



## Julie Ann Walters Sooy

December 22, 1967 - August 30, 2024

Julie Ann Walters Sooy, 56, of Zeeland, passed away peacefully on Friday, August 30, 2024, surrounded by her family.

Julie was born December 22, 1967, in Zeeland, Michigan, to Jason & Rosella (Jager) Walters. She was raised in Zeeland and graduated from Zeeland Christian and Holland Christian Schools. Julie loved music and graduated from Bowling Green State University with a bachelor's degree in flute performance, music education, a German minor, and later a master's degree in music theory. Julie studied abroad for a year in Salzburg, Austria, and attended the Mozarteum. She became a music professor at Hope College where she taught flute performance, music theory, and world music. Julie invested much of her time at Hope College mentoring students. Julie was a longstanding member of the West Michigan Flute Orchestra eventually becoming the music director after her own personal flute instructor was no longer able. Julie was also influential in The National Flute Association. At their 2024 convention, Julie was selected to conduct the Opening and Closing Concerts.

Julie was patient, peaceful, and she loved nature. She was very active and enjoyed biking, walking, kayaking, birds, gardening, fixing puzzles, and she heard music in everything. Julie loved learning new bird calls and was profoundly punctual at having her bird feeders properly filled. Julie had an

explosive laugh that filled the room.

Julie wholeheartedly loved her Lord and her family. Julie married Eric Sooy in 1991, and they moved permanently from Ohio to West Michigan in 1997. They have three children: Trevor and Morgan Sooy, Meredith Sooy, Phoenix Sooy, as well as a first soon-to-arrive granddaughter that Julie desperately wanted to meet. She is also survived by her father Jason and Barb Walters, father-in-law Gordon Sooy, siblings: Del and Heidi Walters, Kevin and Stephanie Walters, Jan and Bob Drenten; in-laws: Brian and Lisa Sooy, Mark and Elisabeth Sooy, and many extended family and friends.

Julie was an indomitable spirit, laboring hard in putting her faith in practice by serving others. She was selfless and a force of positivity in every endeavor. Julie always took the burnt hamburger...

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 am, Thursday, September 5, 2024, at Hope Church (RCA), 77 W. 11th Street, Holland MI 49423. Visiting hours will be held 5:00-8:00 pm, Wednesday, at the Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th Street, Holland MI 49423. Private interment will be in Pilgrim Home Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Hope Church (RCA), West Michigan Flute Association, or Ottawa County Parks.

You can watch the memorial service livestream at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VwficVuohKI>

# Cemetery Details

## Pilgrim Home Cemetery

370 E. 16th St.  
Holland, MI 49423

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 4. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home  
315 E 16th St  
Holland, MI 49423-4213

## Memorial Service

SEP 5. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Hope Church  
77 West 11th Street  
Holland, MI 49423

# Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Julie Ann Walters Sooy*



**Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes** - September 04, 2024 at 09:45 AM

PM

*Paul and I are going to miss you but we are happy for you no more Pain no more Suffering and you're in Haven with God now because you are very such a good person glad to know you as a friend like family Peace and Comfort be with your Family always 🙏🙏🙏*

**Paul & Maggy** - September 04, 2024 at 08:41 PM



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Julie Ann Walters Sooy*



**Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes** - September 04, 2024 at 09:43 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.*



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September 11, 2024 at 06:58 AM



“ *Sarah M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.*

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**Sarah M.** - September 04, 2024 at 04:20 PM



“ *Just purchased a tree for Julie- she loved nature, and given my fond memories of kayaking with her, this just seemed best. Blessing and deepest condolences to all the Sooy family. - M. Linda Graham*

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**Mary Linda Graham** - September 04, 2024 at 01:12 PM



“ *Mary L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.*

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**Mary L.** - September 04, 2024 at 01:07 PM

BK

“ *Julie was my flute instructor at Hope College for several years. I learned so much and grew so much as a musician under her guidance. In the years since I have graduated, I think of her often when I'm preparing a piece to perform, or even just practicing. I was shocked and saddened to hear of her passing. My thoughts and prayers go out to her family, and especially her children.*

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**Beverly M Katt-Haycraft** - September 04, 2024 at 12:27 PM

TA

“ *Ted & PPP Amsterdam planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.*

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**Ted & PPP Amsterdam** - September 04, 2024 at 10:30 AM

TA

“ *Ted & PPP Amsterdam purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.*



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**Ted & PPP Amsterdam** - September 04, 2024 at 10:30 AM

TC

“ Julie - Thank you for your unconditional love, kindness and support shown to those around you, no matter the relationship or circumstances. May your spirit shine in the all the hearts you've moved and lives you've touched.



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**Tim & Nicole Church** - September 04, 2024 at 09:22 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.



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September 03, 2024 at 04:01 PM

SU

“ Sissy Finch & Madison Uildriks planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.

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**Sissy Finch & Madison Uildriks** - September 03, 2024 at 02:27 PM

SU

“ Sissy Finch & Madison Uildriks purchased the *Serene Retreat* for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.



Sissy Finch & Madison Uildriks - September 03, 2024 at 02:27 PM

HQ

“ Holland Quakers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.

Holland Quakers - September 03, 2024 at 02:13 PM

HQ

“ Holland Quakers purchased the *Fiery Lily and Rose* for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.



Holland Quakers - September 03, 2024 at 02:13 PM



“ Sentiments of *Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.



September 03, 2024 at 12:50 PM



“ *Glorious Grace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.*



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September 03, 2024 at 12:42 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.*



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September 03, 2024 at 10:17 AM



“ *Uncle Tom purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.*



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**Uncle Tom** - September 03, 2024 at 09:41 AM

OK

“ I am deeply saddened by the untimely demise of my colleague, Julie. Throughout our professional collaborations in assisting job seekers, Julie's compassion & perseverance were truly remarkable. Her genuine desire to help other was evident in every interaction, as she consistently went above and beyond to find perfect solutions for those in need. Her dedication and professional excellence will continue to inspire me and many others. May Julie find eternal peace and rest in the embrace of the almighty.



Oman Khanal - September 03, 2024 at 09:06 AM

LW

“ Julie was the Jager cousin closest to my age. We often spent a few days together during summer and Christmas vacations. Our families spent long weekends together at Mackinac Island, Tiger Baseball Games, Turkey Run State Park, we had great times camping, hiking and spending time together on these long weekend adventures. Our longstanding tradition was bowling on New Years Day! I'll miss her smile, laugh and bubbly personality. She was a blessing to everyone she met. Praying you find comfort knowing Julie is always only a memory away and God's comfort is a prayer away. Linda (Jager) Weaver



Linda Weaver - September 02, 2024 at 11:11 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.



September 02, 2024 at 06:13 PM



“ Larry & Gloria Hoekstra planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.

Larry & Gloria Hoekstra - September 02, 2024 at 03:49 PM



“ Larry & Gloria Hoekstra purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.



Larry & Gloria Hoekstra - September 02, 2024 at 03:49 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.



September 02, 2024 at 12:53 PM

TF

“ *The Lebanon CRC family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.*



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**The Lebanon CRC family** - September 02, 2024 at 09:59 AM

GM

“ *Grand Rapids Symphony Musicians purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.*



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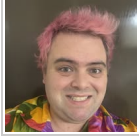
**Grand Rapids Symphony Musicians** - September 01, 2024 at 08:38 PM

MD

“ *Dear Uncle Jas and Aunt Barb, Sooy family and Walters family, My heart is with you today in your loss. I remember so well picking up Julie in Austria and taking her on a partial tour in Europe with my parents, my sister and our family. Such a delight! I know she will be greatly missed but her music lives on and continues today joining heaven's choirs! I am trusting that as you walk through this valley of the shadow of death you feel His presence with you each moment and fear no evil! He holds you in His arms. Love Marilyn Day*

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**Marilyn K. Day** - September 01, 2024 at 05:49 PM



“ Having grown up a West Michigan native playing in the WMFA high school flute choirs, I am incalculably indebted to Julie and her passionate kindness and welcoming attitude to all flutists. I'm not sure I would still be playing the flute today if it weren't for her important contributions. I will forever treasure the days we shared at the NFA convention 2024 in San Antonio, Texas.

Henry Bransdorfer - August 31, 2024 at 09:40 PM



“ I was privileged to play in WMFA with Julie as director. Julie was a blessing to everyone. Our loss is Heaven's gain.

Ruth Corrie - August 31, 2024 at 08:18 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Julie Ann Walters Sooy.



August 31, 2024 at 08:01 PM



“ I will forever see Julie in my mind as she directed the closing flute choir at NFA. Her pure happiness was so obvious to all. I pray for her and her family and friends who will forever grieve her passing. I pray God's abundant grace will comfort those who mourn. I also hope she appears in dreams soon letting you know she is still with you.

Kim Hart - August 31, 2024 at 06:30 PM

BS

“ I met Juli at Hope church. My husband and I are in the choir. She was playing the Flute for a service and I was sitting next to her, so I asked her how she chose that instrument. She said her cousin played it and it was handed down to her. She had so many friends and will be missed by all.  
Barb and Dave.

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**Barb and Dave Schmitt** - August 31, 2024 at 04:48 PM