

**Joyce Eddy Plummer**  
**September 28, 1926 - March 4, 2016**



Joyce Eddy Plummer, 89, of Douglas, Michigan, transitioned from this earth Friday March 4, 2016. At the time of her passing, Joyce was under Hospice care at Lakeside Vista in Holland, MI. A memorial service in her honor was held on Sunday, March 13, at Douglas Community Church.

Joyce is survived by her sister, Joan Brigham of Clearwater, Fla.; her children Marde Clardy, Rusty Plummer and Keith Plummer and Rusty's partner Mike Metzger and Keith's spouse Danette Plummer. There are seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; first cousin Patricia Paton Woods; and several nieces, nephews and their descendants.

Joyce Paton Eddy was born to Ben and Esther Eddy, Sept. 28, 1926, in Ann Arbor. She was the fourth of five girls. She was very close to her older sisters Betsy, Barb and Joan and to her only first cousin Patricia Paton. Susan, the youngest, was 15 years Joyce's junior.

Joyce enjoyed growing up in Ann Arbor and was a tomboy. As a child she dressed in boy's clothes and snuck into the University of Michigan football games and sat on the bench with the players.

Her favorite thing was when school recessed for the summer. Her siblings, dogs, Aunt Mardie and her parents loaded two cars and moved to her grandmother's home in Douglas. There in Western Michigan she and her family enjoyed all things outdoors, especially Lake Michigan.

During World War II she raised a Victory Garden and sold her produce at the local market.

She spent two years of college at Western for Women in Oberlin, Ohio, then

transferred to Western Michigan University where she graduated in 1948.

She married Sanford Ross Plummer of Ganges on July 10, 1948. She was a teacher in South Haven. Eventually, Joyce and her husband lived in Eaton Rapids where the last three of their four children were born. Joyce was a homemaker and a teacher.

In 1965, the family moved to Owosso. Her love of education inspired her to pursue her master's and specialist degrees from Michigan State University where she earned a specialist degree in reading. She worked as a reading specialist in the Owosso public school system until her retirement in 1986.

Besides being an excellent swimmer and WSI, she enjoyed horseback riding, bicycling, sailing and all kinds of card and board games. She was an excellent vocalist and sang for many years in the church choir. She loved cooking and entertaining. "The more the merrier" was one of her mottos.

In 1978, she was able to purchase her Aunt's cottage on the Douglas Lakeshore. There, she summered until she took up full-time residence after her retirement. In retirement, she and her husband traveled widely, were active in Kiwanis and the church.

Joyce spent the early months of 2000 in the Philippines with her missionary sister-in-law and her husband. The two of them helped with the mission.

From 1988 until 2008, Joyce and Sandy wintered at Fun and Sun in San Benito, Texas. After her husband's passing she continued to winter there until 2013 and was known for her love of dogs, especially Great Danes, and her love of water volleyball despite her need for portable oxygen.

Joyce's resilience, determination, and deep faith were brought to bear when in August of 2000 she suffered a serious pulmonary emboli event. She survived but in spring 2001 was diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension secondary to pulmonary emboli.

The doctors told her she had three to five years to live. She told the doctor she would live to see her youngest grandchild graduate from high school. She did this and more.

Joyce was preceded in death by her son, Ben, in May of 1999 and her husband, Sandy in June of 2008 and her sisters Susan, Barb and Betsy. The family suggests memorials in her honor be made to the Douglas Community Church, the Saugatuck Douglas Historical Society or the charity of one's choice.

