



Marianne J. Tarr

February 16, 1927 - April 30, 2025

Marianne J. Tarr, 98, of Zeeland, Michigan, passed away on Wednesday, April 30, at her home at the Royal Atrium Inn.

Marianne was born in Monchengladbach, Germany, on February 16, 1927. During her adolescent years, her life was greatly affected by World War II, during which she endured many hardships. Her life took an unexpected turn when she met her husband Edward Tarr, a British soldier who was stationed in her hometown of Neersen, Germany, at the war's end. A courtship ensued and she moved to Weston-Super-Mare, England, and the two were married on December 30, 1947.

Marianne and Ed lived a full life in Weston-Super-Mare and enjoyed the companionship of Ed's family and many friends. While there, Marianne taught herself English (with Ed's help) and took the initiative to search for a job on her own. As she was a trained seamstress, she found a job at a dress shop in town. She eventually became a supervisor and continued to enjoy sewing and fashion throughout her lifetime.

In 1972, Ed and Marianne took another leap of faith and moved to Zeeland, Michigan, to be near Marlies and Jack H. DeWitt, her sister and brother-in-law, and their young family. Their mother Sabine G. Totten also arrived in Zeeland, and the family was reunited. Marianne and Ed were active in the upbringing

and daily lives of Jack and Mariles' children - Tom, Sabina, and John.

While in Michigan, Marianne pursued many interests and was gifted in gardening/tending to her flowers, sewing, knitting and crocheting. She also took classes in ceramics. She was a member of Second Reformed Church and participated in the knitting club. Over the years she made hundreds of baby blankets for friends and family in West Michigan. A big moment for Marianne was becoming a U.S citizen after Ed's death in 2005.

Wherever they went, Marianne and Ed created a wonderful circle of friends. Marianne was a gifted hostess and cooked delicious meals in her small kitchen. She loved visits and conversation and hosted countless people for coffee or tea at her home. Their greatest joy was spending time at their cottage in Croton with many other European couples who lived through the war and somehow ended up in West Michigan.

Marianne was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Edward W.H. Tarr and her parents Franz and Sabine Totten, her brother-in-law and sister-in-law Kenneth and Pat Tarr, and brother-in-law Jack H. DeWitt. She is survived by her sister Marlies DeWitt, her nephew Thomas (April) DeWitt, niece Sabina DeWitt Otteman (Andy), and nephew John DeWitt, all of Zeeland. She is also survived by great nephews and nieces: Jacob DeWitt, Warren DeWitt, Monika (Scott) Binder, Alex DeWitt, Jeffrey DeWitt, Christian Otteman and fiancée Zoe Rice, CJ (Makayla) Otteman, and Marlies Otteman and fiancé Ben Adamson. Family in

England include niece Linda (Rob) Hopkins and family and nephew Michael Tarr and family. Marianne is also survived by extended family in Germany and many friends.

Services will be 2:00 PM, Monday, May 12, 2025, at Second Reformed

Church of Zeeland, 225 E. Central Ave., Zeeland MI 49464, with visitation beginning at 1 pm prior to the service. A time of fellowship will be held after the service with committal following at Zeeland Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to Second Reformed Church, Building Fund.

The family would like to thank Royal Park Place and Royal Atrium Inn, as well as Corewell Health Zeeland Hospital and Hospice of Holland for their care of Marianne. Also a special thank you to Linda Hopkins, her niece in England, for her many calls to Marianne over the years.

For those wishing to watch a livestream of the service, please go to:
<https://bit.ly/tarr051225>

Arrangements by the Yntema Funeral Home, 251 S. State Street, Zeeland MI 49464.

www.yntemafh.com

Cemetery Details

Zeeland Cemetery (Original Cemetery)

220 East Lincoln Avenue
Zeeland, MI 49464

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 12. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Second Reformed Church of Zeeland
225 E. Central Ave.
Zeeland, MI 49464

Service

MAY 12. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM (ET)

Second Reformed Church Of Zeeland
225 E. Central Ave.
Zeeland, MI 49464

Tribute Wall

KF

“Cups of tea, blueberry cake, cuckoo clock, talking about England. Benjamin, Thomas and Jonathon riding in the hearse with Uncle Ed. Visiting Croton with their friends. Best neighbors and adopted grandparents.”

Kathryn & Kent Le Febre - May 12, 2025 at 01:29 AM

KJ

“Kathryn, Kent, Benjamin, Thomas & Jon purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Marianne J. Tarr.”



Kathryn, Kent, Benjamin, Thomas & Jon - May 12, 2025 at 01:23 AM

CN

“I am so grateful to have known Marianne during her years at Royal Park and Royal Atrium - I thoroughly enjoyed every visit with her and loved hearing her stories from life in Germany, England and America. She lived an incredible life and shared so much joy. She was always concerned for me and my family as well. I know these last several months had many challenges and yet Marianne always looked so beautiful to me and had such a pleasant and polite disposition. I miss her very much but rejoice in her healing and being reunited with loved ones who've gone before. My sympathies and prayers are with Marianne's loved ones. Sincerely, Chaplain Cindy Nyhoff”

Cindy Nyhoff - May 07, 2025 at 08:10 PM

NR

“ You only had to meet Marianne once to be best friends. A friendlier person I have never met! My sincere sympathy to her family and many, many friends. Nancy

Nancy Rebhan - May 07, 2025 at 03:08 PM

JS

“ Jenny and John, your god son purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Marianne J. Tarr.



Jenny and John, your god son - May 06, 2025 at 03:21 AM

AF

“ Such a wonderful lady. I so enjoyed visiting with her as she shared interesting stories of her life over a cup of tea. I'm glad I got to know her!
My sincere sympathy to Marlies and the entire family.
Char VanBeek

A friend - May 05, 2025 at 03:40 PM