



Mrs. Barbara Joan Ciuffa

June 5, 1939 - June 2, 2020

Barbara Ciuffa dedicated her life to helping people in need, especially children. She was an attorney, child advocate, and Child Welfare Specialist certified through the NACC. She was known to bring some of the children to her self-defense classes to gain skills. She volunteered in several community projects such as the Literacy Council and the Late Night Show, reading bedtime stories to children in Kalamazoo's Juvenile Detention Center. She also volunteered for Election Day activities to help people get registered to vote and helped at the polls. She loved music and treasured her time in various choirs such as the Gospel Choir and the Kalamazoo Community Chorale. She enjoyed attending the Thursday Morning Musicale and the annual Gilmore Festival (as a volunteer and enthusiastic member of the audience).

Born in Brooklyn NY, Barbara spent the past 30 years in Kalamazoo, which she loved for the community spirit and culture. She enjoyed meeting people and hearing their stories, and was known for her spunk. She was an avid traveler, going with her husband to Russia on a cultural exchange program, and to El Salvador to meet people involved in Clean Water for the World. She went with her daughter to China on a tour for lawyers, and to the Galapagos. She loved to learn about all different subjects. Barbara was initially a physicist at the National Bureau of Standards, then became a teacher, and eventually an attorney.

Barbara was predeceased by her husband in 2016 and her son in 1982. She is survived by her daughter. Donations may be made in her honor to the:

Michael J Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research:
<https://www.michaeljfox.org>

or to any charity supporting efforts to help abused/neglected children, such as the:

American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children: https://www.memberleap.com/members/wish/donate.php?org_id=APSA

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Barbara Joan Ciuffa



Harper Funeral Home - June 13, 2020 at 11:57 AM



Beautiful memories.

Ellen Cecil - June 13, 2020 at 04:52 PM



Love her, going to miss all the time we spent together. Made my life special.

Evean price - June 13, 2020 at 08:52 PM



So sorry to see that Attorney Ciuffa passed away. She was a strong advocate for children and just a nice person. She loved her family and talked about her travels. To her daughter, my deepest sympathy and condolences to you. I pray you find comfort and strength in the memories of your beautiful mother. I am sorry for your loss. I knew your mom from the courts and a "spit fire" she was. Never backing down.

Sherri (Guidry)Coulibaly - July 06, 2020 at 01:30 AM



“ Mrs. Barbara Joan Ciuffa

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Mrs. Barbara Joan Ciuffa*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *My husband and I enjoyed Barbara and Ben's company when they came to our farm to take pictures. I also had the privilege of seeing Barbara at the Thursday Musicale meetings, and occasionally giving her rides to the meetings. She always enjoyed giving me a tour of her wonderful home and yard. Mary Ross*

Mary Ross - June 13, 2020 at 08:11 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Ellen Cecil - June 13, 2020 at 04:51 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Ellen Cecil - June 13, 2020 at 04:48 PM

RI

“ We will miss Barbara and all her intelligence, quick wit, wry humor, thoughtful questioning, great concern for others, and true friendship for more than 40 years.

Richard & Rita J

Rita - June 13, 2020 at 09:24 AM

EC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ellen Cecil - June 12, 2020 at 05:00 PM

EC

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Ellen Cecil - June 12, 2020 at 04:58 PM

 Ellen Cecil

On the left Barbara circa 1955. On the right Barbara circa 1945 holding her baby sister Carole.

Ellen Cecil - June 13, 2020 at 04:41 PM

EL

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



ellen - June 12, 2020 at 03:18 PM



Barbara with her long time friend Wesley

Ellen Cecil - June 13, 2020 at 04:42 PM

EL

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



ellen - June 12, 2020 at 03:17 PM



Barbara in the halls of the Supreme court waiting to be sworn in so she could argue before the Supreme Court Justices

Ellen Cecil - June 13, 2020 at 04:43 PM

EL

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



ellen - June 12, 2020 at 03:17 PM



Barbara on the steps of the Supreme Court after being sworn in

Ellen Cecil - June 13, 2020 at 04:43 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



ellen - June 12, 2020 at 03:15 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



ellen - June 12, 2020 at 03:14 PM



“ *Mollie Peterson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara Joan Ciuffa*



Mollie Peterson - June 12, 2020 at 08:23 AM

MC

“ *Barb was such a beautiful, welcoming spirit. I'm very thankful that our paths crossed in the gospel choir. May God bless you and give you peace. Myron Cobbs*



Myron Cobbs - June 11, 2020 at 05:48 PM