



## Mrs. Mary Lou Roekle

December 17, 1931 - September 3, 2014

Roekle, Mrs. Mary Lou,  
Saginaw, Michigan

Passed away on Wednesday, September 3, 2014, at Covenant Medical Center – Harrison. Age 82 years. Mary Lou Harvie was born on December 17, 1931, in Saginaw to the late Dr. Lloyd C. and Delta (Anderson) Harvie. She was married to Victor A. Roekle on June 17, 1960, in Saginaw. He survives her. Prior to her retirement, she was employed as a teacher for over 10 years. She was a member of Saginaw Farm and Garden Club and MSU Alumni Assoc.

Surviving besides her husband, Victor, are one son and one daughter, Thomas (Jodi) Roekle and Gretchen M. Roekle, two granddaughters, Jade (Joel) Bahr and Quinn Roekle; a number of nieces, nephews and dear friends. She was predeceased by a brother, John (Jack) Harvie.

Memorial service will take place 11:00 a.m. Saturday, September 6, 2014, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 808 Weiss St. The Rev. Charles F. Buckhahn will officiate. Private burial will be in Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery at a later time. Friends are welcome to visit with the family at the Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc., 1218 N. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, on Friday from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., then at the church on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of memorial service.

Memorials may be given to Valley Lutheran High School. Memories and sympathies of Mary Lou may be shared with the family on her memorial website at [WakemanFuneralHome.com](http://WakemanFuneralHome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery

3356 Hermansau Road  
Saginaw, MI 48603

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 5. 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

SEP 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
808 Weiss St.  
Saginaw, MI 48602

## Memorial Service

SEP 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
808 Weiss St.  
Saginaw, MI 48602



# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Mary Lou Roekle*

September 13, 2022 at 05:01 PM



“ *Mrs. Mary Lou Roekle*

September 13, 2022 at 02:27 PM



“ *Dear Vic, Tom, Gretchen and families,  
we have so many wonderful memories of Mary Lou! I loved her way  
of being the resource for everyone, connecting us to what's  
happening on the beach with folks while we were away, her  
wonderful laugh, her "water walks" back and forth from her dock to  
ours. I remember baby-sitting Gretchen and Tom when they were  
small, when Mary Lou would float Gretchen in her little basket with  
the innertube, playing board games and cards in the cottage on  
rainy days. Our family extends our sincere sympathies and love to  
you all She will be missed but is already holding God's hand in  
heaven.*

*love and prayers  
Wendy & Walt Brimley*

wendy brimley - September 28, 2014 at 12:37 PM

DK

“ What can I say? There are so many memories of happy times with her – driving up north and grandma car (a Delta 88) blew up and we sat on the side of a river waiting for it to get fixed, waking up one winter morning to find the onions frozen and we could see our breath so we lay there under our sleeping bags giggling and deciding who had to get up to relight the fire, and going down the river from the Lake in the paddle boat and when Kenny took it out for us we found out it had been filled with water the whole time (no wonder it paddled so hard). Blind River, the colour red, Michigan State, trees, humming birds, her flute, singing, choir, dogs, flowers, birds, potato and macaroni salad, red wine, her memory of people’s names, listener and problem-solver, resistant to change !, etc. etc. etc. I loved her lots and she was a great God-fearing lady and auntie. God bless, Diane Kennedy

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**Diane Kennedy** - September 07, 2014 at 04:51 PM

SA

“ Mary Lou was the coolest Mom ever. Tom and Gretchen, thank you for being my little pals and letting me hang out with you and your Mom.  
Scott Anderson

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**Scott Anderson** - September 06, 2014 at 10:54 AM

TC

“ My theory about Mary Lou - being a doctor's daughter she was trained in the spiritual practice of confidentiality, later becoming confidante to many, including myself from the teen years on. Such practice requires an abundance of compassion. Through compassion we feel loved when we are in the presence of that person.

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**Tim Christilaw** - September 05, 2014 at 07:48 PM

DI

*This is an excellent description. Thanks Tim.*

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**Diane** - September 07, 2014 at 10:10 PM

RC

“ *Mary Lou was a true friend over the years - very generous and hospitable to anyone alone or lonely - her hospitality reached out to so many. You always remembered Mary Lou for the great person she was. Our family loved her.*

*Ruth Christilaw*

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**Ruth Christilaw** - September 05, 2014 at 07:45 PM

JM

“ *My sympathy for the Roekle family upon your loss. I remember Mary Lou's lovely smile and hearty laugh.*

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**Jean Moore** - September 05, 2014 at 07:01 PM

CS

“ *I will never forget that Mary Lou made sure I had a family in Michigan by sharing her Sunday dinners. Love to the whole Roekle family, Candice and James*

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**Candice Saleska** - September 05, 2014 at 05:54 PM

TS

“ Gretchen, Tom, Mr Roekle...

*Very sorry to hear of Mary Lou's passing. Her constant presence at the kitchen table in your cottage was one I could always count on to make me smile as I walked up your lane and, as she looked up through the window in front of that table, was greeted with a very friendly "Well, look at that!". While my visits to Blind River have been relatively infrequent over the past several years I am very sad that I will no longer have the opportunity to enjoy that greeting or my conversations with her again, but am nonetheless grateful for her constant, welcoming smile over the many years I was fortunate enough to receive it.*

*Trevor Shamas*

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**Trevor Shamas** - September 05, 2014 at 04:13 PM

TK

“ Tracie, Ron and Riebschleger kids purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Mrs. Mary Lou Roekle.



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**Tracie, Ron and Riebschleger kids** - September 05, 2014 at 11:54 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Mary Lou Roekle.



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September 05, 2014 at 08:48 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Mary Lou Roekle.*



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September 05, 2014 at 08:05 AM



“ *Vic, Gretchen & Tom  
Aunt Mary Lou as she was always called in my family will be missed greatly. She was my mothers best friend and she has always meant a lot to me. Where ever she was we always felt welcome. There is not enough room on this page to tell of all the good times we have had with her. She will always be remembered as a first class lady in my family. We will be thinking of you,all in this difficult time.*

*Danny Dagley & Family*

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**Danny Dagley** - September 04, 2014 at 09:59 PM



“ *Uncle Vic, Tom & Gretchen:  
Aunt Mary Lou was a fun person to be around and was always so gracious. I can remember much laughter and many fond memories of her at Roekle Family gatherings. May the God of all peace comfort you and your family during this time of earthly loss, but heavenly gain. May we all look forward to our eternal home with The Lord. God bless, Cousin Dave and Lucy Roekle*

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**Dave Roekle** - September 04, 2014 at 05:58 PM

DS

“ Dear Tom and Jodi, Vic, Gretchen and Family- Ron and I were deeply saddened to learn of Mary Lou's passing. I know that she holds a special place in Ron's memories of his childhood and growing up on the lake. May your fond memories of her comfort you all in this difficult time. Please know that we are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.

*With Deepest Sympathy, Diann, Ron, RJ and Maridith Smith*

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**Diann Smith** - September 04, 2014 at 04:07 PM

PN

“ Patsy N. purchased the Blooming Garden Basket for the family of Mrs. Mary Lou Roekle.



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**Patsy N.** - September 04, 2014 at 01:15 PM

KH

“ Vic, Tom, Gretchen and family - Jim and I are so sad to hear of Mary Lou's passing. She was so kind to me when I first met her when she invited Jim and I to dinner at your home. She continued to always make me feel like a part of the family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all....she truly blessed my life in the short time I knew her....I can't imagine what a loss it is for all of you. But the memories you have will guide you through. God's Blessings! Love to you - Jim Webb and Kim Hervert, Denver, Colorado

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**Kim Hervert** - September 04, 2014 at 12:00 PM

SU

“ Dear Uncle Vic, Tom, and Gretchen,  
Please know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers. This is one of the times when living far away from family really stinks. But I hope you know that Dan and I loved Aunt Mary Lou very much and she will be missed.

I have a lot of good memories that starts from when I was a child coming to MI for a visit all the way to going to Blind River as an adult. I have one to share that still makes me laugh. It was probably more funny if you were there but Joshua was just a baby and your mom put a crib for him in the bedroom. This was in Canada. We put him down to sleep and we were all having fun. Somehow the bedroom door got jammed and we couldn't open the door. We were making noise trying to open the door and Joshua didn't wake up. Diane, Aunt Marilyn, and I were freaking out because Joshua wasn't waking up. We even started crying because we thought something was wrong. We were ready to break a window or knock down the door! Your mom was calm as a cucumber and calmly jiggled the door handle and got the door open and Joshua was sound asleep through everything! We laughed at ourselves afterwards. So many more memories there is no way to write them all down.

Thinking of you and wishing you peace and comfort as you remember Aunt Mary Lou.

Love and ((HUGS)) to all.

Suzie Roekle Rilko

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Suzie - September 04, 2014 at 08:12 AM

CO

“ Dear Vic, Tom and Gretchen,

*My deepest sympathies to you and your family on Mary Lou's passing. Like Rhonda and Russell, I have so many memories of her. She was a very special lady!*

*Mom also wanted to let you know that she is thinking of you all and that you are in her prayers.*

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**Carolyn Oatman-Rouillard** - September 04, 2014 at 07:12 AM

DR

“ *Mary Lou was one of a kind and we will miss her!*

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**Dan Rilko** - September 03, 2014 at 10:06 PM

RK

“ *Dear Vic, Tom, and Gretchen,  
Mary Lou was a truly wonderful, wonderful woman! She will always hold a special place in my heart. I have so many wonderful memories of her over the years. Her warmth and kindness will never be forgotten.*

*Please know that I am thinking of you and that I am truly sorry for your loss.*

*Rhonda (Oatman) Kirby*

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**Rhonda Kirby** - September 03, 2014 at 06:48 PM

NB

“ *To the Roekle family,*

*Dad and I are truly sorry for your loss. We know she will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with you all.*

*James and Nancy Baird*

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**nancy baird** - September 03, 2014 at 05:34 PM

RO

“ Dear Victor, Tom and Gretchen

*Words can't begin to describe how sad I am at the loss of Mary Lou. There are so many happy memories from my childhood of spending time with all of you at the lake that I don't even know where to start in sharing them. All I can say is that Big Mary Lou truly touched my heart, that she was an amazing woman and that the world is a sadder place without her. She will be dearly missed but she will never be forgotten.*

*So in your time of sorrow, take peace in knowing that she touched and affected so many lives.*

*Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with each one of you and the rest of your family.*

*With love,*

*Russell (Rusty) Oatman*

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**Russell Oatman** - September 03, 2014 at 01:44 PM

DR

*So true!*

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**Dan Rilko** - September 03, 2014 at 10:14 PM

SB

*Mrs. Roekle was my second grade teacher at Fuerbringer School in Saginaw and we all loved her so much! She was the only really young teacher we had all through elementary and we adored her. I am so sorry to hear of her passing and wanted to let her family know she was a wonderful teacher who will be remembered with many fond memories.*

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**Sue Bartlett** - October 30, 2014 at 12:56 PM

LQ

*Dear Vic, Tom and Gretchen:*

*I hope at some point in time you will be able to read this. I find it very difficult to find words to express my sorrow. Mary Lou was like a mother to me. I have only loving memories of her. I was very fortunate to have Mary Lou as my kindergarten and first grade teacher. She remained a family friend forever. My mother made her wedding dress. I spent many summers in Blind River having a blast and helping take care of you kids. Mary Lou will remain in my heart forever. I wish all of you peace and loving and fond memories of a truly wonderful individual.*

*Forever in my heart with love,  
Lynn Larsen Quintero*

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**lynn larsen quintero** - August 09, 2015 at 04:42 PM

GA

*Dear Vic, Tom & Gretch*

*I am very sad to have come across your massive loss. The short time I met Mary Lou was very special and believe she will truly be missed - especially her fun, bubbling & loving personality. You are a very special family and I was very blessed to have met you all. May God be in your hearts over these difficult times. You will be in my prayers.*

*Lots of love*

*Gavin Shaw*

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**gavin** - January 06, 2016 at 01:33 PM