



## Judith Margaret Franks

April 27, 1948 - January 8, 2021

Madison / Mineral Point - Judith M. Franks, age 72, of Madison passed away peacefully on Friday, January 8, 2021 at UW Hospital in Madison.

She was born in Dodgeville on April 27, 1948 the daughter of John and Ruth (Polkinghorn) Toay. She attended the Seven Oaks Country School and later graduated from Mineral Point High School in 1966. During her childhood, Judy enjoyed horseback riding, softball and starting water fights. She worked at Pendarvis in Mineral Point and St Joseph Hospital in Dodgeville. She later moved to Madison and worked at Oakwood Lutheran Home, Oak Park Place and for various Pharmacies until retiring and then worked with her husband in the cleaning business. Judy and Ralph also coached T-Ball for West Madison Special Olympics for four years. Judy also helped with the making of pasties at the First United Methodist Church in Mineral Point.

She married Ralph Franks on June 16, 1979 at Olbrich Gardens in Madison. She was active at her church, Bethany United Methodist Church in Madison, where she was a member of the Susanna Circle, helped with the landscaping and was on various committees. Judy loved the music of the Statler Brothers and she had a great interest in local history and many murder mysteries, including discussions on the [lizzieandrewborden.com](http://lizzieandrewborden.com) website forum.

Judy is survived by her husband of 41 years Ralph of Madison; her siblings

Spencer Toay, her twin Jerry Toay and Mary (Alan) Martin all of Mineral Point; several nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by her son Shawn on September 19, 2018 and her parents.

A Celebration of Judy's Life will be held on Sunday, July 25, 2021 from 3:00 until 5:00 p.m. at the Gorgen Funeral Home in Mineral Point with inurnment at Graceland Cemetery. A Memorial Service for Judy will be held on Monday, July 26, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at the Bethany Methodist Church in Madison, 3910 Mineral Point Rd. with a visitation from 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. A luncheon will follow at the church.

In lieu of flowers donations may be sent to the American Heart Association, American Diabetes Association or the Bethany United Methodist Church. Memorials may also be mailed to the Gorgen Funeral Home c/o Judy.

# Cemetery Details

## Graceland Cemetery

800 Fair Street  
Mineral Point, WI

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUL 25. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Gorgen Funeral Home  
310 Ridge Street  
Mineral Point, WI 53565  
(608) 987-3421  
gorgenfh@mhtc.net

## Visitation

JUL 26. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Bethany United Methodist Church  
3910 Mineral Point Rd.  
Madison, WI 53705

## Memorial Service

JUL 26. 2:00 PM (CT)

Bethany United Methodist Church  
3910 Mineral Point Rd.  
Madison, WI 53705



# Tribute Wall



“ *Judith Margaret Franks*

November 15, 2022 at 06:49 AM



“ *Judy, I miss you. "Third Place" will never be the same. I came to rely on your thoughtful observations and guidance. Ralph, my prayers and thoughts are with you. I wish peace to you. with Love, Deb Hall*

**Deborah Hall** - July 26, 2021 at 03:15 PM



“ *Crete-Ability Incorporated purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Judith Margaret Franks.*



**Crete-Ability Incorporated** - July 23, 2021 at 10:55 AM



“ *We will be forever grateful for the kindness you both shared to our parent group, even after Shawn's death. Judith had a beautiful smile that will be forever etched in our memory of the kindness she shared with others. Ralph, May the light of God's love embrace you during this difficult time!*

*Jane Shabtaie*

**Jane Shabtaie** - February 01, 2021 at 05:55 PM

ST

“ My prayers are with you, Ralph, and all the others so close to Judy. Although I never met her, we spent years communicating on the McCain ranch. She was always a delight to talk to! ❤️  
Stephanie (Duchess)

Stephanie - January 20, 2021 at 10:44 AM

DW

“ Judy,  
My sadness is great and my heart is sad. This world will miss that beautiful smile of yours and your kind heart. I will miss our hugs.

Ralph,  
My heart is with you; I can't imagine your pain. Let's try to picture Judy and Shawn looking down on you and teasing you.  
Love,  
Dawn



Dawn Walstad - January 18, 2021 at 12:42 PM



“ Judy, I'm going to miss you on the McCain ranch. You were a wonderful person to talk to. Be happy. Zanza



Pandra Selivanov - January 17, 2021 at 06:07 PM

SS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Judy was a beautiful person. May your family find strength and peace during this difficult time.

Sonia Sieben - January 17, 2021 at 09:59 AM

UW

“ Dear Ralph,

*I am truly saddened to hear of Judy's passing and so sorry for your loss. She was always a good friend and great coworker when we worked at Innovative Pharmacy together. She was so good at listening to people and making them feel better if needed. I know that heaven has gained a special soul.*

*Ute Wanless*



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**Ute Wanless** - January 16, 2021 at 10:51 PM

JF

“ So sorry to hear of Judy's passing! We shared many laughs and fun memories with Shawn! I will cherish the memories. Sending hugs Ralph! ❤️

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**Judy Ferwerda** - January 16, 2021 at 08:59 PM

MK

“ We have known you both since I moved to madison in 93. You both are so special to my family. I'm so sad to hear of this news. But I'm also grateful to have know her. Thank you for all the wonderful memories Judy. We will miss you.  
*Love the Krzykowski's*

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**Michael K** - January 16, 2021 at 08:56 PM



“ I’m sure Debbie and Shawn are right by her side !!!! So very sorry for your loss. I never got to meet her in person but talk on the phone many times! My sister Debbie Smith was a care giver for Shawn and pass right before Shawn..... She thought the world of your family ! In my thoughts and prayers!

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**Joleen Oyen** - January 16, 2021 at 08:50 PM

DH

“ Ralph, the world is different now - I am so sorry. Judy's memory brings tears to my eyes and gratitude to my heart as I remember her joy in living and loving. I will miss her. Deb Hall

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**Deborah Hall** - January 16, 2021 at 07:54 PM

SN

“ My sincerest condolences to all the Toay family. Your cousin Sue (Persinger) Nordby

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**sue C Nordby** - January 14, 2021 at 03:19 PM

JL

“ We were good freinds in high school.We were getting together twice a year,a few of us"66" girls. I enjoyed seeing Judy again so much I am so sad that i didnt get to see her 1 more time. Love you Judy I will miss you so much. Judy Tanner Leffler

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**Judy Leffler** - January 14, 2021 at 09:42 AM

RH

“ Dear Ralph,  
I am truly saddened to hear of Judy's passing and so sorry for your loss, Ralph. Judy and I worked together at the Omnicare Pharmacy in Madison. I consider Judy to have been my friend, confidant and who I could always trust if I needed an honest answer to an issue; expressed in a non-judgmental way. Even if the answer was not always what I wanted to hear, I always felt better having heard it from her. Go with God, Judy; knowing that you were loved and will be missed.



May light perpetual shine upon her soul and may she find everlasting peace and joy.

Pete Herzler

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Ralph Herzler - January 13, 2021 at 07:57 PM

LW

“ I am thinking of the beautiful nativity scene that Judy donated to Bethany Church in memory of her son. We set it up by the sanctuary doors, and the children of Bethany loved it -- especially the Christmas light that glowed inside the stable. I will remember Judy for her kindness, her warmth, her hugs, and her smile. Lisa Weaver

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Lisa Weaver - January 13, 2021 at 07:49 PM

BW

“ Dear Ralph,  
I am so sorry for the loss, Judy's death. Even though we met only for an hour a month for just a few years, you both were such an inspiration for me.  
I admired Judy for the soft way she would express her opinion based on her life experiences, that one could learn a lot from it, I did. I will miss Judy.  
My deepest condolences to you and the whole family.  
Bozena

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**Bozena Waclawik** - January 13, 2021 at 06:55 PM

SS

“ Ralph, I', so sorry to hear about Judy. I've been thinking of you two a lot lately. Please let me know if I can do anything for you. David has been with me since last March. I loved the positive attitude that Judy always had. She could bring me up when I was down. My prayers and thoughts are with you.

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**Suzanne Stowell** - January 13, 2021 at 05:26 PM

SU

“ SUE lit a candle in memory of Judith Margaret Franks



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**SUE** - January 13, 2021 at 05:02 PM

RM

“ I got to know Judy first as Shawn's mother, faithfully attending church on Sunday mornings. She cared so deeply, and gave so much. Then, in the past few years, she was an active member of the crew that takes care of the plantings and gardens around Bethany's grounds. Her cheerful words, and good insights will be misses.  
Rod McKenzie



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**Rod McKenzie** - January 13, 2021 at 05:00 PM

RM

“ One Sunday Dick and I visited the Toay's. His hair was "shaggy" , Judy decided she should cut his hair. We had more laughs in the process. I was fortunate to have Mary and Judy come visit me when Judy was back one day from Madison, we spent the whole afternoon enjoying each others company. I got an awesome picture of the two of them on my couch I shared copies with them which I am forever thankful. We had planned to meet again but CONVID-19 came in place on us. I send my hugs, love and prayers to you Frank, Spencer, Mary, and Jerry in the loss of a very special person.  
Rosalie R. May

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**Rosalie R. May** - January 12, 2021 at 02:00 PM

JL

“ Judy was a sweet and beautiful woman. She worked on several committees and always displayed her smile and cheerfulness. She shared her background and Cornish heritage with us and gave us a tour of Mineral Point, Pendarvis museum and Graceland cemetary, teaching us how much the miners and citizens of Mineral Point had contributed to the history of Wisconsin. She was so good to Shawn and so lovable! I will miss her!  
JUDY LOVELESS

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**judy loveless** - January 12, 2021 at 12:54 PM

DT

“ My memories of Judy include riding horses with her before I was married and how much she was like her dad in pulling a practical joke and that impish smile on their faces as they knew they got away with it. I think God picked an angel to be Shawn's mother as Judy was very loving of him. We will all miss her and I want the family to know they all have my sympathy. Donna Toay



Donna Toay - January 12, 2021 at 11:41 AM

GT

My brothers and I remember growing up with Spencer, Jerry, Judy and Mary. We shared a lot of great memories. Judy and Mary were in a lot of water fights. I think Judy participated in most if not all of them. I think everytime it rains from now on I'll think it's Judy starting another water fight. Will miss you dearly.

Gary Toay - January 12, 2021 at 12:08 PM

AT

Judy and Ralph chose the agency where I work, Create-Ability, to support Shawn. Judy was a wonderful mother. She was a devoted advocate for Shawn and others in the disability community. She handled any challenge that came along with grace and optimism and never let Shawn's health challenges bring her down. Judy loved Shawn and Ralph with all her heart. I will miss her warm smile, her gentle spirit, and her hugs. Ralph, please know that the Create-Ability community is keeping you in our thoughts. Amy T.

Amy Turner - January 13, 2021 at 05:06 PM

RB

We are so sorry to learn of Judy's passing. She was such a kind person. Whenever the relatives would have a get-together, it was always fun chatting and giggling with Judy. She will be missed by so many of us! Ralph, you are definitely in our thoughts and prayers. God bless! Ron and Karey Berg

Ron and Karey Berg - January 13, 2021 at 06:56 PM

CS

*So sorry for the loss. Judy and Vonnie have been friends for years and years. Chuck and Vonnie Swab*

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**Charles Swab** - January 13, 2021 at 07:29 PM

LF

*Dear Ralph,*

*Our condolences to you and family! We are praying God gives you strength and the fortitude to carry on. My husband and I have known Judy from the time she and I met at Neighbor Care Pharmacy and continued working at Omnicare Pharmacy. The friendship we shared throughout that time and afterwards, was a Godsend. Our conversations were sometimes very comical yet enlightening as she was ever so willing to lend an ear, as I did for her. Judy, you will truly be missed.*

*La'Borah Fikes*

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**La'Borah Fikes** - January 14, 2021 at 02:17 AM

MA

*Although Judy & I have never met, she & I became good friends through my messageboard. She loved the trivia questions, the harder the questions, the better. Whenever I created a trivia question to post, I would giggle to myself and think, I can't wait until Judy sees this question.*

*She was a jewel. She has left a footprint on my heart that will remain there forever.*

*God Bless you my Myka girl!*

*Margie*

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**Margie** - January 14, 2021 at 08:28 AM

MM

*My sister meant so much to me. She was more than just a sister. Sis was loving, beautiful, kind, joyful, smart and always helpful. She was always there for me no matter what. She was my protector like when she told me not to pick a bridle wreath switch as they hurt worse than a lilac switch. She was right! She liked to play jokes on me like telling me she filled a band aid tin with hickory nut goodies and 50+ years later confessed it had been walnut goodies. We had a good laugh on the that one. She always listened to me and gave good advise. We had many adventures together and had so many more planned. Judy liked to help make pasties at my church, FUMC of Mineral Point. She loved her son Shawn and her husband Ralph deeply... I miss you terribly Sis and part of my heart has gone with you but I believe we will meet again in heaven. She was a good Christian woman. Praise the Lord!!*

*Ralph, my heart goes out to you as you loved her so deeply. I can't image how you must feel. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Love you, Judy and Shawn.*

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**Mary Martin** - April 08, 2021 at 11:33 AM