



Paula J. Bowersox

October 18, 1954 - December 19, 2022

Paula Jane Boyd Bowersox, 69, of Clarion, passed away on Monday, December 19, 2022 at West Penn Hospital in Pittsburgh following a recent illness.

She was born on October 18, 1953 in Oil City; daughter of the late Milton A. “Bud” and Patricia M. Richardson Boyd formerly of Leeper.

After graduating from North Clarion High School in 1971, Paula attended Clarion State College, graduating with a BA in English secondary education. She went on to obtain her Masters from Indiana University in PA.

Paula taught high school English for 9 years at Punxsutawney High School where she participated as girls track and cross-country coach and year book advisor. She was also active in the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees as secretary of the Clarion Chapter for the last many years.

Paula was an avid reader and a volunteer at the Clarion Library for over 30 years. She hosted two book-reading clubs at her home.

Paula and her husband, Bob, were serious travelers. They made a dozen western trips, covering all the western states and several Canadian Provinces. They also enjoyed Florida, New England, and New York’s Finger Lakes region. They took an Alaskan cruise and several other Caribbean cruises. She traveled twice to Europe, the second time with her husband on a month-long educational seminar, then went from England to Greece in meetings with numerous major multi-national corporations.

Paula was very active in spite of being a paraplegic for almost 40 years. She

swam miles and miles at the Clarion University pool. Paula did not hesitate to jump into one of her handicap-equipped cars and drive herself to appointments in Pittsburgh.

Family was important and she was a beloved aunt to numerous nieces, nephews, grand-nieces, and grand-nephews. After the passing of her parents, Paula took over the family tradition of major family gatherings, hosting both at Thanksgiving and Christmas for as many as 20 family members.

Paula is survived by her beloved husband, Robert "Bob" Bowersox of 40 years; her sisters, Judith Harris and her husband, Donald, and Elizabeth McCray; and a brother-in-law, Dick Bowersox and his wife, Jane; along with several nieces, nephews, and grand-nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and sister, Christine Krem, who passed away in 2014, she was preceded in death by her brothers-in-law, Barry Krem in 2010 and Thomas McCray in 2012.

The Robert V. Burns Funeral Home in Clarion is handling the arrangements. Per Paula's wishes, there will be no public visitation. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Interment will take place in the Tylersburg Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in Paula's honor to the Clarion Library, 644 Main Street, Clarion, PA 16214, the Lupus Foundation of America online at lupus.org, or to a local Ambulance Association of one's choice.

Cemetery Details

Tylersburg Cemetery

Tylersburg, PA

Tribute Wall

AG

“ *Mr. Bowersox- I'm so sorry to hear of the passing of your wife. Sending you love & light*

Andrea Girvan - December 29, 2022 at 04:09 PM

MH

“ *I have many fond memories visiting Paula and her sisters especially at Thanksgiving. The big house in Leeper was full of family, food, games, and best of all play time with Paula and the cousins. PopPop with his old Kodak would snap a great family picture like this one; I think this is my favorite. Rest, in peace, Paula...you will be missed.*



Mary Haney - December 26, 2022 at 03:59 PM

JH

“ *3 files added to the album Paula and Family Members*



Judy Harris - December 23, 2022 at 12:38 PM

SH

“ The matriarch of our family, Aunt Paula will be missed beyond words. I always looked forward to her guessing game for pennies and taking rides in her chair as a child and to her hospitality and warm conversations as an adult. Her memory will live on for many, many years in the recipes she shared, the family stockings she knitted, and her beautiful quilts with meticulous, one-of-a-kind patterns. My children have fond memories of playing at her house at the family gatherings she and Uncle Bob would host and the fun birthday cards filled with stories from their childhoods. Our hearts are heavy for Uncle Bob, as the love between them was as true as can be.

Sharon and Nate Harrington - December 22, 2022 at 04:14 PM

RA

“ Bob you have our deepest sympathy in the loss of your wife Paula. Words at times seem meaningless and hollow especially during early days of such a great loss, but memories of our love ones stay with us forever.
Patty and Ray AustinFamily

Ray and Patty Austinn - December 22, 2022 at 07:27 AM

TS

“ Coach Bowersox, I'm sorry to hear of your wife Paula passing. You are in our thoughts, please accept our deepest sympathy...

Tim & Bobbi Smith

Tim & Bobbi Smith - December 21, 2022 at 10:24 PM

KS

“ I have a million wonderful memories with Aunt Paula-watching Pollyanna every time we visited as kids, walking downtown to the ALF parade, rolling down the hill in her wheelchair, a hundred holiday meals. I hope to live as full a life as Aunt Paula, full of travel and independence. The Sikes family is heartbroken misses her already.

Katy Sikes - December 21, 2022 at 07:58 PM

JH

How did I get so lucky having such a great sister and friend for 69 years - what do they say about life being too short?! I'll miss the hours of fun in your kitchen cooking up recipes for dinner, wine in hand, and morning coffee recalling stories of our parents and growing up together in the Leeper house. I'll miss our hour-long phone conversations about everything and nothing - oh, for one more phone call just to hear the sound of your voice! I'm so sad there'll be no more visits and phone calls. But the time has come and now you so deserve a long and peaceful rest. You'll always be in my thoughts and in my heart, dear sister of mine. Love you always -

Judy

Judy Harris - December 22, 2022 at 12:30 PM

SH

“ A wonderful aunt. A beloved family member. One of the smartest people I've met. Always brought a warm energy and interesting conversation. Aunt Paula and Uncle Bob are just the best and always will be the classic timeless couple in my life. She will be missed.

Steve Harris - December 21, 2022 at 07:55 PM

DI

“ Paula was an awesome classmate. I came from St Michaels in ninth grade, so I shared only four high school years with her. She put a lot of effort into everything she did. We shared basketball and cheerleading together. I always admired her effort. I was diagnosed with lupus several years after her, and she was such a role model with her wonderful attitude of “I can do it”, even after she became paralyzed, nothing stopped her. I always felt I accepted having lupus with a positive attitude because she was such a great role model. RIP Paula, you now have your wings. Our Deepest sympathy to the family.

Dan and Lorie Irwin - December 20, 2022 at 10:38 PM

DM

“ To all of Paula’s family, I am so saddened to hear about her passing. We were best of friends in high school and kept in casual contact over the years. I will miss her and I know she will be missed by so many people. thinking of you in these days ahead. God bless you. Donna Seigworth Mushrush

donna mushrush - December 20, 2022 at 04:58 PM