



## Mrs. Barbara A. Allen

January 12, 1941 - July 27, 2021

Barbara A. Allen, 80, died peacefully Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at Berkshire Medical Center surrounded by her family. She was born in Pittsfield on January 12, 1941, the daughter of Mary Ethier Bontell and Louis W. Bontell. She grew up in Lenox Dale and graduated from Lenox High School, Class of 1958. Following her graduation, she worked for the Office of Naval Intelligence in Philadelphia, PA. She worked for the Grand Union Supermarket for 24 years in Pittsfield and Williamstown. After those stores closed, she went to work in the Pittsfield Public Schools as a Paraprofessional, retiring in 2002. Central to Barbara's life was her family. She is survived by her two daughters with whom she was very close, Gena Sherman, husband Timothy Sherman, and Michele Buckingham. She made a lasting impact on each of her six grandchildren: Kisti Ornellas, Kristal Trimble, step grandson Nick Sherman, Amanda Buckingham, Brandy Buckingham, and GJ Dowland. She also leaves eight great grandchildren who she delighted in spending time with. She was a communicant of St. Mark's Church in Pittsfield for many years. She was predeceased by her parents and her siblings: Patricia McHugh, Joan Belville, and Clement "Skip" Bontell.

**SERVICES:** Calling hours at Roche Funeral Home in Lenox will be from 9:30am to 11am on Saturday, August 7, 2021. The celebration of her life service will follow from 11:00am to noon. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to United Cerebral Palsy of Western Massachusetts in care of Roche Funeral Home, 120 Main Street, Lenox, MA 01240.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 7. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Roche Funeral Home  
120 Main Street  
P.O. Box 152  
Lenox, MA 01240  
(413) 637-0699  
eroche120fh@gmail.com

## Celebration of Life

AUG 7. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Roche Funeral Home  
120 Main Street  
P.O. Box 152  
Lenox, MA 01240  
(413) 637-0699  
eroche120fh@gmail.com

# Tribute Wall

KI

“ *To Grandma Allen: Every goodbye takes energy, takes reserves, takes heart. Perhaps the saddest goodbyes are the ones said to those who held our admiration the most firmly.*

*It's difficult to imagine life without her. She was a wonderful mother to my mom and Aunt Michele and a guiding grandmother to me, my siblings and my cousins. Her great grandchildren were lucky to have time with her and will certainly grow up reminded of her with stories and shared memories.*

*Spending an hour or two here and there with my grandmother as an adult was a gift and I am so happy I moved home in 2014 and have had opportunity to do this. She and I loved to discuss politics and Elvis Presley and we both enjoyed reminiscing about family events through the years. I know she knew how much respect I had for her, I know she knew how much we all learned from her.*

*Since the time my grandmother became sick many years ago, she has moved through each diagnosis bravely. In my view, she never had it easy, but she never said that. She felt lucky and loved and I know this because she told me just a few days before she passed. I know I am fortunate to have had a grandmother for as long as I have, and on top of that, my grandmother, our grandma, great-grandma, and mother was her own woman. In the end, she was brave and peaceful as we said goodbye. She will be long missed and forever admired for her tenacity and fortitude. She will always be with us, in our hearts, where she made her mark.*

---

**Kisti** - August 08, 2021 at 08:25 AM

CI

“ Hi Gena, so sorry to read about your Mom. I was just thinking of you at your birthday too, as I often do. You were always there for her you are a good daughter and a very caring, genuine person. Hold your memories close, they will sustain you. Condolences to your family. Thinking of you today. Love, Cindy

---

**Cindy** - August 07, 2021 at 03:10 AM

MI

“ A loving mother, daughter, sister, aunt, friend. There are no words to express the emptiness I feel inside without you here. Forever loved. Always in my heart. You will be forever missed. My mom, my rock, my world. I love you. Thank you for loving me.



---

**Michele** - August 04, 2021 at 02:11 PM