



## Lorraine "Lorrie" Brown

July 10, 1929 - August 31, 2023

Lorraine Vasta-Brown, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, and friend, passed away peacefully on August 31, 2023, surrounded by her loving family.

Services celebrating her life will be held at St. Bernards Catholic Church in Benton Harbor. Visitation at 10:00 AM followed by Mass at 11:00. The burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in Benton Township. Please share messages or memories at [www.florin.net](http://www.florin.net).

Lorraine was born on July 10, 1929, in Oak Park IL, she was the cherished daughter of Joseph and Josephine Vasta. Lorraine's life was a statement to love, family, and community. On August 21, 1953, she married the love of her life, Gilbert Brown with whom she celebrated 40 years of marriage, together they raised a beautiful family. Lorraine is survived by her children, MaryJo Isbrecht, Joanne (Tom) Turner, Bill Brown, Jeanne (Brad) Casey, David (Tracy) Brown, Thomas (Bethany) Brown and Geri (Tom) Young and her brother Manny Vasta. She's preceded in death by her husband Gilbert, brothers Edward, Robert and Alfred Vasta, son-in-law Gary Isbrecht, daughter-in-law Sherry Brown and grandsons Justin and Brandon Brown.

Lorraine was a respected and diligent employee at All Phase Electric until she retired in 1994. She remained active by volunteering at Lake Michigan Catholic School as a lunch lady, at the church helping with funeral luncheons and caring for her family.

Lorraine had a special talent for bringing people together and her home was a

haven for family gatherings and holiday celebrations. Her love for gardening and puzzles showcased her creativity and determination. Her faith was a very important part of her life, as she was a devoted member of St. Bernards Catholic Church.

Lorraine Vasta-Brown will be deeply missed, her love, wisdom and legacy will continue to shine brightly through the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing her.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery

1646-1666 E Napier Ave  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

SS John & Bernard Parish, St. Bernard Catholic Church  
555 Delaware  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

## Mass Celebrating Her Life

SEP 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

SS John & Bernard Parish, St. Bernard Catholic Church  
555 Delaware  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

## Burial

SEP 8 (ET)

Calvary Cemetery  
1646-1666 E Napier Ave  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022



# Tribute Wall

GY

“*Lorrie's niece Aimee (Vasta) Weems, wrote this for her family that could apply across all the nephews and nieces. :*

*There is not a purer soul and more selfless person that ever existed among the Vasta Family than our Aunt Lorrie. A woman of such small stature was the pillar of strength and endurance that none of us could ever attain in a lifetime. She was everything to everyone in her own understated manner. Whether through prayer or actual presence, she was always there to do everything she could to assist the family through difficult times.*

*I don't think anyone could disagree that Aunt Lorrie was the perfect Aunt. As an aunt, she could do no wrong. She made the most delicious candy, housed many nieces and nephews at moment's notice, hosted many family reunions, and helped our moms and dads through the sickness of their loved ones.*

*Aunt Lorrie loved unconditionally and was always willing to help in any way she could. There are so many stories that could be shared where she was there to help nurse a dying family member. She treated her sisters-in-law as sisters, and was there for them when members of their own families needed physical and emotional strength in caregiving.*

*Life won't feel the same without Aunt Lorie in it. It did not matter if it was months or years since seeing her. Somehow, we always knew she was there praying for us every step of the way. Her brothers were so blessed to have her, as she was the mother to them, that they did not have in the latter years. In fact, in a way, she was a mother to all of us, and for that we will always have her in our hearts.*

---

**Geri Young** - September 10, 2023 at 11:17 PM

GF

“ Lorraine aka MA Brown was the kindest and sweetest ladies I knew...we loved her homemade brittle & caramels. She shared the story of how this came about...going to miss you sweet lady. Prayers & condolences to the Brown family.

---

**Gina Flores** - September 10, 2023 at 12:33 PM

PP

“ Aunt Lorrie was a very special person and I have such fond memories of her. She sent me some of her puzzles this winter. My deepest sympathy to her family! Love and hugs from cousin Penny Grimes Popp!

---

**Penny Popp** - September 08, 2023 at 10:44 AM



SB

“ Being Mrs Brown\*s next door neighbor for several years I got to know her quite well. Our backyards ran into each other so we spent a lot of time discussing flowers and plants. i had to be careful of admiring her flowers for most times there would be a start of the flower in a pot sitting by my garage the next day. She would always return kindness for a kindness and a favor for a favor. She was a great lady and I will miss her greatly.

---

**Steve Brinkley** - September 08, 2023 at 07:25 AM

JV

“ We will always have the fondest memories of your wonderful Easter celebrations and delicious Christmas candy. We know you're soaring with the angels! Joe, Tami & Anna Vasta  

---

**Joe & Tami Vasta** - September 07, 2023 at 07:15 PM



“ You always told me how blessed you were to have such a wonderful family, but it was us who are the blessed ones. Us who are so lucky to have had you in our lives. I will forever cherish the time I got to spend with you. I’m so grateful to have so many beautiful memories with you. Working on the puzzle. Watching you roll your hair into curlers. Making bread or pancakes. Hearing you sing softly as you worked. The long nights that you, mom, and I spent in your kitchen, chatting and laughing together, a Hallmark movie playing in the background, while we prepared whatever holiday dinner that would be the next day.

You always made sure we knew how much we were loved, and how proud of us you were.

There are no words to express how much you mean to me, and I just hope you knew how much I love you.

---

**Margaret O'Leary** - September 07, 2023 at 05:57 PM



“ I got to know Lorrie while helping on funeral luncheons at St Bernard’s. She was such a kind lady and I appreciate the time we spent visiting. She was a great example of living her faith in all she did.



---

**Julie Holbert** - September 07, 2023 at 01:54 PM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



---

**Dan Vasta** - September 06, 2023 at 05:01 PM

JK

“ Joyce K. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lorraine "Lorrie" Brown.

Joyce K. - September 06, 2023 at 04:44 PM

JD

“ Sending heartfelt prayers and condolences to the family of Mrs. Lorrie Brown. You were always a ray of sunshine and I have fond memories to cherish. Mrs. Brown gave me my first job at Dairy Queen and she was the best neighbor and boss one could ask for. Prayers and hugs for your family. ❤️🙏 Sincerely Joyce Kimble Dunston, Louisville Ky

Joyce Kimble Dunston - September 06, 2023 at 04:20 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Lorraine "Lorrie" Brown.



September 06, 2023 at 04:17 PM