



Penelope "Penny" J. Haras

October 29, 1942 - September 29, 2023

Penelope Jean Haras "Penny," 80 years old, of Chicago, Illinois, died peacefully on September 29, 2023 surrounded by family in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Penny was born in Naperville, Illinois on October 29, 1942 to the late Donald F. Cooper and the late Virginia Kramer Cooper.

Penny met her longtime partner William David Erwin "Dave" in Chicago. They were devoted to one another and shared a good life for 25+ years. They enjoyed dining out, cooking together, and spending time with their extended families, children, grandchildren, siblings, and nieces and nephews.

Penny, matriarch of her family, is survived by her children Pamela Jostock Jandura (the late Brad Bennett), David Jostock, and Mary Jostock Claps; and her grandchildren, Molly Jostock (fiancé Cody Wilson), Emily Jandura, Marian Jostock, and Benjamin Claps. She is also survived by her brother Donald Cooper (Cortina Mendoza) and sister Deborah Ferguson Cooper (the late Charles Stanley Ferguson, Sr.). Penny was a loving aunt to Heather Ferguson Vittore (Ross; children Lucas and Shaun), Charles Stanley Ferguson, Jr. (Abby; children Ella and Anna), and Jennifer Cooper. She will also be missed by Dave's mother, Kay Erwin (the late William A. Erwin), and Dave's brother Michael Erwin (Jean) and their daughter Samantha.

Penny cherished being a grandparent. She loved to attend the kids' musical performances, concerts, sporting events, graduations, and birthday parties. Penny loved Christmas and treasured this time of year. She always made

Christmas special with her delicious cooking and thoughtful gifts. She never failed to remember a birthday with a card, flowers, or a gift or to celebrate the accomplishments of the children in her life. These family times meant everything to her. Her daily phone calls with her younger daughter, Mary, will be missed.

Penny was a foster mother to 18 babies and children during the 70's. She adored babies and children and was always a fierce advocate for them. Penny also had a soft spot for animals. She and her dog, Sadie, were inseparable. As a life-long Guardian of the ASPCA (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), she treated every animal and all family pets like valued family members.

As a CNA, Penny loved her job at Misericordia. In her work, Penny was passionate about providing care and support for people living with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Always an advocate for the dignity of every person, she worked very hard for the residents, whom she loved.

Penny loved a well-appointed home and always decorated her home beautifully. With meticulous planning and the help of family, Penny moved to Fond du Lac with Dave to a new home, hoping to regain health and build a fresh life. She lived there for only the last month of her life.

Everyone who knew Penny enjoyed her feisty sense of humor and her ability to make them feel special. She took great interest in everything going on in the lives of her family. Everyone has a favorite "Penny" story. She was known to say, "If it doesn't make sense, it's nonsense," in applicable moments.

A memorial service for Penny will be held at a later date in the Chicago area. Her family will communicate information about the memorial when the plans have been finalized.

Donations in memory of Penelope Jean Haras can be made to the ASPCA.

<https://secure.aspca.org/donate/memorial>

Tribute Wall

WE

“ Thinking and missing you Penny this Christmas
Love forever Dave

W.David Erwin - December 23, 2023 at 08:35 PM

DC

“ Many, many people have a big sister. Penny is mine. I will miss you,
but deep in my heart I know I will see you again.

Donnie Cooper

Don Cooper - October 13, 2023 at 01:55 PM

JF

“ Jandura Family sent a virtual gift in memory of
Penelope "Penny" J. Haras



Jandura Family - October 10, 2023 at 11:21 PM

DS

“ Penny and I were neighbors in Mt Prospect Illinois. She was one of
my very best friends in my life. Our birthdays were just 3 days apart
and the same year. I loved her and her family. We had lost touch for
a while, but in the last few years since her daughter Pam and grand
daughter Emily moved to Fond du Lac we have kept in touch. I was
looking forward to spending time with her when she and Dave
moved near me in FdL. My prayers are with her and all who loved
her as I did.

Dottie Stelmacher - October 02, 2023 at 03:21 PM

DE

Thank you very Sweet Dottie

David Erwin - October 03, 2023 at 12:03 PM

RS

I will always have fond, loving memories of Penny. What a beautiful soul she was.

Ruthie Scherer - October 08, 2023 at 11:20 AM

JB

The fruits of Penny's life are evident in her family's lives. Her passion and devoted life to family was always on display. Our prayers are with Dave and the family as they process the loss of this precious woman. We are blessed to have known her.

Jean Brandon - October 08, 2023 at 03:53 PM

TF

Sincere condolences. My memories of Penny are warm, funny, giving, strong in family bonds, available any time she was asked. Traits she passed on to her children and grandchildren. Heavens gates have opened. The kingdom has welcomed a beloved.

The Jandura Family - October 10, 2023 at 11:18 PM