



## JoAnn Conti

March 15, 1942 - January 23, 2025

Jo Ann (Toni) Conti, age 82, beloved wife, aunt, friend and teacher, passed away peacefully Thursday, January 23, 2025. Toni, the wife of 55 years to William (Bill) Conti of Fenton, grew up in Olive Branch, just east of Holly. She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Josephine (Smith) Andrews, and her sister and brother-in-law, Marilyn (Mimi) and Jimmie Long.

Toni attended the Olive Branch School, a one room schoolhouse, before graduating from Holly High School in 1960. She went on to get her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education and her Master's Degree at Michigan State University.

Toni loved her hometown, her family and serving others. You couldn't go anywhere in Holly without running into someone who knew her. While she has no children of her own, she spent a lifetime caring for others. Aunt Toni was like a second mother to her nephew Philip (Robin) Long of Boyne City, niece Lesley Jesse of Fenton, niece Lisa (Peter) Hickman of New Jersey. She spoiled 6 great nephews and niece; Eric Long, Jake Long, Caleb Long, Jordan Hickman, Mason Hickman, Adam Jesse and Abby Jesse. She gave her heart to families in Holly serving as a dedicated Early Childhood Teacher for 42 years and even awarded Teacher of the year. She loved Bunco with the girls, buying and giving gifts, trips to Florida and caring for animals especially the cutest cat in the world, Minnie.

The family will be receiving visitors at Dryer Funeral Home in Holly on Tuesday, January 28th from 3-7pm. Funeral Service will be held at 11:30am, Wednesday, January 29, 2025 at Dryer Funeral Home with Pastor Beth Gentner officiating. Burial will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery.

Special Thanks to Caregiver Kelly Sherrill and the wonderful helpers at Hampton Manor. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to the Fenton Adopt-a-pet. [www.dryerfunerhomeholly.com](http://www.dryerfunerhomeholly.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Rd.  
Holly, MI 48442

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 28. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

DryerFuneral Home, Inc.  
101 First St  
Holly, MI 48442  
(248) 634-8291  
bgdryer@hotmail.com  
<https://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com>

## Funeral Service

JAN 29. 11:30 AM (ET)

DryerFuneral Home, Inc.  
101 First St  
Holly, MI 48442  
(248) 634-8291  
bgdryer@hotmail.com  
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# Tribute Wall

AA

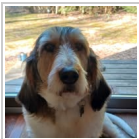
“ I shall always remember Mrs. Conti I had her for kindergarten she was such an amazing woman I have many memories I have always held close one being when we did circle time and she would play records the few songs I will always remember is who stole the cookie from the cookie jar. And loved when she would do the five little pumpkins However there is a story when I was in her class so my first day of school my mom had told Mrs conti that I have this obsession with pictures and if she ever found me in her purse it's only for the pictures well my mom got a call and apparently I was sitting by Mrs contis desk looking at the pictures in her wallet but Mrs conti was understanding and so amazing she wasn't mad or anything that's something that I've not ever had forgotten. She never forgot any of her students she had so much love for them the last time I saw her was downtown at a parade in I think 2012 or 2013 or so. She came up and gave me a hug and we talked I absolutely loved her and I will never forget her she is truly an angel. Rest in peace Mrs conti I love you and thank you for love and compassion and how you made anything fun bless you

Angie Alvarado - February 05, 2025 at 12:08 AM

RM

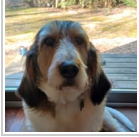
I am so sorry for your loss. I had Mrs Conti for kindergarten. She set the bar very high for teachers that I had in the future.

Robin Merry-Hartoon - February 11 at 07:57 PM



“ Rest in peace, Toni. My family and I will always hold a special place in our hearts for such a wonderful, warm, exemplary teacher.

Carol Richards-Berger - January 31, 2025 at 12:05 PM



“ Carol Richards-Berger lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Conti



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**Carol Richards-Berger** - January 31, 2025 at 12:02 PM

BD

“ 1 file added to the album Funeral service Jo Ann Toni Conti



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**Bruce Dryer** - January 29, 2025 at 04:50 PM

SP

“ Toni was a special classmate and friend of over 70 years. The inscription under her senior picture was, “ a winning smile and personality”

*Spot on! I shall cherish forever the moment and memories we have shared. She was a loving person and touched so many lives. She surely will be missed. I certainly will miss our rendezvous's when I come home to visit. So sorry for your loss Bill. RIP Toni*



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**Sharlene (Taylor) Peter** - January 29, 2025 at 09:44 AM

MV

“ To know Toni was to Love her. It’s a feeling shared by so very many lives she touched in her amazing way. She will always have a place in my heart and memories. Bill, sending you comforting hugs during this difficult loss.

Mary Ann Vito - January 28, 2025 at 11:03 PM

TN

“ Sorry to hear about Toni,Bill spent many times working in her classroom. Great person & friend. My Condolences.

Tod Nash - January 28, 2025 at 06:25 PM

SS

“ Shirley St.John lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Conti



Shirley St.John - January 28, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of JoAnn Conti.



January 28, 2025 at 10:30 AM

SG

“ *Bill our hearts are broken. I have so many wonderful memories of times together with Toni. She was a true friend always caring about others. Her smile and heart will be missed. Our love and sympathy are with you.*

*Sandy (Burr) & Mike Gaken*

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**Sandy Gaken** - January 28, 2025 at 07:52 AM

DT

“ *I met Toni at Spring Meadows. My husband had been a long time member, but I was new to the club, as well as, the area. Having moved from out of state, I knew very few people. Toni welcomed me with open arms. I was so taken by her genuine senserity. Her beautiful smile and reassuring words were so appreciated. I often tell the story of a club fashion show I attended soon after arriving in Michigan. She welcomed me to her table, after another had refused. I will never forget her kindness. Her generous gesture made such a difference at that time, in my life.*

*The last time I saw her, she looked so cute, dressed in her white jean jacket with silver nail heads. Her hair and makeup looked so nice. I told her she reminded me of my mother. I couldn't take my eyes off her. I will forever remember her that way, and cherish her kindness. God Bless you, Toni. Rest, in your so deserved peace 🕊️.*

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**Debbie Tegard-Harroun** - January 27, 2025 at 12:48 PM

DB

“ Toni played in our pinochle card club for more than 40 years. She was one of a kind and we will miss her greatly! Rest in Peace dear friend. Dottie



Dorothea Bradsher - January 27, 2025 at 12:27 PM

PF

“ She was my first teacher (Kindergarten) and was a truly amazing teacher. I will never forget your kindness. You will always be my favorite teacher. Lots of prayers for your family at this time.

Pamela (Carroll) Ford

Pam (Carroll) Ford - January 27, 2025 at 10:43 AM

DH

“ Bill, so sorry to hear of Toni,s passing. she was a sweetheart, always a smile on her face she will be dearly missed.

Donald and Frances Heron - January 27, 2025 at 08:52 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of JoAnn Conti.



January 26, 2025 at 03:05 PM


VS

“ Bill, I was so surprised to hear of Toni's passing. My heart goes out to you. What a sweetheart she was! The last time I ran into her we stared at each other for a few seconds before recognition hit. We had both aged and gone gray, well I have, Toni was a beautiful shade of white! You are in my thoughts at this difficult time. Val Soldan

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**Val Soldan** - January 26, 2025 at 11:09 AM

CS

“ Tony taught all three of our children at Holly Elementary. We realize that is not unusual, but they were thirteen years apart. She also was a colleague of mine. She worked in one wing of the old Holly Elementary while I worked in another wing. This was before the remodel Many experiences shared in the teachers lounge and staff meetings. One  f the most beloved teachers, and friend.

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**Carol Spencer** - January 25, 2025 at 01:41 PM

SB

“ My deepest condolences to Toni's family. She and I were roommates at EMU back 60 years ago, and we remained friends throughout the years. I have so many memories of our times together. Be at peace, Toni.

*Sharron Bowker*

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**Sharron Bowker** - January 25, 2025 at 11:51 AM

JB

“ Bill, sorry to hear about Toni, sometimes there is a god. Only wish I was there to give you a hug. Thinking of you , your friend, John Bradley

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**John Bradley** - January 25, 2025 at 10:17 AM

JM

“ My condolences to the whole family. Toni was an amazing woman. So many memories in my younger years. To many to list. She was like a big sister. Fly free Toni.

Janice Swanson McBrien - January 25, 2025 at 09:58 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of JoAnn Conti.





January 25, 2025 at 09:48 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of JoAnn Conti.

January 25, 2025 at 09:48 AM

MA

“ It was a sad day when Holly, Michigan lost a Treasure in Toni Conti. My deepest condolences to Bill, her family and Toni's dear friends during this most difficult time. Toni had the brightest smile, the biggest heart and the best Hug's. She was a dear friend to my Mother's, too. Peace    




Marti Addis - January 25, 2025 at 08:46 AM

VN

“ Toni was a childhood friend of my mom's, so I have known her since I was born. I remember being at her dad's house, traveling up north with their Holly friend group, and many parties. My deepest condolences to Bill and family. 💔 Vicki Nellis (daughter of Marilyn Young Edwins, Holly HS Class of 1960)



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**Vicki Nellis** - January 25, 2025 at 05:33 AM



“ My condolences to Mrs Conti's family. I'm learning her first name for the first time today. She was my first grade teacher way back in 1989, and I adored her. Even used to write her little love letters. I had trouble reading as a youngster, and I can still remember all the kindness and compassion she showed me. If she made an impact on a goofy kid like me, I'm sure she did the same for countless others through her years teaching. It's amazing what a positive impact one person's life's pursuit can make on the world. Rest in peace, Mrs. Conti.

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**Clay Richard** - January 24, 2025 at 10:14 PM

VN

“ Toni was a childhood friend of my mom's, so she's been around my whole life. I am extremely sad to hear of her passing. My deepest condolences to Bill and their extended family. To know Toni was to love her! Vicki Nellis (daughter of Marilyn Young Edwins, Holly HS Class of 1960)



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**Vicki Nellis** - January 24, 2025 at 08:48 PM

TM

“ Tim, Carrie, April, Nancy MacKenzie purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of JoAnn Conti.



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**Tim, Carrie, April, Nancy MacKenzie** - January 24, 2025 at 05:12 PM

CL

“ Mrs. Conti was a wonderful person and teacher. She became our friend, visiting me at my work many times. Her kindness and caring nature were instrumental to my boys. May God be waiting with open arm to receive this beautiful woman. RIP The Leppeks, Ann, Craig, Ryan and Nicholas.

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**Craig Leppek** - January 24, 2025 at 04:59 PM

CM

“ Cheryl mcdougal lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Conti



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Cheryl mcdougal - January 24, 2025 at 04:57 PM

JB

“ Our most sincere condolences to Bill and her family in the loss of a wonderful woman. One of a kind and a friend to all who knew her! Rest in peace my friend!

John and CJ  
Brummeler

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john Brummeler - January 24, 2025 at 04:41 PM

JG

“ Bill and family sorry for your loss, Toni was a wonderful lady.

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Jim Gould - January 24, 2025 at 04:10 PM

PL

“ Parvin and Monica Lee purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of JoAnn Conti.



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Parvin and Monica Lee - January 24, 2025 at 03:33 PM

SK

“ I met Toni through ladies golf @ Spring Meadows Golf Club. She was a beautiful soul and radiated that to others. She always had a smile and a kind word. My sympathies to Bill and family. May she Rest in Peace.

Susan M Kruszka - January 24, 2025 at 02:28 PM

TS

“ She was an amazing teacher, she was my first teacher, forever will remember her.



Tammy Schuh - January 24, 2025 at 02:10 PM

TC

“ Tom and Cindy lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Conti



Tom and Cindy - January 24, 2025 at 01:01 PM

JH

“ Mrs. Conti was my favorite teacher of all times! I had her for two years in a row; Kindergarten and Forst grade! She was the nicest, sweetest, and loving teacher. To top it off I invited her to my graduation ceremony at my church before I left for college and she came to support me 💕 she was my inspiration of what I wanted to be like in my life; a kind, caring, and thoughtful person.

Jennifer Hayes - January 24, 2025 at 12:58 PM

NY

“ It has been many years since I spent time with Toni. We graduated together and spent many fun times as teenagers. I am very sad to hear of her passing. I send prayers to bill and her family. How did we get to this age so quickly.



nancy nelson yokom - January 24, 2025 at 12:55 PM



“ Bill, So Sorry to hear of Toni's passing. She was the sweetest and kindness person .

Duane Addis - January 24, 2025 at 12:22 PM

HH

“ Mrs. Conti was such a wonderful person and my favorite teacher! She always had a smile on her face. There are not many teachers like her anymore. Rest in peace special lady. 🙏💔

Heidi Howieson - January 24, 2025 at 12:15 PM

HH

“ Heidi Howieson lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Conti



Heidi Howieson - January 24, 2025 at 12:13 PM

CD

“ *Connie Austin Davis lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Conti*



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**Connie Austin Davis** - January 24, 2025 at 11:49 AM

MB

“ *Michele bailey lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Conti*



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**Michele bailey** - January 24, 2025 at 11:07 AM

MB

“ *I remember miss conti I had her for 2 years when I was growing up in school I was a little shy so she thought it would be good for to have her again the a lot of years later I seen her at the credit union in holly she knew who I was and one of my sisters kids had her to its sad I'm so sorry for the loss she was the most kind and a great teacher I will never forget her she taught me a lot ...rest in piece ❤️*

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**Michele bailey** - January 24, 2025 at 11:06 AM

JH

*Michelle! She truly was the best! I'll be attending the viewing around 5:30/6:00, hope to see you there.*

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**Jennifer Hayes** - January 24, 2025 at 01:00 PM

TR

“ Tina Nelson Runco purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of JoAnn Conti.



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**Tina Nelson Runco** - January 24, 2025 at 10:31 AM

TR

“ Tina Nelson Runco planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of JoAnn Conti.

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**Tina Nelson Runco** - January 24, 2025 at 10:31 AM

KR

“ I am so sorry, Bill. I know Toni was the love of your life. My heart is with you.  
Tina Nelson

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**Kristine Runco** - January 24, 2025 at 10:14 AM

JW

“ Jan and Jim Wilds purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of JoAnn Conti.



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**Jan and Jim Wilds** - January 24, 2025 at 10:03 AM

JH

“ I am in shock. You were my 1st teacher ever and I loved you and school from the start. When seeing you again at Hampton Manor of Holly and being able to take care of you it ment the world to me. I will deeply miss you and never will forget what a great woman you are. Prayers to the family and so sorry for your loss. You will be dearly missed.

Jennifer Hawley - January 24, 2025 at 09:58 AM

CB

“ Our deepest sympathy and condolences to Bill and all who loved Toni. She was a wonderful woman. Chari and Terry Beecher

chari lynn beecher - January 24, 2025 at 09:49 AM

CB

“ chari lynn beecher lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Conti



chari lynn beecher - January 24, 2025 at 09:39 AM

JM

“ Special memories of long ago. A very special lady and teacher!

Julia Patterson Matousek - January 24, 2025 at 09:24 AM

SR

“ We purchased the Andrew’s property on East Holly Rd from her Dad. Have lived here over 50 years. The best thing that has happened to our family. Our deepest regards to her family. Prayers sending up.

Shirley Roos - January 24, 2025 at 09:00 AM

KP

“ *John and Kim Phillips*



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**Kimberly Phillips** - January 24, 2025 at 08:46 AM

SJ

“ *Sarah Jesse lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Conti*



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**Sarah Jesse** - January 24, 2025 at 03:21 AM

CF

“ *Chol Yi family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of JoAnn Conti.*



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**Chol Yi family** - January 24, 2025 at 12:17 AM

CF

“ *Chol Yi family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of JoAnn Conti.*

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**Chol Yi family** - January 24, 2025 at 12:17 AM

TH

“ Tony and Jean Heron lit a candle in memory of JoAnn Conti



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**Tony and Jean Heron** - January 23, 2025 at 10:19 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of JoAnn Conti.



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January 23, 2025 at 07:20 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of JoAnn Conti.

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January 23, 2025 at 07:20 PM

CN

“ Toni was such a beautiful person both inside and out. We share so many great memories. I chuckle when I reflect on them. Toni is not gone, just gone ahead.

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**Cindy Nelson** - January 23, 2025 at 06:35 PM

CN

“ Cynthia N. purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of JoAnn Conti.



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Cynthia N. - January 23, 2025 at 06:24 PM

CN

“ Cynthia N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of JoAnn Conti.

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Cynthia N. - January 23, 2025 at 06:24 PM

MT

“ Michael, Tracey, Aidan and Ciara Tradii purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of JoAnn Conti.



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Michael, Tracey, Aidan and Ciara Tradii - January 23, 2025 at 05:49 PM

CD

“ Sending thoughts and prayers. Toni was such a wonderful person. My memories of her while living in Holly and knowing her for so long will always be with me. Her smile and caring for others was so very special. My thoughts are with you, Bill.



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Carolyn (Mills) Denson - January 23, 2025 at 05:10 PM

LH

“ Toni was a wonderful person. Always had a smile. She will be miss by all that knew and loved Toni. Linda Hart Young



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**Linda Hart** - January 23, 2025 at 03:59 PM

LY

“ Linda Hart Young sent a virtual gift in memory of JoAnn Conti



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**Linda Hart Young** - January 23, 2025 at 03:55 PM

AM

“ Our dear friend Toni Andrews Conti was truly a lovely person. All who knew her had warmth added to their lives. I can describe Toni as genuine. There was no pretense in her. I am sure all the children who were nurtured by her are better for their having her as a tutor in life. My condolences to Toni's family and friends.  
Allen moody

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**Allen Moody** - January 23, 2025 at 01:12 PM