



Barbara Boisseau

January 7, 1938 - May 14, 2023

AYER/IPSWICH: Barbara Boisseau, 85, a longtime Ayer resident, died Sunday morning, May 14, 2023 at RiverCourt Residence, West Groton.

Barbara was born in Ayer, January 7, 1938, daughter of Paul L. and Gertrude M. (Kidder) Boisseau.

She graduated from Ayer High School in 1955 and continued her education at Sargent College, Boston University and later received her Masters Degree from Plymouth State University in Plymouth, New Hampshire.

Barbara began her teaching career at the Lancaster School for Girls in 1960 and subsequently taught physical education in the Ayer school system. During her tenure Barbara was the first Health Coordinator and established a curriculum for the new program. She was a member of the Massachusetts Teachers and National Education Associations.

Following her 1996 retirement, Barbara served as an Advocate and Mediator at the Salem District Court. She was then able to spend more time at her cottage in Ipswich, becoming active in a quilting group, painting inspired by the area's uniquely beautiful topography, and other artistic endeavors.

Barbara is survived by her brother Paul Boisseau and her sister Dorothy

Boisseau, as well as 29 nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother, Arthur, former Police Chief of Ayer, who died December 7, 2022.

Her funeral service will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2023, at 11:30 AM in the Anderson Funeral Home, 25 Fitchburg Road, (Rte 2A) Ayer. A period of visitation will be held from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Interment will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery, Ayer.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Ayer Shirley Education Foundation, PO Box 502, Ayer, MA 01432.

The Anderson Funeral Home, 25 Fitchburg Rd., Ayer is assisting the family with the funeral arrangements. www.andersonfuneral.com

Previous Events

Calling Hour

JUN 3. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home
25 Fitchburg Road
Ayer, MA 01432
info@andersonfuneral.com

Funeral Service

JUN 3. 11:30 AM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home
25 Fitchburg Road
Ayer, MA 01432
info@andersonfuneral.com

Burial

JUN 3 (ET)

Woodlawn Cemetery
Harvard Road
Ayer, MA 01432
info@andersonfuneral.com

Tribute Wall

MT

“ So very sorry to read of Ms Boisseau’s passing. I remember her from gym class. She was a wonderful woman. Sending condolences to her family. Hugs and prayers for her to rest in peace. The Turra family

Marlene Turra - September 20, 2023 at 10:46 AM

TM

“ The Boisseau Family and the Smith/Thomas Family were neighbors for many years. Barbara and my Aunt Marion were the best of friends growing up. Many years later Barbara and I taught school together at Fort Devens Elementary. She was also my phys ed teacher at the old Ayer High School on Pond Street. Barbara was always fun to be around and will be greatly missed. God Bless.

Tina Maxant - June 12, 2023 at 12:20 PM

“ I met Barbara in the fall of 1971 at grad school in NC. I think she experienced a bit of culture shock that year. With the same schedules, we quickly became "buddies". I came with her for the first time to Ayer/Ipswich about this time in 1972. I met several of her family/friends at that time, and probably visited her a dozen times thereafter.

We enjoyed a lot of laughs, as she introduced me to New England and its history, vocabulary (frappe? jimmies? coffee, regular?), speech patterns (I still can "hear" her term "flea market" as "flea mokket"), food, habits, and culture. I think I generated an international incident in Ipswich at a restaurant when I asked that my lobster roll be heated ("just knock the chill off", probably the expression that I had used). I enjoyed the laughs, as a proud Virginian, and couldn't understand what commotion. There was probably a bit of a "lost in translation" element as well, with my having no accent, of course. It just made more sense to me.

I know that my husband and I visited her in August, 1988, and in June, 2000, with the highlight then being a Red Sox game. My father had been in Boston in the Army (Ft. Banks, Coast Artillery) in the 1930s, and I was well-versed in the lore, as he talked of attending Red Sox and Braves games for 10¢ each.

I might have returned to Ipswich in the early 2000s. I cannot recall exactly my last time there, but the location and scenery are firmly etched into my memory.

I always admired Barbara for her ambition, industry, humor, perseverance, and spirit of independence. She never retreated from a challenge.

I have thought of these experiences and the many sites/sights hundreds of times over the decades. I send warmest regards to all, especially to Paul.

*Leah Settle Gibbs
Amherst VA*

Leah Settle Gibbs - May 29, 2023 at 02:09 PM

DS

“ *I was a joy to be around Barbara at Rivercourt, and enjoy her great personality, and sense of humor. She always had a kind word. She is missed.*

Deb Stoll - May 26, 2023 at 08:32 AM

DS

Barb would laugh and tease me about those typos! It was a JOY to know her!

Deb Stoll - June 01, 2023 at 11:30 AM

JW

“ *It was such a joy to teach with and be a friend of Barbara. I loved hearing about her travels and adventures.*

Judith Wilhelmy - May 23, 2023 at 11:25 PM



“ *Laurie Urban lit a candle in memory of Barbara Boisseau*



Laurie Urban - May 23, 2023 at 08:12 PM

BG

“ *So sorry to hear about your sister's passing.*

Bobby Gardner - May 21, 2023 at 08:32 AM

PK

“ Dori and Paul...so sorry for the loss of your sister. May she rest in peace.

Patricia Krauchune - May 20, 2023 at 06:34 AM

PL

“ To Dotty and Paul and the Boisseau family: Very sorry to hear of "Barb's" passing; so soon after "Artie's". While growing up on 5 Pond St., Ayer, I'll always remember the many times Barb and I would pass each other, "on the go", (me on my bicycle) and I'd yell: "hi Barb." and she would always return a big, reserved smile and a "hi Phil". Barb cheered the AHS football team I played on, to win. Always incredibly kind, a fine person, a good person, Barb will be dearly missed. Phil Locke (San Diego, CA).

Phil Locke - May 19, 2023 at 08:06 PM

NS

“ Nancy Sherwin lit a candle in memory of Barbara Boisseau



Nancy Sherwin - May 19, 2023 at 09:36 AM

DS

“ Sorry to the Boisseau family for your loss. xo

Debbie Walsh and Gene Seager - May 17, 2023 at 12:44 PM