



## Judith Evans Cruz

April 26, 1947 - May 13, 2021

Judith Evans Cruz, age 74, of Suwanee, GA passed away on Thursday, May 13, 2021. She was preceded in death by her parents, Stephen and Genevieve Ann Szulakiewicz Evans, and her brother, Stephen Evans. Mrs. Cruz is survived by her husband of fifty-one years, Antonio Cruz of Suwanee; sons Aaron (Erin) Cruz of Pinckney, MI, and Adam (Ashley) Cruz of Wellington, New Zealand; grandchildren, Brandon Cruz and Bryson Cruz of Pinckney, MI, and Mason Williams of New Zealand; and four nieces. Mrs. Cruz was born on April 26, 1947 in Detroit, Michigan. She was a 1965 graduate of Garden City High School and a 1969 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor's of Arts degree. Mrs. Cruz had worked as a teacher for seven years in the Garden City School System. She was retired from Petite Sophisticate. Her mantra was, "I was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother who would do anything for those I loved. I fought for life as long as I could." No formal services are planned. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association in memory of Judith Cruz.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Judith Evans Cruz*

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November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM

NB

“ How fortunate we Floozies were to have each other in our early years. Later, regardless of separation by distance or time – in Floozie style, Judy could always pick up a conversation where we left off. We could “catch up,” whether it had been a week or a decade. So, as I now say good-bye to Judy, I hold onto a lifetime of memories, some important moments, others small and silly – like these:

Once, Judy and I took a decoupage class, where we learned to decorate boxes by gluing layers of paper together. We decided our new-found artistry was a valuable talent. Certainly, thousands of women would be eager to display our decoupage boxes in their homes! We went to work on our goal of making every home a decoupage home! We diligently prepared a large inventory of these paper-decorated boxes. Then we rented a booth at a local art fair. To our surprise (and dismay), very few (two) shared our enthusiasm for this shabby artform. Over future months, many friends and relatives were gifted decoupage boxes - for all occasions!

For years, the annual Floozie Christmas Party was a special gathering. And, as part of our holiday tradition, Judy had the important job of blocking Tony’s efforts to crash our party, or figure out our “secret” Floozie Christmas ritual. Sorry, Tony, our lips are sealed.

During that time, one of my favorite Floozie Christmas gifts was from Judy – a little ceramic house with twinkling Christmas lights atop its snowy roof. Every year since that 70’s Christmas, I’ve put the little ceramic house on display . . . and its lights continue to shine. Thanks, Judy.

Hugs,  
Nance Brisbois

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nance brisbois - May 28, 2021 at 05:36 PM

AC

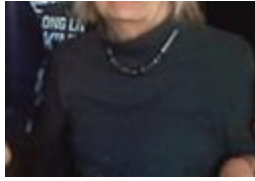
*Thanks Nance so much for sharing your memories of my mom. Sounds like you guys had a lot of fun back in the day! Never heard about the decoupage stuff before. I do remember hearing about my dad's efforts haha. She is looking down on all of us and the little ceramic house. :) ~ Aaron*

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**Aaron Cruz** - June 01, 2021 at 04:18 PM

AC

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Aaron Cruz** - May 21, 2021 at 12:55 PM

KB

“ *Judy, just to have met someone who could out talk me! But way better than that, to have you as a “Florence Floozie” was the real treat. What a tight little “gang” we were, so young and full of spit and vinegar. Those days at Florence Elementary made us a tight knit group that survived the ups, downs, successes, and sorrows that do befall such a group, and to think we lasted over 40 years. The last Zoom call we had will be a wonderful memory of us catching up, carrying on, and your fighting spirit. I am so pleased to have been a part of your life, and you of mine. Karen Bunting*

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**Karen Bunting** - May 20, 2021 at 08:19 PM

AC

*Thank you Karen, for the kind words and the memories you shared of my mom. I didn't know of your guys group name until my dad mentioned it the other day. Was awesome you all had that bond long after you guys taught there in Garden City. My mom brought you up many times over the years. She will be missed. :) ~ Aaron*

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**Aaron Cruz** - May 20, 2021 at 09:39 PM

LC

*Hi Tony, Aaron and Adam,  
What a pleasure to know Judy all these years. It's a rare event to know people from your first teaching job until the present day. Our Florence group of 8 teachers formed a bond that was special & unique. At our get togethers, Judy always made a supreme effort to share proud stories of her boys and important life events with Tony. I always admired her fighting spirit when facing her many health challenges. She always felt she could overcome, and she did for so many years. Judy you will be missed but never forgotten. Rest now my friend until we meet again. Lynn Check*

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**lynn check** - May 25, 2021 at 07:51 PM

KW

*“ Judy, It is with sadness, it dawns on me, that we won't meet again. I am so grateful that we got to share just a few short minutes in the video call, when we were all together in NZ over Easter. You looked great with your gorgeous wispy hair and big smile.  
Thank you for sharing Adam with us and looking after Ash and Mason so well when they visited. Adam is devastated to lose his darling Mum. Please know that I will love and support him, and Ash and Mason, as only a mother can.  
Tony, sending you much love, as you embark on a new journey without your dear Judy. Treasure the memories.*

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**Kerry Williams** - May 18, 2021 at 01:57 AM

AC

*Thanks for the kind words Kerry! Glad you had that recent time with her on video. She will be missed and she was so loved. I know she will be looking down and watching all of us. Thanks for supporting my brother, Ashley and Mason during this time. ~ Aaron*

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**Aaron Cruz** - May 19, 2021 at 04:04 PM

AW

“ Dear Judy, may you rest in peace and finally be free of pain. Mason and I enjoyed getting to know you and staying with you on our trips, we wish we had more time with you. We will remember our last trip to Savannah and the lovely house you picked for us to stay in, and the elephant ornaments that were in the master bedroom, your favorite. Thank you for bringing Adam into our lives and sharing him with us, we will look after your son so well as promised xxxx

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**Ashley Williams** - May 16, 2021 at 05:35 PM

AC

Thank you Ashley for the words. She did love her elephants, they are all over the house. :) Glad you had that fun southern trip with her last year. I know you will look after Adam and my mother will be watching all of us still too. :) ~ Aaron

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**Aaron Cruz** - May 19, 2021 at 04:06 PM

LJ

“ My earliest memory of Aunt Judy was of a "hip" college graduate, in her mid-20s, elementary school teacher, with the coolest cursive writing. She married her soulmate, Uncle Tony, and became a California girl at heart. She loved visiting the Ann Arbor Art Fair which, to her, was like Christmas in July. But my fondest memories are probably from the holidays. Her perfectly decorated Scotch Pine Christmas trees, her famous rum balls and the cookie exchanges, and the Christmas Eve brunch she and Tony would always host. To this day, Aunt Judy's breakfast quiche is a staple for my family's Christmas morning. She adored her boys. Aaron and Adam - the love never leaves, and your mom will be in your heart always. To Uncle Tony - the love you shared will bridge your hearts until you meet again. Love to you all. xoxo Laura, Tom, and the kids xoxo

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**Laura Jones** - May 15, 2021 at 03:50 PM

AC

*She did love the Ann Arbor Art Fair I remember her working with dad on arts & crafts and us sitting at smaller fairs in booths trying to sell some of their creations. Oh yeah the rum balls and Christmas Eve brunch! Always a fun holiday time. Thank you for sharing and bringing back memories Laura. You are right, she will be with us forever. Will love and miss her every day. ~ Aaron*

**Aaron Cruz** - May 22, 2021 at 09:01 AM

JA

*“ I was so fortunate to know Judy while I was in college. We worked retail together at Casual Corner. Coincidentally I ended up meeting her son Aaron at EMU. He became and still is one of my very best friends. Judy was like a mom to me. We had so many great conversations. She loved her boys and talked about them all the time. Such an inspiration to me when I myself became a mother. I'll miss you Judy. I'm so grateful to have known you.*

**Jen A** - May 14, 2021 at 03:35 PM

AC

*My mom loved her time at Casual Corner and working with you. I know how close you guys were there. So happy to have met you through her. Thanks for sharing your great memories Jen. She was always so proud to share everything going on with me and Adam to everyone she came across. She loved people. And lots of people loved her! :) She will be missed.*

**Aaron Cruz** - May 23, 2021 at 07:07 AM

AC

*“ 1 file added to the tribute wall*



**Aaron Cruz** - May 14, 2021 at 02:28 PM

AC

“ My mom was always there for me. When I broke my elbow as a young boy she took me to therapy every day until I recovered. A found memory.. Whenever I needed to talk she was there. She was always making sure I was ok. You will be missed more than you know. I am so thankful you got to meet and got to know Erin and your two grandsons.. Thank you for being my mom, you will always be my mom and I know you will be watching down. I will think about you everyday and smile. I love you mom!!!! ❤️❤️❤️



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**Aaron Cruz** - May 14, 2021 at 02:09 PM

ML

*Aunt Judy had a free spirit here on earth, and she is surely flying free in heavenly glory! Will always remember helping you correct papers when you were a teacher, and the annual Christmas Eve brunches. Thanks for the memories 💕 Shine bright, angel!*

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**Michelle Leighton** - May 14, 2021 at 04:33 PM

CM

*Rest in peace Aunt Judy. You will be missed but I'm thankful that you were welcomed to your eternal home by those we've lost and love.*

*I'll always remember you as the cool, young Aunt, who babysat for us and let us help you grade your school papers; probably using up all of your fun stickers. We always shared a bond in later years for our love of teaching. I have fond memories of your cookie exchange prior to the Christmas holiday and the whole family gathering on Christmas Eve morning for the wonderful brunches that you and Uncle Tony hosted. Thank you for your encouragement throughout the years and showing us how to fight so bravely to the end.*

*Wishes for strength to Uncle Tony, Aaron, Adam and their families. Focus on all of the good memories that will never fade. Heartfelt condolences from my entire family. Love, Cheryl, Dan and family*

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**Cheryl Mathena** - May 16, 2021 at 12:18 PM