



Velma "Val" Jean Gibson

MAR 31, 1940 - MAR 12, 2020



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Velma "Val" Jean Gibson

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Canadian Lakes - Velma Jean "Val" Gibson, 79, of Canadian Lakes, passed away Thursday, March 12, 2020, at Royal View Retirement Community.

She was born March 31, 1940, in Cadillac, the daughter of Gerrit and Lois (Weeks) Klifman, and graduated from Cadillac High School in 1958. While in high school, Val chose ski racing over cheerleading, and thus started a family tradition that she passed on to her sons.

A self-starting, hard-working woman, Val raised her children in Big Rapids. For many years, she owned and operated the Culligan franchise in Big Rapids. Later on, she found true happiness in operating the Blue Lake Lodge in Mecosta. Val cared deeply for the environment, helping to protect wetlands, and also served the community volunteering through Angels of Action.

Val is survived by 3 sons, Ezra Scott (Leilei) Gibson of Howell, Christian James (Edith) Gibson of Edmond, OK, and Michael Thomas (Elizabeth) Gibson of Boise, ID; 3 grandchildren, Taylor Marie, Edward Lee, and Makaila Ann; her brother Howard James Klifman of Palm Desert, CA; and several nieces and nephews. Val was preceded in death by her sister Mary Klifman.

A Celebration of Val's Life will take place from 2-5 p.m., Sunday, March 15, 2020, at the Mohnke Funeral Home in Big Rapids. Memorial contributions in her name may be made for the Angels of Action, with envelopes available at the funeral home. Share a memory or express condolences at mohnkefuneralhome.com



Tribute Wall

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SD

Steve Degeest posted:

I stayed with Val at the Blue Lake Lodge many years ago. She was the perfect host at a beautiful resort. My condolences go to her family.

April 5 at 8:00 PM

KM

Kristi Kent Mcdougall posted:

I was very close to Val growing up and did so much with her, Scott, Chris & Mike. I felt like part of her family. We played tennis, cheered on her boys at their motocross events that we travelled to in her RV. She was my tennis coach for four years an

March 28 at 8:00 PM

DV

Donna Vanwieren posted:

Loved her like a sister. She and Tom were in married housing at WMU when I was a freshman there. I had been in their wedding and we continued that closeness with many visits to their apartment. Loren Campbell was at K. College just across the street. He w

March 26 at 8:00 PM

PM

Patrick Mccarthy posted:

It was an early September day in 1954, my first day as a freshman student at Cadillac Junior High School. Apprehensive, I headed toward the stairs leading to the second floor and my first high school class, Introductory Algebra. On the first step of the s

March 18 at 8:00 PM

DN

Doug Nelson posted:

I am so saddened by the news of Val's passing. She was one of my best high school friends. We lived a block apart and she kindly gave me rides to school, since she had a car...and I didn't. We talked often about sports and life in general. Through our adu

March 14 at 8:00 PM



Tribute Wall

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LF

Leah Ham And Ham Family posted:

Sorry to hear of Val's passing.

March 14 at 8:00 PM

BH

Bob Harcourt lit a candle in honor of Velma "Val".

Val was a beautiful woman in high school and on the ski slopes. Our kids raced in Sunday races held at Caberfae each Sunday. Val was everything her obit said and more. U boys can be so proud of your mom.



March 13 at 8:00 PM

JM

Judy & Don Mullens posted:

We are so saddened to learn that Val passed away. Our thoughts are with you and your family.

March 13 at 8:00 PM

GH

Gary F Hodgson posted:

70+ years as friends from Hollister School through high school and beyond. You were always full of life and fun! I will miss you and progressive ideals! Love, Gary

March 13 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Velma "Val" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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