



Mrs. Elizabeth "Liz" Lake

October 22, 1941 - July 6, 2022

Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Lake, 80, of Pittsfield, passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, July 6, 2022, surrounded by family. Liz, as she was known to friends, was born on October 22, 1941 in Norfolk, VA to Thomas and Odessa Holland Harcum.

At the age of 18, Liz met a young sailor, her beloved Ralph, and the two were married and lived in Pittsfield where they raised their three daughters.

Liz held many positions in the workforce throughout her life. At the age of 15, Liz worked in a local drug store at the soda fountain—professionally known as a “soda jerk.” In her early adult years, Liz was a Switchboard Operator for New England Telephone. Later, she held a management position at AOK Business Services in North Adams, and she also worked at Coyle Printing and Mailing in Pittsfield.

But the job Liz loved the most was that of mother and grandmother. Her love of family was especially demonstrated through her cooking and baking. One could always find her working tirelessly in the kitchen during family gatherings and celebrations, and the love she shared in this way will always be a treasured memory for her daughters and their families.

Over the years Liz and Ralph enjoyed many activities together including

square dancing, motorcycle riding, bowling, camping, and playing guitar. Liz also enjoyed sewing, gardening and being a leader to her daughter's Brownie troop and Sunday school classes. Liz was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Pittsfield and Lenox for many years. Her most treasured memories though were of the 20+ years she and Ralph spent winter vacationing in Florida. She always spoke lovingly about the friends they made there.

Elizabeth was predeceased by her parents, Thomas and Odessa Harcum, her sister Judith Hinchey and her beloved husband of 60 years, Ralph Lake. She is survived by her daughters, Deborah Gaylord (David), Kimberly O'Brien (Jim) and Christine Lake. Elizabeth leaves behind eight grandchildren, three great grandchildren, William Bonney, whom she loved like a son and her cherished dog, Buddy.

A private funeral service for Elizabeth Ann Lake will be held at the Dwyer-Wellington Funeral Home. At the family's request there will be no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory can be made to the ALS Association MA Chapter and Hospice of Western & Central Massachusetts.

Cemetery Details

Pittsfield Cemetery

203 Wahconah St.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Tribute Wall

DR

“ We knew Liz and Ralph for many years through our winter home in Florida. Couldn't have known a better couple. They are missed and will not be forgotten. Condolences to the family.

Don and Marlene Ranger - July 18, 2022 at 08:49 AM

EG

“ Deb, Kim, and Chris we are sorry for your loss. Liz and Ralph always brought joy to us. They were fun to be around. Now they join together again. God bless you and your families. Elmer & Theresa Gage

Elmer Gage - July 12, 2022 at 08:12 AM

DS

“ We spent many hours with Ralph and Liz the few years we spent at Live Oak in Florida. She was a wonderful person, great cook and loads of fun. Many fond memories of the PaceMakers as well. Ours condolences to you all. She loved her girls and spoke of all of you often.
Mike and Dianna Smart, Stayner, Ontario.

Dianna Smart - July 10, 2022 at 01:49 PM

DT

“ Kim, Debbie, Christine, et al: So sorry to hear of your loss. She was a wonderful woman. My condolences,
Dave Tyburski
dtybursk@nycap.rr.com

Dave Tyburski - July 09, 2022 at 05:06 PM



“ *Debbie, Kim, Christie and your families. My sympathy to you in the loss of your Mom. I have lost a great friend of almost 30 years. I think of her so often. Ruth*

Ruth Gilpin - July 09, 2022 at 03:30 PM



“ *Liz was a class act and much fun to be with and around. WE had many dinners and get together over the past twenty years; one wonderful gathering in Florida during a very cold Berkshire winter. She was Ralph's true better half and may she rest in Peace. Sue and Tom*

Tom Collins - July 09, 2022 at 11:12 AM



“ *Was so sorry to hear of Liz's passing. I am sure she is happy, though, to be with Ralph. We have lots of great memories of things we did together so they will never leave us. Janie & Bob Lester*

Janie Lester - July 09, 2022 at 07:56 AM