



## Marie E. Bitner

September 28, 1924 - August 28, 2021

Marie E Bitner Obituary – August 28, 2021

Marie Elizabeth (Boudreau) Bitner passed away on August 28, 2021 at the age of 96.

She was born on September 28, 1924 in Detroit, MI to the daughter of late Clement Alton and late Helen (Duquette) Boudreau

Marie was a sister to; Clement Boudreau, Carol Evans, Jeanne Phillips, Mary Anne Uetz, Aileen Hendra, James Boudreau, Joyce Kopins, Ted Boudreau, Chris Boudreau, Roy Boudreau and Gail Bricker. Being the eldest of twelve children she was fondly called the matriarch of the family by her many beloved nieces and nephews.

Marie was an excellent student who was able to skip part of second and third grade. She graduated at the age of 16 from Girls Catholic Central High School in Detroit. Her favorite subjects were Latin, shorthand, typing and American History. It was in High School she developed her love for office work that would stay with her through-out her life.

Using her enjoyment of working in the office, shorthand, and letter writing, Marie worked her way to become the secretary to the Purchasing Agent of General Motors Overseas Operations in the GM building in downtown Detroit.

It was while she was working for General Motors that she met and married her beloved husband of 57 years, John L. Bitner. Together they raised their two son's John E. and James L. Bitner. After marrying John, Marie joined her husband's company as the Business Manager at Bitner Brothers Tool Company in Ferndale. They lived in the Magnolia Subdivision in Southfield where they made countless lifelong friends and raised their two boys. John and Marie later moved to West Bloomfield on the 2nd fairway of the Shenandoah Golf Course.

Marie loved to play bridge and pinochle with friends and family, visiting the Upper Peninsula, especially Copper Country, sharing Hallmark Cards and enjoying chocolate desserts. As a grandmother, she was one who played tea parties on her good china with her grandchildren and attended many dance recitals, school plays and sporting events to cheer them on.

Marie is survived by her sons Dr. John E. (Loretta) Bitner and James L. (Jane) Bitner, Grandchildren James R. Bitner, Teresa (Matt) Wesolowski, Brittney Despain, Sarah Bitner, and Morgan Bitner

Visitation will be held on Thursday September 2, 2021 from 3:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, (41555 Grand River Ave, Novi, MI., 48375, 248-348-1800)

A funeral mass will take place at Holy Family Catholic Church (24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375, 248-349-8847) on Friday September 3, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. 24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375. Final resting place will be at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield, MI.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 2. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

O'Brien Sullivan Funeral Home  
41555 Grand River Ave  
Novi, MI 48375  
info@obsfh.com

## In State

SEP 3. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Holy Family Church  
24505 Meadowbrook Rd.  
Novi, MI

## Funeral Mass

SEP 3. 10:30 AM (ET)

Holy Family Church  
24505 Meadowbrook Rd.  
Novi, MI

# Tribute Wall

DK

“ Aunt Betty made us a closer family. She was always there and in so many ways made life better. Remember early Boudreau Christmas celebrations at the Magnolia house including ribbon candy, tree shaped ice cream, the player piano and so much love which later transitioned to Aunt Joyce and Uncle Howies when they BOTH moved to Tequesta street a few houses apart in West Bloomfield.

Aunt Betty (like Grandma) took everyone in with warmth and love. We had many nice lunches with Ilse and Karl Schmitt before Covid and I so enjoyed the stories of them meeting at GM, and introducing them to my mom and dad (MaryAnne and Joe).

The Schmitts were welcome at Grandma's sunday dinners and many fun events at Bitners. "Your mom just took us along and Betty welcomed us" my Auntie Ilse told me.

She did so well despite her age when she had her aortic heart valve replaced with a catheter through the artery in the leg. I feel like the isolation of COVID took so much from her. The loss of lunches, visits from family and friends, playing cards 4 days a week. I loved how she would read the paper, do the puzzles and then confer later in the day with Aunt Jeanne on the correct answers.

She is the only person who has ever said to me, "don't retire too soon. You should have a long time to be retired. If you like your work and find it rewarding, don't retire too soon"

Tammi and Terri became like daughters in some ways and thank you both for your great great care, love and all your time. Anyone visiting aunt betty with a little meal had to be astonished how full her freezer was of beautiful homemade meals to warm up in the microwave. She loved meatloaf.

She was worried a few months before Covid that she was forgetting things. She had a few things she wanted her grandchildren to have and I ended up helping her put sticky notes and suggesting she just

*give them the items when next she saw so she could stop worrying.  
She went round and round about something special but masculine  
for James,  
i think it finally was a little pewter dish.*

*Lastly remember the fun she had traveling up north, pinconning and  
cheese, and the ride to the top of the hills at Boyne on a  
snowmobile with the austrian ski instructors with my mom one year.  
How delighted they both were with the view and the experience!*

*How blessed each one of us was to have her in our lives.  
love denise (uetz) kerr*

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**Denise Kerr** - September 01, 2021 at 06:59 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for  
the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



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September 01, 2021 at 03:36 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family  
of Marie E. Bitner.*



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September 01, 2021 at 03:33 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



August 31, 2021 at 09:52 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



August 31, 2021 at 08:28 PM



“ *a beautiful Lady in the true sense of the word. All of the Ladies in the family are so great.A tribute to their Mother. My deepest condolences for the whole family.I better mention the men too. Aileens husband Craig Hendra*

**Craig Hendra** - August 31, 2021 at 08:12 PM



“ *Hills & Dales Medical Staff purchased the Garden Bench - "Gone yet not forgotten..." for the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



**Hills & Dales Medical Staff** - August 31, 2021 at 02:55 PM



“ *Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



August 31, 2021 at 02:45 PM



“ *Your Friends at Northwood Meadows purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



**Your Friends at Northwood Meadows** - August 30, 2021 at 05:06 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



August 30, 2021 at 04:56 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



August 30, 2021 at 03:41 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



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August 30, 2021 at 02:43 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



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August 30, 2021 at 02:30 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marie E. Bitner.*



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August 30, 2021 at 02:14 PM

“ Dearest Bitner Brothers and Family,

*Our family extends our deepest sympathy to all of you in the passing of the Matriarch of the Boudreau Family Clan. It is surreal to see Aunt Betty's photo on this page.*

*Personally, she has been a part of my life for 65 years, and to realize now that the "Gum Drop Aunt", which Danny and the Mondon Boys called her, is now in heaven with our Lord and all the other wonderful relatives is bittersweet.*

*Memories span from the earliest of childhood days at her swimming pool on Melrose, to Dun Scotus Christmas Memorial Masses for Grandpa, to Houghton Lake, to Boyne Highlands, to Mt. Pleasant, to Mackinaw, to Meriweather's, Senate Coney Island and Honey Tree Restaurants and beyond. Blessed niece, I am!*

*My last visit with her this month, Aunt Betty spoke one sentence very clearly and sort of out of the blue, "We took it as it came." Being the eldest of 12 children and living through depressions and recessions, Word Wars, a pandemic and much more, she surely did "take it as it came" in the classiest manner I have ever seen. Maybe she meant that sentence for me to remind me to "chill out", but those six words are good advice for all of us to remember from the Boudreau Family leader.*

*Being two months in Hospice, I kept remembering how Aunt Betty never wanted to leave a party! At every family party, I remember Uncle Johnnie saying over and over, "Marie, Marie, get your coat, we got to go!". Aunt Betty would take a few steps closer to the door but continue with her cheerful, lovely voice and laughter talking away to her family members. A minute later, here goes Uncle Johnny again and again, "Marie! Marie!".*

*Sons Johnny and Jimmy were the light of Aunt Betty's life and her happiness was interwoven with their lives and families. It took her*

*two months in hospice to be able to leave this party on earth for the glorious reunion she is having now.*

*An Aunt, a mentor, a confidant, a forever friend, I love you, "Little Mary Anne"*

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**Mary Anne Linsell** - August 30, 2021 at 12:55 PM