



## Margaret B. Botes

October 26, 1928 - July 25, 2022

Margaret B. Botes passed away peacefully, after a short illness, on July 25, 2022, at the Marshfield Medical Center in Minocqua, Wisconsin. Her four children, and many grandchildren, were able to be with her in the hours before she died. She also received numerous phone calls from friends and family across the country. Her hospital room was filled with music, stories and laughter in the hours before she moved on.

Marge is survived by her son, Steve Botes, Jr., of Mercer, Wisconsin; daughter, Marcia (Tom) Walsh, of Chicago, Illinois; son, Brad (Kaye) Botes, of Birmingham, Alabama; daughter, Marlena Botes, of Mercer Wisconsin; grandson Chris (Colleen) Walsh of Blue Island, Illinois; granddaughter Sarah (Josh) Iverson of Chicago, Illinois; granddaughter Caitlin (Patrick) Crumpton of Chicago, Illinois; grandson Bradford Botes, Jr. of Encinitas, California; granddaughter, Meredith (James) Thompson of Thessaloniki, Greece; grandson Philip Botes of Birmingham, Alabama; granddaughter Billie Botes of Mercer, Wisconsin; granddaughter Zoe Botes of Mercer, Wisconsin; great grandson Clark Walsh of Blue Island, Illinois, great granddaughter Bea Walsh of Blue Island, Illinois; great granddaughter Ellie Iverson of Chicago, Illinois; great granddaughter Joni Crumpton of Chicago, Illinois; great granddaughter Olivia Iverson of Chicago, Illinois; and many nieces, nephews and friends. She was preceded in death by husband, Steve Botes, Sr.; her parents, Adolph and Louise Schmidt; and her seven siblings. Born and raised on the southside of Chicago during the great depression,

Marge came from a large family and with working class parents. The family lived in tight quarters in a community full of immigrants. Times could be tough, but they generated many fond memories shared with the generations that followed. And although Marge's siblings would eventually have their own families and spread across the country, they remained close, and Marge's children enjoyed many vacations, activities and reunions with their cousins. Family happiness was a priority for Marge throughout her lifetime, and she excelled at making it happen. When her own children were young, a birthday never went by without her preparing a cake and organizing a family gathering. When her own mother became too old to host family gatherings, Marge took over and numerous Christmas Eves and other holidays would be shared by extended family and friends in her home. Marge set a great example for her children and grandchildren, and they are all determined to emulate her love for and service to family. When she was 20 years old, Marge married Steve Botes shortly after he was discharged from the Navy in 1949. They would celebrate 60 years of marriage before he passed away in 2010. After they were married, Marge and Steve lived for a short period of time in Champaign, Illinois while Steve completed his education as an architect at the University of Illinois. They then purchased a home in LaGrange, Illinois where they raised their four children. Marge was a stay-at-home Mom, and her priority was always about taking care of her family. She insisted that the family eat meals together as often as possible, and many wonderful discussions took place around the round white table in the home's kitchen. Meals were always about being together and enjoying one another's company. Marge and Steve very much enjoyed their time together. They bowled, taught and participated in SCUBA diving, and traveled throughout the country and world. They loved the City of Chicago and enjoyed showing it off to friends and family who visited from out of town. In 2001, Steve retired, and he and Marge moved to the Northwoods of Wisconsin where they had vacationed with family over the years. Steve designed a home that they built on Little Martha Lake in Mercer, Wisconsin

where their oldest son, Steve, Jr. had established his home. They enjoyed their time in Mercer and took special joy in being around while their youngest grandchildren, Billie and Zoe, grew up. After Steve passed away, Marge was determined to stay in the house that her husband had designed and that they had built together. She was blessed to have her youngest daughter, Marlena, move in with

her and help care for her in her final years. The entire family is indebted to Marlena for her love and devotion in taking care of Marge during this time. Marge is now gone and back together with Steve, but she will never be forgotten by her family who will strive to honor her memory by loving and caring for one another. She will always serve as an example of how to show love for one another – even when it is hard to do so.

A memorial service for local friends will be held at the United Methodist Church of Mercer on August 06, 2022 at 11: 00 AM. The family will thereafter hold a private memorial in the Chicago area. Should friends desire, contributions may be sent to either the United Methodist Church of Mercer or the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

United Methodist Church  
Cty. Hwy J  
Mercer, WI 54547

# Tribute Wall

MW

“ *Marge is a wonderful lady and will be greatly missed here on earth. She made loving homes in both La Grange and Wisconsin. Peace to her and Steve. Hugs to the Botes family.* ”

Margie Watkins - August 09, 2022 at 11:50 AM

SD

“ *On my behalf and many others, thanks Marge for you and Steve launching the Atlantis Divers scuba club that provided enjoyment for a multitude of folks over many decades. Thanks for sharing your memories and stories with us and your children's participation. May you rest in peace and forever held in the palm of the Lord.* ”

Simon Mireles (Atlantis Diver) - August 07, 2022 at 12:57 PM

FN

“ *From Jackie & Lei (Marshfield neighbor) purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Margaret B. Botes.* ”



From Jackie & Lei (Marshfield neighbor) - August 05, 2022 at 04:06 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Margaret B. Botes.* ”



August 04, 2022 at 07:35 PM

MC

“ Dear Botes Family, I want you to know how important your Mom and Dad (and all of you) have been in bringing joy to my life. I have fond memories of sitting at your kitchen table on Ashland drinking coffee and talking to your mom about life and sharing many laughs. The parties at your house were so much fun! Do you remember when your Mom and Dad set up easels in the basement along with pencils and paint for anyone who wanted to express their artistic talents? The love my sweet Aunt Margie shared with anyone who walked into her home was palpable. I will miss her so very much, but I can feel at peace knowing she had a heavenly welcome from Steve, Grandma, Grandpa, Babe, Rose, Boy, Paul, Tootsie, Hugo, John, Spirro, Gus, Mary, and all her other relatives and friends who passed before her.  
Love always,  
Mary Lou

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**Mary Cronin** - August 02, 2022 at 07:11 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Margaret B. Botes.



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August 02, 2022 at 06:12 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Margaret B. Botes.



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August 01, 2022 at 07:07 PM

TS

“ *The Family of Gloria & Adolph Schmidt purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Margaret B. Botes.*



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**The Family of Gloria & Adolph Schmidt** - August 01, 2022 at 04:30 PM

RB

“ *Such a beautiful tribute for such an amazing woman. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her! Sending love and peace to you all as we remember Great Aunt Marge.*

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**Robin Borgione** - August 01, 2022 at 01:25 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Margaret B. Botes.*



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August 01, 2022 at 10:14 AM

JR

“ *Jackie and Rocco purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Margaret B. Botes.*



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**Jackie and Rocco** - July 29, 2022 at 08:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Margaret B. Botes.*



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July 29, 2022 at 05:27 PM



“ *What a blessing it was to have known Marge. She was a kind and caring person who always had kind things to say.*

*My lasting memory is of us watching the deer feeding at the tree line. She loved and never tired of watching the deer and got so excited when announcing they were there.*

*Rest In Peace.*

*Wade Heern*

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**Wade Heern** - July 28, 2022 at 04:24 PM