



Susan Bossong

December 2, 1948 - July 1, 2020

Susan “Zan” Bossong, 71, passed away peacefully at her home on July 1, 2020, with her husband of over 50 years, Fred, at her side.

Zan was born in Brooklyn and raised in Levittown, Long Island. She moved to Syracuse in 1967 and graduated from Upstate Medical University as a Radiologic Technologist in 1969. Zan and Fred married at Our Lady of Peace Church, in Lakeland, New York, in 1970.

Zan’s passing follows a tragic and catastrophic brain injury, some 30 years ago, that she was not expected to survive. And yet she did survive. Moreover, Zan lived the remainder of her life to the fullest and most joyful extent possible.

At all times, and especially after her brain injury, Zan displayed a steely strength in the face of adversity, an unbending determination to overcome daily challenges, an endless supply of good humor and laughter in otherwise disheartening circumstances, and an everlasting love for her husband and her family. She was grace personified.

Zan’s life is a testament and a reminder that, no matter the challenges and sadness we may face, there is still love, peace, and happiness to experience. And for Zan, her family and her faith in God were the keys to these positive experiences.

Remarkably, Zan never returned to a hospital for care in the 30 years after her brain injury. Zan’s family attributes her stable health and comfort to Fred’s tireless support and loving care, day after day, as well as the love and support of her other wonderful caretakers at home.

Zan did travel to the hospital on two occasions after her injury, but only to visit her daughter and her newly-born grandchildren. She held both grandchildren in her arms at those times. This was a dream come true and Zan’s family fondly recalls the joy she radiated holding both of them.

Zan is survived by her loving husband, Fred; her daughters, Holly Bossong and Heather (Andy) Bobrek; grandchildren, Emily and Sam, who loved their “Nami” so much; her sisters, Carol (Jim) May and Lois Adamy; brothers, Frank (Anne) Sommer and Bruce (Sue) Sommer; and several nieces and nephews.

Zan’s family especially thanks, from the bottom of their hearts, her principal caretakers, Tan, Yahumara, Buenafe, Shannon, and Jecel, as well as her many other caretakers over

the years. Their patience, kindness, and thoughtful care helped keep Zan comfortable, safe, and as happy as could be. Her family is beyond grateful and will never forget all you have done to help.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, July 7th at 10 a.m. at Holy Cross Church, 4112 E. Genesee St. Entombment will be private. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hospice of Central New York, 990 7th North Street, Liverpool, NY 13088 or Holy Cross Church, 4112 E. Genesee Street, Dewitt, NY 13214. Farone & Son, Inc. Funeral Home is in care of arrangements.

Events

JUL **Mass of Christian Burial** 10:00AM

7

Holy Cross Church
4112 E. Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY, US, 13214

Comments



“ I grew up as Susan’s older sister. She was my childhood playmate. I watched her change from the wild teenager to the loving wife, mother and professional. After her injury, I watched her endure the years of downward spiral, of limited movement and expression, with a patient grace. As my Tuesday visits became routine, we enjoyed handfuls of m&ms, Gertrude Hawk Chocolates and Peppermint Patties. She forced me to the malls, and I forced her to exercise, stretch and enjoy iPad piano! Those Tuesday visits became such a gift to me as well, as she taught me about perseverance and patience. And now, finally, it is time we let her go. It is with great faith that we understand that she is now FREE — She has WALKED straight into God’s embrace. And she is now looking out for her loved ones, and is joined with those loved ones who have preceded her. Although saddened by our loss, we rejoice in her freedom and peace. We love you, Sister Susan!
Carol

Carol May - July 06 at 04:25 PM



“ I have many fond memories growing up in our large family of cousins and I can happily say I remember her and Fred stopping in to visit. She was always happy, smiling and carefree. She will be missed. Love you Susan and may you Rest in Peace

Ellen O'Mara - July 07 at 11:43 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Susan Bossong.



July 06 at 03:29 PM



“ Childhood Memories of Susan
Living across the street from Susan and Carol Sommer helped make growing up in Levittown wonderfully unforgettable. We spent many happy days playing together and making memories such as:
• Trying to play quietly and neatly upstairs in Susan and Carol’s bedroom, but often making a mess which we had to frantically clean up by shoving everything under their beds when their mother decided to come up to check on us. Several close calls, but teamwork prevailed.

- Looking pretty in our Easter clothes and being allowed to play outside as long as we didn't get dirty.
- Spending many fun summer hours with Susan and Carol in my backyard pool making great whirlpools on our frog and seal floats.
- Long happy summer days walking our dolls in their carriages, jumping rope, enjoying sidewalk games, playing at the school playground and walking to the Village Green to do errands for our mothers or to swim in the big community pool.
- Susan winning the cutest feet contest.
- Unforgettable trips to Jones Beach with the Sommer family - having fun at the craft area making daisy chain bracelets and, of course, enjoying the sun, sand and water. Then checking each other to be sure we got off every grain of sand before getting back into the car for the ride home.

Winter of 2020 Memories

- Susan's smile as she enjoyed the mini Christmas tree that Carol and I brought her decorated with cute little pigs.
- Susan, Carol and I laughing at a Johnny Carson Show rerun featuring high school students in formal attire performing unique lengthy bird calls.

During our childhood years, we never could have imagined that Susan would have to endure such a challenging ordeal, but she managed somehow to cope with grace and even maintained her sense of humor in spite of her physical limitations and difficulty communicating. Susan was blessed with a loving family and dedicated caregivers, who she appreciated and depended on during the past 29 years.

I'm grateful for knowing Susan and happy she lives on in peace and love, no longer limited in anyway. She will always remain a happy memory in my heart and a quiet hero to many.

With love,

Gail Barr Koudelka

Gail Koudelka - July 06 at 12:40 AM

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Gail Koudelka - July 05 at 11:23 PM

“ So very sorry for your loss. Sending loving thoughts and prayers. The Kremer Family--Judi, Vince, Andrew and Kyle.

Judi Kremer - July 05 at 09:08 PM



“ Dear Fred and family, I only met Sue twice, but my sisters knew her and always thought she was amazing. I missed out, not knowing her. When ever you feel lonely, just pull a thought out of your heart and Sue will always be with you. Our thoughts are with you, Betty & Jack Trainham

Betty - July 05 at 07:29 PM



“ Fred - I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Donna Mancini

Donna Mancini - July 05 at 01:42 PM



“ Fred-
I was so sorry to learn of Susan's passing. I have no doubt that she will be good company for your mom and dad and that they will welcome her, as God will, with open arms. She'll be in my prayers. I am truly sorry that I never got to meet her. God bless you and Susan. Very sincerely, Pete Eldredge

Pete Eldredge - July 05 at 01:25 PM



“ Fred - I am so sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you and your family.

Joan Spallone - July 04 at 05:50 PM



“ Fred and the Bossong family, I had the honor to serve Zan when the family used to come to my restaurant. Zan was the epitome of strength, courage and grace . My prayers are with you.

John Julian - July 04 at 02:42 PM



“ Fred, Holly and Heather we are so very sorry to hear this sad news. Sue was such a brave lady who endured so much to remain as vital as she could. She was the model of a loving mother and wife. You are all in our thoughts and prayers as we remember her, and know that she is in a much better place.

Fran and Ken Brick

Francine Brick - July 04 at 12:38 PM



“ Fred..
Very Sorry to Read about Susan ... Love ya
Eric

Eric Weber - July 04 at 02:08 PM



“ Fred, I was saddened to hear of Zan's passing. My Prayers and thoughts are with you. May God give you comfort during this time of mourning.
Arnie Lockette

Arnie lockette - July 04 at 11:44 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.
Pat(Balduzzi)Piano

Pat Piano - July 04 at 10:12 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss. It has been a long journey and I am sure she will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and all your family. May she “Rest in Peace”
Dan and Linda Scaia

linda scaia - July 04 at 10:02 AM



“ Fred and family,

I'm so sorry to read of Susan's passing. My thoughts and prayers will be with you.

Ken Malette

Ken Malette - July 04 at 08:45 AM



“ Fred and family, so sorry to read of the passing of your wife. My sympathy to all . I can see that you were a great husband to be by her side through the difficult times. I now live in Florida year round so lam unable to attend services. I hope you still remember me I grew up with your cousin Paul DeSantis on Malverne Dr.

Al Mastriano - July 04 at 05:35 PM



“ So sorry to hear of your wife's passing . Kathleen Fudge Carlucci

Kathleen Brodtkin - July 05 at 03:45 PM



“ Fred I am so very sorry to read about your wife. It has been a long tough road for her but your love for her keep her going and for that you should be very proud. She was a lucky lady to have you for a husband and to have the love and support of some wonderful children who also showed their love for her through all these years. GOD BLESS all of you I was. a caretaker for my husband and I know how difficult it can be. I pray that she is now at peace...RIP
Florence Rossi Layton

Florence Layton - July 03 at 09:59 PM



“ Fred & Family,
So sorry to hear & read about your "Zan". My sincere condolences go out to you and all of your family my friend. May she rest in peace and God bless her and all of your family too.



RobWells/LasVegas - July 03 at 09:07 PM



“ To Fred and the Bossong family,
Even though I never met your "Zan", I heard about this wonderful woman. She was a blessing to you, and was truly blessed to have such a loving family. Please accept my condolences.
Amy Spanfelner

Amy - July 03 at 06:37 PM



“ Fred, Our condolences for Zan's passing. She is finally at peace. Your amazing love and support of her through all these years has been an inspiration to us. Much love,
Jack and Joanne Rosser



“ Fred, Heather, Holly and the extended Bossong family,
We are very sorry for your loss. The family's (and especially Fred's) support of Zan over the years is a true long term act of love that inspires all of us.
May God guide your family through this time of loss.
Dave and Dora Bobrek

Dave and Dora Bobrek - July 04 at 06:48 AM



“ Fred, so sorry for your loss. I have many great memories of Zan back in the PTA days, meetings at your house with the two little ones running around. You have been an amazing husband and caretaker for your wife, and she will always be with you and the girls.

Val Pietrowicz - July 04 at 07:44 AM



“ Sue was my inspiration to caring for other people's children I will always remember us as young mothers with a mission. So sorry for your loss praying for your peace

Cathy - July 04 at 08:04 AM



“ Very sorry for your loss! Your devotion was an inspiration to us all!

Susan Lenweaver Monagle

Susan Lenweaver Monagle - July 04 at 09:25 AM



“ We were sorry to hear of Zan's passing. You shared a beautiful life together; truly devoted to one another.
As Zan soars with the angels, may you be comforted by the caring of so many friends. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Tom and Susan Skrocki

Susan Skrocki - July 04 at 12:48 PM



“ Fred and Family, you have my Sincerest Sympathy and Empathy! Sue was So Fotunate to have an Amazing and Remarkable Husband! I'll Always remember Sue's Beautiful Smile and her Great Personality! Diane Miller

Diane Miller - July 04 at 02:05 PM



“ Fred and Family, Please accept our heartfelt condolences for your loss. We remember when you would bring Susan to church for Sunday Mass and through the years your dedication and faith have been truly inspiring to us.

Norm and MaryJo Traino

norman traino - July 05 at 11:17 AM



“ Fred and family,
May she rest in Peace . Our thoughts and prayers go out to you. Fred it seems like we just talked about how she was doing and all was stable. All in God's timing. Your dedication and care was key to her longevity. Hugs and God bless,
Janine and Mark Haun

Janine Haun - July 05 at 01:34 PM



“ Fred, Holly and Heather.....to say that Zan was amazing is an understatement! She beat all the odds and that is a credit to all of you! Fred, your love and devotion is a lesson for everyone.

And you girls grew to beautiful women she could be proud of everyday. Your endless love kept her safe and happy. Please know I am thinking of you during this incredibly difficult time.....love and prayers to all of you!

Rockette

Rockette Pirro Brunetti - July 05 at 01:43 PM



“ Fred, I was saddened to learn today of Zan's passing. I know it has been a long difficult road for her and she was fortunate to have your love and dedication. I remember all the fun and good times we had riding our motorcycles, dancing, partying and trips to the Ranch. Please give my condolences to Holly and Heather.

God Bless! Robert Smith

Robert Smith - July 09 at 07:38 AM