady and will be missed. Our prayers are with your family.

---

**Marta and Rick Muniz** - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ So sorry we can't be with you Louisa, Shirley and family. Your mother was a special lady and I am happy to have spent even a few short visits with her. Prayers for peace and blessings

---

**merikay winter - holland, MI - friend** - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Dear Pieter, Katie and Pieter Julian

*We were sad to hear of your loss. What a lot was achieved by your mother and father in their lifetimes. So many happy memories.*

*Love and kisses from "Down Under"*

---

**Kim Williams - WORONORA HEIGHTS - Friends** - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Mrs. Hof,

*I have fond memories of helping you, as a dear & loyal customer of my family's 5th-generation business: Holland Peanut Store.*

*For years, every early December, you would call & order your holiday chocolate boxes. You would kindly ask us to deliver them, because you did not want to ask your family to pick them up, for this would ruin the 'surprise'.*

*When I arrived to your home, you were always so friendly, gentle and grateful. Your strong Dutch accent intrigued me, and I often asked you about your history. I shared with you my Mamma's journey to America from Italy. Your face would light up, as I shared similar details of the long, difficult & successful trek here to the U.S. You have accomplished so much in your 89 years, Mrs. Hof!*

*I am so very grateful that I got to know you...even on a small scale.*

*You have a beautiful family...they love you so.*

*Rest in peace, beautiful lady!*

*With sincerity,*

*Paula Fabiano*

*Holland, Michigan*

---

**Paula Fabiano - Holland, MI** - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ *May the happy memories be a reminder to you as you go thru this sad time.*

---

**Sally Joldersma - Holland, MI** - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *Our thoughts are with you all as we mourn Beppe's passing. Memories of her will pass through our minds often. She was so kind during my youth, and I will cherish that.*  
*Terry*

---

**Terry and Patti - Fenton, MI - friend** - March 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM