



Bette Arlene Hartig

OCT 23, 1927 - NOV 9, 2024



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6



Bette Arlene Hartig

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In Loving Memory - Bette Arlene Hartig, Big Rapids

Bette Arlene Hartig, age 97, passed away on November 9, 2024, in Big Rapids, Michigan. Bette was born to Alma and Lewis Hartig October 23, 1927, in Alma, Michigan. After High School, working at JC Penney in Alma, she was well known for the beautiful store window displays she created. Everyone would stop to admire her work. She was obviously a talented artist, as she continued to display for many, many years.

Bette had always dreamed of going to college, so at the age of 35, she enrolled in Ferris State College (now FSU). She loved her college years; living in dorms and becoming an RA. She then transferred to Central Michigan University and graduated with a degree in Education in 1967. She taught Physical Education and coached sports at Port Huron Northern High School for four years. She returned to Ferris as a House Mother, Assistant Housing Director, and ultimately served as Director of the Rankin Student Center until her retirement.

Bette loved to travel, especially to New York City. There was a college “girls road trip” to Manhattan, she attended the Westminster Dog Show, and most recently, enjoyed a bus trip to New York City. She was thrilled to attend Wimbledon in London, visit friends in Japan and Korea, and enjoyed her recent trip to Mackinac Island.

Bette’s great passions were Sports and Art. She excelled at both. She won the Club Champion in Women’s Golf at Pine River Country Club in the early 1970’s. She loved golf, tennis, cross country skiing, pickleball, badminton, volleyball and much more.

Bette was a born artist. She loved working in all media, but ultimately became most passionate about wood carving. She Co-founded the Wood Whackers carving club many years ago, which continues to thrive today. She loved teaching carving, learning from the other talented artists, and



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especially the camaraderie. ArtWorks of Big Rapids honored her in 2020 as their Patron of the Arts for all of her contributions to the local artistic community.

Funeral services will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 23 at the David L. Eisler Center Ballroom, 805 Campus Drive, Big Rapids. Visitation will be from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday. Interment will be at Riverside Cemetery in Alma, Michigan.

Donations may be made in memory of Bette to Michigan Humane (michiganhumane.org) or The Ferris Foundation (ferris.edu/giving).

Care and arrangements are entrusted to Mohnke Janowicz Funeral Home in Big Rapids. Share a memory or express condolences at mohnkefuneralhome.com.

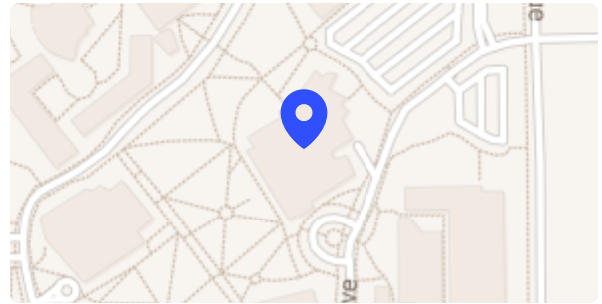


Events

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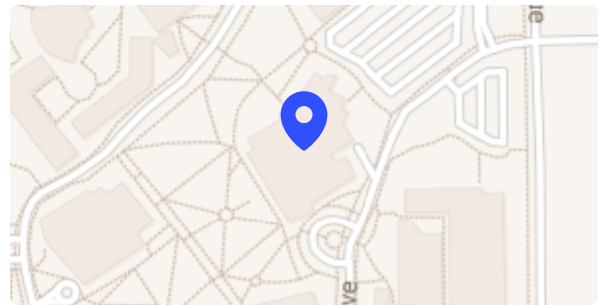
Visitation

- Saturday**, November 23, 2024
- 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM ET
- David L. Eisler Center Ballroom (FSU)**
805 Campus Drive, Big Rapids MI 49307



Funeral Service

- Saturday**, November 23, 2024
- 11:30 AM ET
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Tribute Wall

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Lucy Kebler posted:

Ms. Hartig was my house mother in Merrill Hall in the fall of 1970. Good times, good times. Lucy (David) Kebler

March 18 at 11:53 AM



Victoria Winebarger April 25 at 2:17 PM

I lived in Merrill Hall as well while she was House Mother. She also came to my wedding. She was a wonderful woman.



Charles S. Dewell posted:

I will never forget Bette's welcoming smile and generous heart. I met Bette in the early 1970's at FSC and was able to remain in touch over the years as Bette was an important component to our fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon. She shared her enthusiasm and wisdom with our members over the years and could be counted on for her counsel and encouragement. Bette was one of those rare people who made a difference in everyone she met. Charles S. Dewell Marina Del Rey, CA.

February 2 at 11:39 AM



Sue Johnson posted:

I met Bette through Art Works where she and I became friends, getting together once a month to have lunch then go to Art Works to "do the pay". She was such an inspiration to me always remembering her encouraging, "Forward. Always forward." which is how I saw her living her best life. My husband, Mike, thought she was "just the greatest gal". I'll miss our lunches and camaraderie. She always shared experiences and advice (most of which I took to heart). I hope you knew I repaired your rosary that you so valued. Will miss you, Bette. I know you're still creating!

November 24 at 9:44 AM



Anonymous sent a Small Garden Dish to the Hartig family.



November 21 at 7:33 AM



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CH

Christine A Vonder Haar posted:

What a wonderful human being, generous, talented, kind, and energy-spirited. Bette will be missed by so many. May her life and all the memories be a blessing to her family and friends. Ferris and Big Rapids will miss her greatly. Christine Vonder Haar

November 15 at 8:26 AM

CW

Carol Wernet posted:

I met Bette in the early 1970's when I started pharmacy school. She taught me how to cross country ski and to play racquetball. Two things I have enjoyed earlier in my life. She also travelled with us to Iron Mountain , MI for the ski jumping tournament. What a trip we had. She hosted us at her house for some luncheons after we had graduated, she was a joy to be around and full of energy. I admired her for years and know she impacted so many of our lives. Rest in Peace

November 14 at 1:31 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Bette by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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