



Janet B. Bowen

April 20, 1952 - June 6, 2026

Janet B. Bowen, 74, of New Britain, passed away peacefully June 6, 2026, at Jerome Home in New Britain after a brief illness. A native and lifelong New Britain resident, Janet was a graduate of New Britain High School, Class of 1970, and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology from the University of Connecticut in 1974. She was employed at the Stanley Works in Corporate Finance and the Hardware Division for ten years. She left Stanley Works to enroll in the Respiratory Therapy program at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center. After graduating from the St. Francis program as class valedictorian, Janet went to work at New Britain Memorial Hospital (now Hospital for Special Care) where she found her life's true calling. Janet worked as a Respiratory Therapist and later as the Clinical Research Coordinator-Pulmonary Continuum of Care Specialist for 35 years.

It was in her role as the founder and leader of the Breathtakers, the Hospital's Pulmonary Support group, that Janet made the biggest impact on so many lives. Janet's influence on patients' lives was described in the words of a long-time coworker and valued friend: "Those of us that had the privilege of working with Janet and knowing Janet will always remember her dedication, compassion, and unwavering commitment to the Pulmonary Support Group she founded. She created countless opportunities for connection, friendship, and fellowship through the group's many social activities and special events." There are cherished memories of Rock Cats Baseball games, shows at Ivoryton Playhouse and Seven Angels theatre, and Famous Dave's BBQ. The

group's annual holiday parties at Angelicos were legendary, and their bus trips to Foxwoods Casino were wildly popular. These outings "brought together so many participants and fostered lasting camaraderie." Janet's Breathtakers became the largest Pulmonary Support Group in the world.

Janet was a valued member of First Church New Britain; a loyal member of New Britain Elk's Lodge 957; a respected member of the Suburban Woman's Club of Greater New Britain; and a much-cherished volunteer for Boxes to Boots in Berlin.

Surviving is her sister, Carol Bowen of New Britain; her brother, Thomas Bowen and his wife Nancy of Newtown; a niece, Katherine Bowen Kiernan and her husband TK of Prospect; a nephew, Joseph Bowen and his wife Anna of New Milford; and two grand nieces, Reagan and Kennedy Bowen. Beside her parents, William and Cecilia (Gaworski) Bowen, she was predeceased by a grand nephew, Wyatt Bowen.

Memorial services will be held Tuesday, June 16, 2026, 11 AM at First Church New Britain, 830 Corbin Ave., New Britain. There are no calling hours. Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting with arrangements. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to one of the following organizations which Janet held close to her heart. Boxes to Boots, 100 Harding Street, Suite 108, Berlin, CT 06037 or The SCOTTY Fund, PO Box 1080, Bethel, CT 06801. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Church of Christ, Congregational
830 Corbin Ave
New Britain, CT 06052

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Carol and the Bowen family,
I am so, so sorry for the loss of your sister, aunt and great aunt.
Janet always had a way of making everyone she met feel like part
of the Family. She will be greatly missed by everyone who was
Blessed to know her. My thoughts and prayers go out to each and
every one of you during this difficult time. God Bless

Joanne Benikas - June 16 at 05:51 PM

RG

“ We are all heartbroken! Janet blazed a trail in life, showing us all
what is most important; family, friends, community and country. She
lead by example, always willing to do the hard work to do the right
thing. Never any doubt about doing what was right and needed to
make things right. The world needs more Janet Bowens to fix what
ails us! A fantastic big sister, aunt, great aunt and friend. She is
already greatly missed. RIP Janet, you done good! We take great
comfort in knowing Wyatt is in your loving arms, singing his favorite
songs!



Rob Gallacher - June 13 at 06:02 AM

JD

“ Carol so sorry to hear of your loss.
My thoughts and prayers are with you.
JoAnn Dukeley

JoAnn Dukeley - June 11 at 03:26 PM

HB

“ To Carol and the entire Bowen family, my sincere condolences in the passing of Janet.
Sincerely,
Howard Begley

Howard Begley - June 10 at 08:03 PM

JU

“ Janet , you will be missed at First Church New Britain . You and your sister have accomplished many new things at the Church, to name a few our church garden with New Britian Roots, boxes to boots which we now participate in because of you and you sister. The music will also be changing too. Thank you for all you did and are still doing. ❤️ Julie FC member

Julie - June 10 at 03:55 PM

JB

“ I miss you, Janet, and all of the good times and memories that we shared growing up. God bless, your cousin Jimmy.

Jim Backhaus - June 09 at 08:56 AM

CS

“ Janet was a great friend to our parents , Dick and Terri and made their final years more exciting with trips everywhere. Sending condolences to sister Carol who was always by her side. May your memories stay with you always as the spirit of your sister lives on .Cindy and Jim

cynthia scanlon - June 09 at 08:45 AM

RB

“ Janet was very special for me as she guided my practice as Respiratory APRN. Her knowledge and experience were invaluable in providing quality, patient care. She represented the organization at national levels. Most of all, her smile and soft voice eased many a fearful patient and family. Janet you are now with God providing a new type of support. Rita Bonczek

Rita Bonczek - June 08 at 07:05 PM

BW

“ Dear Carol. I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your sister, Janet. May the love of God, family and friends console your heart. May the loving memories keep Janet's soul alive. She added a beam of light to everyone she met. Prayers continue. May God bless you. Love, Bill Weksner

Bill Weksner - June 08 at 05:00 PM

CD

Janet is truly one of God angels. I know she is sitting with our heavenly Father.
So sorry for your loss

Caroline Domijan - June 08 at 05:11 PM

PM

Dear Carol. I am so sorry for the loss of your sister Janet. She was truly a beautiful person. She is now in heaven looking upon you. Our prayers are with you and the rest of your family. Very Fondly. Pat and Fran Maerz

Patricia Maerz - June 08 at 05:41 PM

MP

My Dearest Janet,

I still cannot comprehend that you are gone. I find myself looking at photos from our lunches and dinners, holding close the many memories we shared. Those moments remain vivid and timeless in my heart.

Rest in peace, my dear friend. I take comfort in knowing that you are now reunited with loved ones and so many dear friends. I can picture all of you together, smiling.

Until we meet again—and we will—please watch over us. You will be deeply missed and forever remain in our hearts.

*My sincere condolences to the Bowen family.
A Special Hug to Carol.*

Maria Pietrantuono - June 08 at 07:15 PM