



## Mary Lohr Haab

July 12, 1937 - February 8, 2017

Mary Haab, born July 13, 1937, passed peacefully on February 8, 2017. She was preceded in death by parents Arnold and Marie Lindeman and is survived by husband Peter Haab; sister Anne Heaphy (William); children Julie Miller (Robert), Eric Haab (Kim), and Brian Haab (Mary Jo). She is grandmother to 11 grandchildren. Mary was born in Detroit. She graduated from the University of Michigan in 1959 with high distinction (Phi Beta Kappa) and received a Master's in Medieval Studies from Western Michigan University. Mary was a beloved English and Literature teacher for 23 years at Portage Central High School, where she coached debate and forensics, and was inducted into the Michigan High School Debate Coach's Hall of Fame. Mary and Peter were married in 1959 and lived in Chicago before moving to Kalamazoo in 1967. In 1998, she and Peter retired to their cottage on Lake Michigan in Port Sheldon and spent winters in Vieques, Puerto Rico. She was a poet and historian, and researched and authored *In Association*, a history of the Port Sheldon Beach Association, her favorite place to be. Mary was loved for her creative mind, kindness, wide circle of friends, and her skill in organizing social events. A family service was held, with a memorial service being planned for this spring. Donations in Mary's honor may be made to Free@3 Concert Series ([freeat3.weebly.com](http://freeat3.weebly.com)) or Hospice of Holland. The family is being served by Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th St. Holland.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Lohr Haab*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"Mary was an inspiration in the community of debate coaches. Her debate program was competitive while remaining educationally sound and known for its integrity."*

**John Lawson** - February 03, 2020 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Mrs. Haab was a powerful and positive influence for so many of us through her teaching. She will be missed! She was a swinger of birches (Robert Frost)."*

**Alison Schlang** - February 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Mary was always such a positive force with so many sterling qualities. I am grateful she encouraged me to go back to school in my late forties, for she believed it was never too late in the day for education, of course-!"*

**Marcia Hansen Danemayer** - February 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *"My condolences to Mrs. Haab's family. I was a student of hers in the 80s and loved her classes. She was a top notch teacher who made an strong, positive impression on me & many others. She will be missed."*

**Karin Milko** - February 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BM

“So heartbreaking. Mrs. Haab was the best! Being a teachers-aide for her in highschool was truly one of my rare highlights. She was both an inspirational teacher and a wonderful person. My thoughts and prayers to her family, friends and the many people who she touched with her inspiration and amazing spirit.”

Byron Dez Mandigo - February 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HH

“My deepest sympathies to the family. Sadly, another teacher from “the greatest generation” of teachers has left us. Your legacy will live forever in the hearts and minds of all your former students.”

Henryk Hawran - February 13, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AF

“My deepest sympathies to the family. Another teacher from “the greatest generation” of teachers has left us. Your legacy will live forever in the hearts and minds of all your former students.”

A friend - February 13, 2017 at 12:00 AM

KA

“Mrs Haab was my favorite HS teacher. She was so smart and inspirational I nominated her for best teacher when I was in WMU honors program and was blessed to get to tell her she was my fave at the reception. So sorry for your loss.”

Karri - February 13, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AF

“Hello Pete:I am sorry to hear about Mary and want to send my condolences to you and your Family. Dan Bitzer and First National Bank of Michigan.”

A friend - February 13, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AZ

“*Dear Haab Family, We are deeply saddened to hear of Mary's passing. She was a wonderful, elegant woman who added so much to so many. Her presence within the Port Sheldon Beach Association will never be forgotten and will be part of an enduring legacy. Our most sincere condolences to Pete and family, Love, Suzanne & Al Zahn*”

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**Al Zahn** - February 12, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HB

“*Mrs. Haab will be deeply missed. Her legacy of teaching and her steadfast belief in each students' potential continues through all of us.*”

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**Heidi Rettke Bischoff** - February 12, 2017 at 12:00 AM

KA

“*Mrs. Haab was one of the best teachers I had... funny and smart and deeply involved with students. What a blessing to have been one of the many students she touched. My sympathies to her family.*”

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**Kate** - February 12, 2017 at 12:00 AM