



Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman

April 6, 1941 - October 15, 2025

Judy M. Wakeman
Wixom Lake and
Saginaw, Michigan

Loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend to many was called home to her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at MyMichigan Medical Center with her family at her side. Age 84 years.

Judy May Satchell was born on April 6, 1941, at home on the family farm in Frankenmuth, Michigan to the late Nelson David and Margaret Elvina (Korbein) Satchell. Judy met the love of her life, Harold C. Wakeman, while working as the popcorn girl at the Wakeman family theatre, the Ken Theatre, in Frankenmuth. The two were married on June 13, 1959, in Birch Run, Michigan. Together they purchased the former Gugel Funeral Home in Saginaw in 1965, then selling Wakeman Funeral Home to their sons in 1999. After 48 years of marriage, Harold predeceased her on March 17, 2008, in Sarasota, Florida.

Raised on the family farm, Judy loved her animals, especially her horse, Star, and later her house cat, Daisy, who was her companion after Harold's passing.

Judy was the consummate homemaker and mother. She fiercely loved and provided for her family as a trusted and loving wife to Harold, and caretaker for their five children. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were on the receiving end of her greatest love. She enjoyed fishing on Wixom Lake, playing Yahtzee, coloring, watching Western TV shows so long as she could figure out the remote control, shopping, and never missed a sporting event of her Michigan and Florida kids and grandkids. She was known among her family and friends for her outstanding cooking and baking. She loved to can tomatoes to hand out to her family, and baked several pounds of homemade Christmas cookies that were delivered to many local parochial grade school teachers and pastors over the years. Whether she prepared dinners for five people or 30, she always made enough for twenty more, which her grandkids and neighbors got to enjoy "Judy's Kitchen." Judy and Harold shared time between their cottage on Wixom Lake and their home in Florida. She enjoyed her coffees with her restaurant friends at the lake.

She and Harold became close friends with countless families wherever they went. The Warren and Marilyn Wood family, formerly of Saginaw, and the Bob and Diana Walker family of Florida became their exceptionally close extended families.

Judy was a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, and cherished her shut-in visits with her pastor, the Rev. Kurt Brandon. She and Harold were one of the "first families" to help start Valley Lutheran High School in 1977.

Surviving are four children and their spouses, Brian Wakeman, Tracy (Bob) Patterson, Rodney (Johanna) Wakeman, and Melanie (Mike) Beall, all of Saginaw; nine grandchildren, Bryce (Megan) Wakeman, Madison (Trevor) Jenks, Meredith (Luke) Luedeman, Brandon Wakeman (Genevieve), Keaton Schotts (Samantha), Taylor (MSG. Greg) Estrada, Kayla (Matt) Wittig, and Cade and Dylan Beall; 10 great-grandchildren, Brant, Jayde, Layne, and

Brynn Wakeman, Maletta and Rhys Jenks, Lawrence Luedeman, Lulu Schotts, Liam Estrada, and Ellie Wittig; her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Dale and Sue Wakeman; several nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

She was predeceased by a daughter, Toni, sister and brother-in-law, Beverly and Russell Ross, and brother and sister-in-law, James and Bernice Satchell.

The family would like to thank her medical team, longtime physician, Dr. Bhrama Savrepalli, MD for her extraordinary care of Judy over the years, and Dr. Arup Sarkar, MD and the incredible 4th Floor North staff at MyMichigan Medical Center, all who went out of their way to help keep Judy comfortable in her final days.

Funeral service will take place 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 18, 2025, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church 600 Court St., Saginaw. The Rev. Kurt Brandon will officiate with private burial in Holy Cross Lutheran Cemetery. Friends are welcome to visit with the family at the Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc. 1218 N. Michigan Ave. on Thursday from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., on Friday from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. and then at the church on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. Memorials may be given to the Valley Lutheran High School Foundation -- Harold and Judy Wakeman Scholarship Fund or Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

The funeral for Judy Wakeman can be viewed live or delayed recording on the Holy Cross Lutheran Church YouTube Channel at <https://m.youtube.com/@holycrosslutheranchurch-sa5348>

Cemetery Details

Holy Cross Lutheran Cemetery

4700 Brockway Rd.
Saginaw, MI 48638

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 16. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc.
1218 N. Michigan Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48602
(989) 752-8531
wakemanfh@charter.net

Visitation

OCT 17. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc.
1218 N. Michigan Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48602
(989) 752-8531
wakemanfh@charter.net

Visitation

OCT 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
600 Court St.
Saginaw, MI 48602

Funeral Service

OCT 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
600 Court St.
Saginaw, MI 48602

Private Committal Service

OCT 18 (ET)

Holy Cross Lutheran Cemetery
4700 Brockway Rd.
Saginaw, MI 48638

Tribute Wall

MT

“ *Brian, Rodney and Wakeman family; I've read that our children are a reflection of the parents. I didn't know your mom, but judging how her children treat people, she was obviously one very special lady. Sincere condolences to you and all your family. Mary Tompkins (Michigan Tri City Nurse Honor Guard)*

mary tompkins - October 24, 2025 at 03:36 AM

ET

“ *So sorry to hear of the passing of your beloved mother. We have many fond memories of her dining at Zestos and at fuzzies may her memory be eternal. She was a wonderful woman.*

Elaine Tambouridis - October 20, 2025 at 06:43 PM

FJ

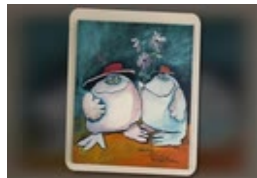
“ *Dear Wakeman family, Our deepest condolences on Judy's passing. We will remember Judy and Harold fondly. Our prayers are with you during this difficult time. May the eternal light of Christ shine upon her. RIP Judy.*



Frank & Jeanice Jastrzebowski - October 18, 2025 at 10:15 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Rodney Wakeman - October 18, 2025 at 07:55 AM

TK

Thank you for sharing this, my deepest thoughts are with your family. Your mom was one of the best! May your family feel peace. Love you all.

Toni krueger - October 20, 2025 at 08:03 PM

FG

“ Brian and the Wakeman family, so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. Judy and Harold raised an incredible family, and their business which you now run brought comfort to so many families. God's peace.

Fred Geuder - October 17, 2025 at 12:32 PM

TF

“ The Jensen & Vatter Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.

The Jensen & Vatter Families - October 17, 2025 at 11:00 AM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



October 17, 2025 at 11:00 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



October 17, 2025 at 10:35 AM



“ *Anne (McDevitt) Kish & Michael McDevitt* purchased the *Enchanted Cottage* for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



Anne (McDevitt) Kish & Michael McDevitt - October 16, 2025 at 10:42 PM



“ *Robin, Bj, Brittany and Kaihla Szunko* planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.

Robin, Bj, Brittany and Kaihla Szunko - October 16, 2025 at 09:54 PM



“ *Robin, Bj, Brittany and Kaihla Szunko* purchased the *Heavenly and Harmony* for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



Robin, Bj, Brittany and Kaihla Szunko - October 16, 2025 at 09:54 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



October 16, 2025 at 06:06 PM



“ Hey Melanie,

All of us clowns in the Valley Lutheran Class of '86 just lost one of our adopted mothers 😊. What a great lady. Condolences to the whole Wakeman family. God was showing off when He gave your Mom to this world. Peace & Love to you all.

Bill DeLong

Bill DeLong - October 16, 2025 at 03:10 PM



“ Big mac purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



Big mac - October 16, 2025 at 02:43 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



October 16, 2025 at 02:39 PM

KB

“ Kimiko B. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.

Kimiko B. - October 16, 2025 at 11:51 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



October 16, 2025 at 11:34 AM

BK

“ Ben, Michelle, Matt, Laura Beall & Kids planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.

Ben, Michelle, Matt, Laura Beall & Kids - October 16, 2025 at 11:04 AM

BK

“ Ben, Michelle, Matt, Laura Beall & Kids purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



Ben, Michelle, Matt, Laura Beall & Kids - October 16, 2025 at 11:04 AM

KR

“ *Kathy & Jim, Bill & Deb & Rusty purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.*



Kathy & Jim, Bill & Deb & Rusty - October 16, 2025 at 11:02 AM

RF

“ *Sorry for your loss*

Rezler Family - October 16, 2025 at 10:00 AM

KB

“ *Brian, Rodney and Wakeman family, we are so sorry for your loss. Moms are angels here on earth. May God's comforting embrace hold you all during this time. Jim and Kathy Bocade*



Kathy Bocade - October 16, 2025 at 09:02 AM

RW

“ *Randy & Sherry Wyman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.*

Randy & Sherry Wyman - October 15, 2025 at 06:42 PM

RW

“ Randy & Sherry Wyman purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



Randy & Sherry Wyman - October 15, 2025 at 06:42 PM

DM

“ So sorry for your loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.
Al & Deb McGregor

Debra McGregor - October 15, 2025 at 06:21 PM

EW

“ Dear Rodney and family,

*Please accept our condolences on the loss of the family matriarch.
May God guide you in your grief and bless you in your bereavement.*

Eugene and Lois Wagner - October 15, 2025 at 06:04 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



October 15, 2025 at 05:18 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



October 15, 2025 at 04:40 PM



“ Love , Dan & Karen McDonald & Family purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



Love , Dan & Karen McDonald & Family - October 15, 2025 at 04:35 PM



“ The entire Sharon Weber Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.



The entire Sharon Weber Family - October 15, 2025 at 03:50 PM



“ The entire Sharon Weber Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.

The entire Sharon Weber Family - October 15, 2025 at 03:50 PM

CM

“ Tracy, as your childhood friend, I was lucky to be on the receiving end of countless blessings from your mom — filled with love, laughter, and always great food. Whether at the lake, in Florida, or right here at home, I always felt welcomed like family. Your mom had a sense of humor that could light up any room — and let’s be honest, it was often a little colorful — which made every moment with her unforgettable.

Anyone who knew your parents saw a true love story, real family values, and a dinner table where everyone had a place. I’ll always be grateful for the laughter, the warmth, and the memories your mom gave me. She’ll be deeply missed but always remembered with a smile... and probably a laugh, too.

And to Brian, Rodney, and Melanie — thank you for sharing your folks with the rest of us. My deepest condolences to all of you.

— Moe

Craig Mohland - October 15, 2025 at 02:45 PM

JL

“ Knew the Judy from Valley Lutheran. Then was able to see them both in Sarasota in the park where my dad and I had a home. So sorry for your lose and she was a wonderful person just like her husband.

Jean Luoma - October 15, 2025 at 12:45 PM

RS

“ Romanow Building Services planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.

Romanow Building Services - October 15, 2025 at 12:15 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.*



October 15, 2025 at 12:15 PM



“ *Ringley Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.*



Ringley Family - October 15, 2025 at 11:48 AM



“ *Ringley Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Judy M. Wakeman.*

Ringley Family - October 15, 2025 at 11:48 AM



“ *I send my sympathy to all of you. It is hard to lose a loved one. My memory of Judy was when we visited them at Wixom Lake and I believe Brian it was you that took us for a boat ride on the lake. And yes Judy had tomato sauce cooking.*
Loris Sherwood

loris sherwood - October 15, 2025 at 11:43 AM

JB

“ Joe and Ellen Bannerman and family send our deepest condolences. She would always laugh at my jokes no matter how corny they were. Her and Harold together were a hoot and always welcomed us when visiting their cottage and home in Florida. Ellen and I also enjoyed you kids (adults now) and we enjoyed your company when we visited. If you have a chance Willie Nelson has an appropriate song “you won’t get over this but you will get through it”. Love to all in your time of need.

Joe Bannerman - October 15, 2025 at 11:26 AM