



Pat Van Oort

August 11, 1942 - September 2, 2023

Christian, wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, teacher, friend, giver: such was Pat Van Oort. Her combination of values, titles, and skills led to her changing a multitude of lives for, not the better, but the best—to beam with joy, swell with pride, giggle with laughter. Pat (Shannon) Van Oort, Mrs. V, Nana, Aunt Pat, Mom. Regardless the title of the moment, Pat was Pat—peaceful, impishly witty, intellectually penetrating and aware—all the while absorbed in the lives of whomever she encountered, such as back in the day frequently taking her gaggle of young grandchildren and their friends to Four Queens, CVS, or McDonalds after school. It was all about her students as teacher, her grandchildren as grandmother, her children as mother, her husband as wife, her Savior as Christian.

Born in Mason City, Iowa August 11, 1942 to Harriet and Stratton J. Shannon, Pat attended St. Pat's School, graduated from Cedar Falls in 1960, married Larry Van Oort at St. Patrick's Catholic Church on August 17, 1963. They both graduated from UNI in June 1964. Together, they had three children, Tony, Ann (Brad Remmert), and Stratton (Lindsey Olson) and seven grandchildren: Josie Johnson, Calli (Daniel) Martinson, Katie Remmert, William Remmert, Stratton Joe Van Oort, Andi Page Van Oort, and Cooper Van Oort.

Her long-time 5th grade teaching career began in 1964 at Main Street Elementary with many years at Hansen Elementary. Pat became the most

creative, innovative, motivating, sharing, fun teacher such that students later returned from junior high to visit and even later inviting her to their high school graduations. They, indeed, were fortunate having her, not just then, but lifelong. They still speak in awe of her magical teaching powers—the struggling were made strong, the strong were made stronger.

A consummate player of many roles throughout her life, everyone who knew her was the better for it. Surrounded by her family, such a spectacular life ended September 2, 2023 shortly after celebrating her 60th wedding anniversary—true to God, her husband, children, and friends. She is survived by sisters Jo Ann Laing (James) and Lynn Kimble (Tyon) and brother John Shannon (Amy) along with several nieces and nephews.

Services will be held at St. Stephen, the Witness, Catholic Student Center: Visitation and Vigil Service Thursday: 5:30 – 7:30; funeral mass Friday at 10:00 a. m.

Memorials may be sent to St. Stephen, the Witness, Church and Cedar Valley Hospice.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 7. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

St. Stephen the Witness Student Center
1019 W 23rd Street
University of Northern Iowa Campus
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-9863
<http://ststephenuni.org>

Vigil

SEP 7. 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Stephen the Witness Student Center
1019 W 23rd Street
University of Northern Iowa Campus
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-9863
<http://ststephenuni.org>

Funeral Mass

SEP 8. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Stephen the Witness Student Center
1019 W 23rd Street
University of Northern Iowa Campus
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-9863
<http://ststephenuni.org>

Tribute Wall

MM

“ I go to SSW... Pat sat near me every Sunday. (In the senior citizen section)I asked her what they were doing for Thanksgiving one year ... her reply was everyone came to their house & she was looking forward to lots of dessert. A really lovely woman, with a special glow❤️. Mary and Jean Murphy



mary murphy - September 08, 2023 at 02:23 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Pat Van Oort.



September 07, 2023 at 02:08 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Pat Van Oort.



September 07, 2023 at 12:35 PM

JK

“ I asked for my daughter to have Pat and Mr. Jackson was kind enough to have her placed in her class. Her heart was always in her teaching both in the classroom and with family. She spent her life caring for children and all her family. May she rest in peace. A job well done.

Joan Kurt - September 07, 2023 at 11:47 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Pat Van Oort.



September 07, 2023 at 11:03 AM

BM

“ She was one of our daughter Sharon's favorite teacher. She got her to like to read and now Sharon is a teacher. You have our deepest sympathy.

Ralph and Barb Majerus

Barbara J Majerus - September 07, 2023 at 11:02 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pat Van Oort.



September 07, 2023 at 07:36 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pat Van Oort.



September 06, 2023 at 10:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Angie Rogerson - September 06, 2023 at 06:09 PM



“ I'm so sorry to hear this news. She was always known to me as "Patsy." She was someone you never could forget. Unfortunately due to life circumstances, I didn't see Patsy much as an adult but to know her was to love her and never forget her. Prayers to the Van Oort family, and especially to you, Larry. Love, Angie Stoko Dessner Rogerson.

Angie Rogerson - September 06, 2023 at 06:01 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pat Van Oort.



September 06, 2023 at 04:56 PM

RJ

“ So sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Roger Kittleson and Julie - September 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM