



## Marja-Leena (Alitalo) Bourque

March 7, 1945 - April 3, 2024

Fitchburg – Marja-Leena (Alitalo) Bourque, 79, passed away peacefully in UMass Medical Center in Worcester on April, 3, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born in Turku, Finland on March 7, 1945, a daughter of the late Eino and Irja (Nieminen) Alitalo. Marja-Leena graduated from Fitchburg High School in 1963, and shortly after began her 25 year career working for Borden Chemical. She then worked for many years for Attorney Jack Lorden in Harvard before retiring from Nashoba Nursing after ten years as an Administrative Assistant.

After retirement, she became the primary caretaker for her mother because family was the most important aspect of Marja-Leena's life. She was the most loving, caring and devoted daughter, wife, mother, sister and friend; She was also an animal lover, having several beloved pets along the way.

She is survived by her husband of 33 years, Brian Bourque; daughter Lori Hembrow Bowers and husband Peter; brother Erik Alitalo and wife Brenda "Bing" Barnicle, all of Fitchburg. Marja-Leena is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

At Marja-Leena's request, there are no services. The Isabelle & Anderson

Funeral Home, 316 Clarendon St., Fitchburg is assisting the family. In lieu of flowers please consider a memorial contribution to the American Heart Association 93 Worcester St, Wellesley, MA 02481 or the American Cancer Society 38 Chauncy St. STE 700, Boston, MA 02111.

# Tribute Wall

RV

“ We just heard about Lena's passing. I worked for Borden in Louisiana and we were good friends. Both my wife and I remained in contact with her via Facebook and emails. Always a positive person and would always put a smile on your face. We will miss her and keep her family in our prayers.  
Rich and Ronnie (Veronica) Veillette.

---

**Rich Veillette** - July 26, 2024 at 09:31 AM

CC

“ Lena and I were friends since first grade at Academy Street School. We rode the school bus to school together most every day through FHS. I got on the bus first and always saved her a seat. Those shared mornings make me smile.  
Cindie Grandahl Carlson

---

**Cindie Carlson** - April 11, 2024 at 07:23 AM