



Joyce A. Dourte

April 29, 1953 - March 11, 2022

Even though she was given 9 months upon her diagnosis, Joyce fought on for over 2 years. She passed away peacefully on March 11, 2022 surrounded by family at the Dourte Farm which she called home for almost 37 years.

Joyce was born April 29, 1953 in Long Island, NY to Thomas Zimnoch and Jeannette Zimnoch. She moved with her family to PA as a young girl and spent most of her life in Lebanon, PA.

Graduating from Millersville University, Joyce was a special education teacher in the Annville-Cleona School District for over 36 years. And at the same time as she was caring for her young daughters and working full time, she received her Masters in Education. But it wasn't just her academic endeavors in education that made her such an impactful teacher. Her dedication to her students stretched in and out of the classroom. As she encountered students who needed extra support, donation of basic supplies, or sometimes a visit from a friendly face for a holiday, she was willingly there to help.

Joyce loved the arts, both as an appreciator – from traversing the area for art shows, to seeking out murals and sculptures on any city tour, to attending book reviews in Mt Gretna – as well as an artist herself. A few of her watercolors are infamous amongst her family, but even the doodles you'd find on various notepads had her special flair. You can see her refined taste in the

paintings and pottery she collected, even the hanging mobiles and intricate paper cut pop-up books that she carefully curated throughout her house. She was always the one you wanted arranging a flower display or decorating the Thanksgiving tablescape.

Joyce is survived by her husband, Dale, of 44 years with whom she shared many adventures – some of which you'd even be able to get her to admit were fun – and two daughters LeAnn Dourte Segan and Emily Lessa (Dourte) and their respective husbands, Andrew Segan and Fabio Lessa. And it's no secret her biggest source of joy was watching her family grow as she became grandma to Lucas Lessa (age 5), Ellore Segan (age 4), Madison Lessa (age 2), and Easton Segan (age 1).

She was incredibly close with her family having spent many camping trips, fun-filled nights, and holiday celebrations together. Those left to honor her memory and retell the stories are siblings Barry Zimnoch and his wife Joan Zimnoch, Pamela Dogger (Zimnoch) and her husband Frank Howard Dogger, Steven Zimnoch and his wife Deborah Zimnoch, and William Zimnoch and his wife Gail Zimnoch.

The family will be holding a Celebration of Life at a later date.

Tribute Wall

SS

“ *Such a great teacher with a great sense of humor and understanding! We will miss you, my friend!*

Sherie Strohman - March 14, 2022 at 02:38 PM

JP

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Jeff Pinsler - March 12, 2022 at 12:25 PM

JP

My all-time favorite photo of Joyce and LeAnn. the facial expressions and LeAnn's body language are so . . . adult! I've always wondered what jewel of life's wisdom LeAnn was sharing with her mother? God Bless you Joyce Dourte. I've missed you all for so long. Jeff

Jeff Pinsler - March 12, 2022 at 12:29 PM

EB

“ *A dear friend and partner in crime.*

Ellen Bonetski - March 12, 2022 at 08:55 AM

JA

“ *We want to extend our deepest condolences to you, Dale, and your entire family. Our thoughts are with you all at this time.*
Jane & Scott Zellers

Jane - March 12, 2022 at 07:01 AM

CJ

“ My deepest sympathy to Dale, LeAnn, and Emily—Joyce was a wonderful person. She was extremely proud of her girls and loved her family unconditionally. Prayers for all.
Cindy Jenkins

Cindy Jenkins - March 11, 2022 at 09:05 PM

PL

“ My deepest sympathy to Dale, LeAnn and Emily. Joyce was a very special person and her joyful spirit lives in our hearts and memories. God bless all of your family now and in the days ahead. Peace be with you.
Perry Latshaw

Perry Latshaw - March 11, 2022 at 04:30 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joyce A. Dourte.



March 11, 2022 at 04:29 PM

BR

“ Our condolences to you, Dale, and the rest of the family. I will always have enjoyable memories of the time we spent at The Farm for ____? years (when I could get there) as you and Joyce graciously worked hard to host the annual "Dourte Jamboree." She fought bravely and will be missed.

*Love and prayers,
Brenda (Dourte) and Mike Reibson*

Brenda Reibson - March 11, 2022 at 03:36 PM

BR

Oops, Camporee!

Brenda Reibson - March 11, 2022 at 03:38 PM

LD

My deepest sympathies to your family. I will hold dear my memories of time shared with you all in Mt. Gretna.

Laurie Daub - March 11, 2022 at 03:53 PM

KV

*So Sorry to hear about Joyce. Many fond memories growing up spending Thanksgiving in Lebanon. Joyce will be missed. Our Thoughts and Prayers are with you and the entire family.
Janet & Ken Viafora*

Kenneth Viafora - March 11, 2022 at 04:12 PM

GK

I will always remember Joyce's beautiful smile. My sympathy to her whole family & Dale. What a brave woman. Give Sue a hug for me. May you both RIP with Our Maker. The first years of our married were the best being near you guys in Mt. Gretna. The music, art, & good foods. I must stop & visit Dale. I am in Quentin. Share some laughs & tears. Joyce will be missed by all. She was a strong person.

Gerard Karli - March 12, 2022 at 08:23 AM

DK

Tony and I send prayers for comfort and peace for Dale and your family.

Dawn Kearney - March 12, 2022 at 12:58 PM

DV

We were so sorry to hear about the passing of Joyce. Her kind heart, easy laugh, and soft smile bring back memories of celebrating Thanksgiving with the Zimnoch family when we were young. Our prayers go out to her family and friends during this difficult time.

Doug & Kim Viafora - March 12, 2022 at 03:31 PM

EM

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Emily - March 11, 2022 at 03:36 PM

EM

“ 4 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Emily - March 11, 2022 at 03:19 PM