



Patricia Louise DeFazio

October 24, 1930 - May 27, 2021

Patricia Louise DeFazio passed away peacefully on May 27, 2021.

Pat was born in 1930 to Helen and Alvin Grabowski in South Bend IN. She was extremely proud of her Polish heritage, proudly displaying the Polish flag and often preparing authentic family recipes that had been passed down from her mother and aunts.

Having an eye for detail and a natural artistic talent, she was a master at creating one-of-a-kind quilts, which, in addition to being treasured by family members, were donated to several charitable organizations for fundraising drives. One of her proudest moments was when she was asked to create a quilt for Pope John Paul II's visit to Des Moines in 1979. She designed the quilt using the official event logo as inspiration and precisely sewed each piece by hand. This 10'x10' quilt served as the altar backdrop when the Pope performed Mass at Living History Farms.

Pat also had an immense love of animals, which was apparent as she tended to every four-legged critter that came to her door looking for a treat.

She is survived by her daughters, Susan DeFazio, Sally (John) McKenzie and Sandra (Michael) McClure, grand-children, Scott, Kelly, Sean, TJ, Shannon, Brian, Sarah and Kristin, 16 great-grandchildren and one soon-to-be great-

great-grandchild. She is also survived by her best friend, William Oxley, with whom she felt fortunate to meet again and love later in life.

Passing before her were her parents, and husband of over fifty years, Frank DeFazio.

A special thank you to the caring staff at MercyOne Johnston Hospice Care and Johnny and Debra Moller at Dyamond Memorial for their compassion and kindness.

Private family services are being planned. The family requests that memorial donations be made to the Animal Rescue League, in her memory.

Tribute Wall

DC

“ I am so sorry to hear of Pat’s passing! She was an inspiration to all Ankeny quilters who would “ooh” and “ahh” at every one of her projects. Her quilts were so stunning that no one ever wanted to go after Pat for show and tell at guild programs. May you find comfort for her loss and feel her love wrapped around you in one of her quilts. - Dawn Cavanaugh

Dawn Cavanaugh - May 30, 2021 at 10:37 AM