

VIRGILENE “VIRGIE” BIGARD FUND



Virgie Bigard

Virgilene “Virgie” Bigard made the world a more beautiful place in every way imaginable. From her smile which went all the way to her eyes, to her impeccable sense of style, to her constantly moving hands which were always helping others, Virgie was a person one would describe as “beautiful inside and out.”

Virgie was born in Flint, Michigan, the daughter of Leonard Koslowski and Rosemary (Torzewski) Ulrich. She graduated from Montrose High School. While she was working at Jennings Petroleum, she met the love of her life, Steve Bigard, at a Michigan Oil & Gas Association picnic. They married in 1984 in Frankenmuth, Michigan. Upon relocating to Mount Pleasant, Virgie began working at Firstbank where her extensive banking knowledge, and warm and genuine smile assisted customers for more than 23

years. She left the bank to work alongside Steve at Bigard & Huggard Drilling, where she enjoyed spending time with the front office staff, as well as the guys in the shop who fondly called her “shop mom.” Her cheerful and caring nature was known and admired far and wide.

Of all her accomplishments, she was most proud of her daughter, Ashley. Being a mother was what Virgie loved most in life. Her selfless love and generous spirit extended to all who knew her, and she happily stepped into a motherly role for anyone who needed a mom. She enjoyed sewing, baking, decorating, HGTV, shopping in Bay City, taking care of her cat “Kitty,” and making frequent trips to Frankenmuth with her family. She knew how to make everything beautiful and brought life and color to everything she touched.

When Ashley was in school at Sacred Heart Academy, Virgie was a consistent presence around the school. Whether volunteering her time as a homeroom mom, working athletic and parent association events, or supporting the cheer team, she enjoyed spending time with Ashley and making her friends and classmates feel special. Virgie always went above and beyond to make our Sacred Heart community a warm, inviting, and beautiful place, which is why, when Virgie died unexpectedly in 2020, the *Virgilene “Virgie” Bigard Fund* was established in her memory. This endowed fund produces interest for a tuition assistance award at Sacred Heart Academy each year, allowing Virgie’s loving and generous legacy to be shared with others.



For further information about the **Virgilene “Virgie” Bigard Fund** or other Named Funds, contact the SHA Foundation at SHAfoundation@sha.net.

SACRED HEART ACADEMY FOUNDATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 522 | MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN 48804-0522 | (989)772-1385