



## Janice Ellen Skalba

July 28, 1943 - April 3, 2020

Janice Ellen Skalba, of Harper Woods, passed away Friday, April 3, 2020 at the age of 76. She was born July 28, 1943 in Detroit, Michigan to Pascal And Alice (Pereny) Pettine. Janice grew up in Detroit and graduated from Denby High School. She attended Wayne State University and went on to work for Blue Cross and Blues Shield of Michigan. In the early 1960's Janice met a gentleman named Leonard Joseph Skalba, Jr. and together, on November 14, 1964 at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Detroit, would start a union that would last over 55 years. From this union came three children and granddaughter.

Janice was a woman of many talents and hobbies. She enjoyed cooking, canning, gardening, sewing, making greeting cards and correspondence. She had a strong talent for making her own hand-made greeting cards and was always sending them to family members and friends.

Above all of Janice loved to take care of people. "The way you treat each other" was most important to her. She had a kind heart and gentle soul that touched so many people throughout her life. Although she left Blue Cross and Blue Shield to stay at home and raise her children, she was definitely more than just a typical "stay at home mom." She took it to the next level and not only took care of her children and family, she took care of whoever walked through the door. She was everybody's "Mom", "Grandma" or "Aunt Jan". Her kindness to all, her loving spirit to treat each other well and with respect and most of all to just Love, will be missed by not only her family and friends, but all the people she came in contact with over the years.

Janice is survived by her beloved husband of 55 years, Leonard. Adored and loving mother of Sharon McLeod (Paul Perakes), Michael Skalba and Timothy Skalba. Proud and precious grandmother of Megan McLeod, MD MS. Dear sister of Marilyn Giardini and Kenneth Pettine. Janice is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

# Comments

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“ My prayers and thoughts to the Skalba family. Haven't seen you all in many years. We lived in the same neighborhood and played together. I have vivid memories of your mom in the kitchen. Always cooking something delicious. She had a wonderful smile. I recall a seasoning she used to make. She was even kind enough to write the recipe down for me. I still have it. "Mrs. Skalba"s seasoning". I still use it! May our Savior's promises comfort you all. Ellen Fabry Hoyer. Plymouth, Mi

**Ellen Hoyer** - April 29 at 07:23 PM

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“ My cousin, Janice can best be described as selfless, loving unconditionally, and generous. Jan lived her life giving to others, listening to others, and accepting everyone without judgement. Her kind, gentle mannerisms and love were expressed on hand-made stationary, and she never missed a birthday, holiday, or special occasion. Her hugs, laugh and welcoming smile will be greatly missed. She was a dedicated wife, mother and friend. Our Father took her home too soon!

**Susan M Cooper** - April 17 at 07:32 AM

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“ Skalba Family:

My send to all of you my sincere condolences for the loss of the beautiful Jan. She and Len are my neighbors and we used to talk in the back of our garden fences. Always giving advice of flowers and vegetables as well as updating in the neighborhood news. Last year I received from both of them words of support as I lost my husband. They gave me hugs and words to comfort me as I was going through a sad time too and I will always remember the kindness of Jan and Len as wonderful neighbors. At this time we can not get together to share memories and talk about the great life she had with family and friends. But we can join in a daily pray for the Janice.

Sandra Sanchez O.



**Sandra Sanchez** - April 15 at 01:06 PM

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“ Sharon,

Jim, Colleen, and I send our deepest sympathies to you and your family...

Your mom was such a sweet person (I know that's mirrored in you).

I remember waiting in the SJ parking lot for Colleen and Megan to come out...and there would be your mom. We'd stand and chat over different activities our girls were into, particularly Girl Scouts! She was a beautiful, friendly person...and she adored Megan! She was very genuine; offering her help and guidance to the girls. Sending a hug to you and Megan...on the death of a beautiful person; someone I was lucky to meet!

Martha Victor (Cottage ER)

**Martha Victor** - April 13 at 05:55 PM

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“ So sorry to here of your loss. Jan and Len are of the finest families I’ve had the pleasure to work for over the years. Jan was always so appreciative of my work, concerned about my family and my health I’ll always remember the jams and the special Skalba salt she so generously shared along with the beautiful Christmas cards she sent. My sincere condolences to the family.

Sincerely,  
Tom Dwyer

Tom Dwyer - April 12 at 09:13 PM

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“ The kind smile Jan always had on her face, and her genuine interest in what was going on in my life will not go unforgotten. The love, thoughtfulness and skill she put into her Christmas cards will be missed. She was a giver! She always remembered my family when she had a fresh batch of jam made from her son mikes strawberry patch. The short time I was able to know her left an impression on me of what good, kind person is. My prayers are with you Skalba family.

Jason Puzio family - April 07 at 07:40 PM

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“ I have had the pleasure of knowing Janice a long time. Her parents, Pat and Alice were my Godparents. We kept in touch either by phone calls or the beautiful homemade cards she used to send me. She always had a smile and was very proud of her family. She will be missed. My sincere sympathy to Len and the entire family.

Mary Ann Galasso-Formicola

Mary Ann Galasso-Formicola - April 06 at 01:00 PM

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“ Aunt Jan will be missed by many. Very kind, loving and supportive to all. I will miss your special cards and notes which always brightened my day. I will always remember our Skalba family parties from many years ago. You were the glue to the Skalba family and I will cherish those memories forever. Rest in Heaven.

Dawn Carie - April 06 at 08:57 AM

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“ About a year ago I got a letter from Jan with a newspaper article inside. It was a sweet letter and an article about the Stroh Brewery Company. I worked there for many years and have since moved to Nevada. I had not seen Jan and Lenny for many years and had not communicated with her. But the article made her think of me and she followed through. She bragged a little about her family and wished us well. That is how I remember her.... always a smile and very kind. Prayer for the family, I know she will be missed.

Ron and Judy Williams

**Judy Williams** - April 05 at 04:27 PM

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“ So many memories!!  
The cottage, the food, the advise she gave me to get stains out of the kids clothes and any other little trick of the trade she had up her sleeve!!  
She had many!!  
Never goodbye....just see you soon

**Maryrose (Giardini) Nailler** - April 05 at 04:11 PM

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“ Jan was the most wonderful, and kindest sister -in-law a person can have. She had a way with words that would make your day better. Tom and Margaret Gates.

**Margaret Gates** - April 05 at 03:53 PM

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“ Aunt Jan was the sweetest , most thoughtful person I have ever known and will ever know. She loved sending us cards, even if it was for no reason at all, she would send a heartfelt letter with a homemade card. She will be missed dearly. Its been an honor to call her my Aunt.



**Christy Gates** - April 05 at 03:20 PM



“ How do you say goodbye....my heart aches for your family's loss. I will always remember her personal cards and keep them close.

**Debbie Lucido** - April 07 at 11:01 AM

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“ Jan was beyond a doubt one of the sweetest women I have had the pleasure of knowing. She was a sincere and deeply caring individual. My most sincere condolences to all of her family and friends

**Scarlett Tate** - April 05 at 01:42 PM



“ My most sincere condolences to the family and friends of Janice.

**Linda Sidzina** - April 05 at 03:20 PM