



## Jessie Lee Wierda

February 5, 1930 - June 19, 2020

Jessie Lee Wierda, a most beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and sister passed away peacefully on the evening of June 19, 2020 at Covenant Hospital at the age of 90 years old. Jessie Lee (Burns) Wierda was born in Saginaw, MI on February 5, 1930 to parents Dorothy (Russell) and Robert Burns. Her family lived in the Freeland area where she attended a one room school from first thru eighth grade. She attended ninth grade at South Intermediate School then went on to Arthur Hill High School. She graduated from Arthur Hill with the class of 1947. During high school she worked at the Children's Home on Howard Street in Saginaw. After high school she went on to Monticello College for Women in Illinois. At the end of her two years there she earned a Liberal Arts degree. She remembered these two years as being one of the most valuable times in her life. Summers during college were spent as a counselor at the Girl Scout camp in Kalamazoo. After finishing at Monticello College, she went on to Central Michigan University where she completed a degree in Elementary Education. On September 1, 1950 she married Edwin J. Wierda. Edwin passed away in 1999. They were members of the Community Christian Reformed Church, Germania Town and Country Club, and she was active in the Saginaw Junior Woman's Club and Freeland Woman's Study Club. Surviving her are her two sons, Denny and Amy Wierda of Linwood, MI and Randy Wierda and his partner Patty Donahue of Saginaw, MI; her five grandchildren Kathryn Wierda, Lauryn (Zach) McKelvie, Melanie Wierda, Collin Wierda, and Anna Wierda; and her great grandson Hunter McKelvie. Also surviving her is her sister Elizabeth K. Miller and partner Al Vroman of Saginaw, MI, and three nephews and two nieces.

As a young couple Jessie Lee and Edwin lived on State Road in Saginaw for 14 years, then moved to Freeland in 1964 and built a home in Thomas Township. They enjoyed summers at their cottage on the Au Sable Lake with their black labs and while their two sons and grandchildren were growing up. Jessie Lee will be remembered for being a good listener, always optimistic and helping others think positive. She was happy working with young children and enjoyed teaching elementary school and Sunday school for many years. Jessie Lee had an apartment at McBrite Manor in Saginaw for 10 years and referred to it as "an easy life." She later moved to Shattuck Manor for assisted living, which is now Wellspring. Till her last day she remained very close to her two sons,

grandchildren and sister and was loved by many.

**FUNERAL SERVICE:** A Funeral Service will take place at 11:30 a.m. Friday, June 26, 2020 at Deisler Funeral Home, 2233 Hemmeter Road (off State). Pastor Nathan Gritter will officiate. Private entombment to follow at Oakwood Mausoleum.

**VISITATION:** Family and friends will gather at Deisler Funeral Home, 2233 Hemmeter Rd. (off State) on Friday, June 26, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at 11:30 a.m. Due to restrictions set forth by the State of Michigan and the world wide health pandemic, all visitors are required to wear a face mask and practice social distancing.

**MEMORIALS:** In lieu of flowers, those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorials to Saginaw Community Christian Reformed Church.

Deisler Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Wierda family; condolences may be expressed to the family at the funeral home or by visiting [www.DeislerFuneralHome.com](http://www.DeislerFuneralHome.com)

# Cemetery

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# Events

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**Oakwood Memorial Mausoleum JUN**  
5950 Gratiot Road  
Saginaw, MI, 48638

**26**

**Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:30AM

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Deisler Funeral Home  
2233 Hemmeter Road, Saginaw, MI, US, 48603

**JUN**  
**26**

**Funeral Service** 11:30AM

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Deisler Funeral Home  
2233 Hemmeter Road, Saginaw, MI, US, 48603

# Comments

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“ It is with a heavy heart and fondest memories that I have just been informed of my dear friends passing! Having tried to call and unable to connect, just recently being advised "disconnected"! Indeed! Will miss our occasional chats, our beautiful cards. "May the angels welcome you to paradise"! "Dodie" Demmer Beetham

**Dolores Beetham** - September 17, 2020 at 10:39 AM

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“ Denny and Randy, so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. Please accept my sincere condolences. Thomas C. Harvey Jr.

**Thomas Harvey** - July 21, 2020 at 09:14 AM

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“ Denny and Randy I was so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. I have such fond memories of your mom and dad. How blessed you were to have her in your lives. Donna VanHoutum Rudy

**Donna Rudy** - July 12, 2020 at 08:14 AM

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“ Jessie and I met at Freeland Woman's Study Club. Later I was the 6th grade teacher of her son, Randy. She was such a gentle and loving woman with a good sense of humor. I enjoyed getting to know her at club meetings and gatherings. She enriched the lives of all who knew her.

**Linda Sanborn** - June 25, 2020 at 09:54 PM

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“ Jessie, You were a bright light that made many days happier, it was my true privilege to know you. God Bless you on your new journey.

**Colleen Koski** - June 25, 2020 at 07:49 AM

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“ Bill, Amy, Megan & Grant Burns purchased the Sincerest Sorrow - Blue and White for the family of Jessie Lee Wierda.



**Bill, Amy, Megan & Grant Burns** - June 24, 2020 at 09:48 PM

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“ Simply Lily was purchased for the family of Jessie Lee Wierda.



June 24, 2020 at 04:42 PM

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“ I got to know Jessie Lee last winter when I led a Bible Study at Wellspring. She was delightful and I was looking forward to seeing her when I can return to lead a class there. God bless you as you mourn her passing. She certainly must be delighted to see our Savior face to face. Deana Leinberger

**Deana Leinberger** - June 23, 2020 at 09:53 PM

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“ Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Jessie Lee Wierda.



June 23, 2020 at 12:20 PM

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“ Such happy childhood memories that include Aunt Jessie Lee. Such a great lady. She will be missed. Hugs to you all.

**Debbie Ott** - June 23, 2020 at 08:46 AM

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“ Such a wonderful lady. Always kind and thoughtful. Wish I would have stopped by to see her the last time I was in Saginaw. And she was creative too, because she saved a science project Denny and I teamed up to do. I was a sophomore and Denny was a freshman at Freeland, HS. The Atolls were to be a three dimensional model of the islands constructed of plaster on a wood base. Turned out our plaster was a bit too soupy to build mountains out of. So, in despair, and of course with very little time left, Mrs. Wierda suggested we try papier-mache. Mrs. Wierda had been watching this disaster unfold and told us the plaster wasn't the best medium. Did we listen? NO. The papier-mache worked perfectly. We completed the project on time, and got an A. Thanks again Mrs. Wierda for all of the fun, patience, caring, and fried egg sandwiches!

With Love,  
Chris and Nancy Hertz

**Chris Hertz** - June 22, 2020 at 04:46 PM

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“ To Denny and family, so sorry to hear of the passing of your mom. I hope that you find peace in the days ahead knowing your mother is in heaven and will be missed by so many. Prayers for you and your family.

Cathy Beiser Haglund

**Cathy Beiser Haglund** - June 22, 2020 at 03:46 PM