Susan Husted LeCron

April 9, 1941 - July 9, 2015

Susan Husted LeCron died peacefully on Thursday, July 9, 2015. She was born in Elmira, New York on April 9, 1941, the daughter of John Frederick and Pauline Ridge Husted. Raised in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, Susan attended Dickinson College where she met her husband, Robert H. LeCron.
Susan was the first executive director of the Toledo Botanical Gardens where she served proudly for twenty years. A naturalist and animal lover at heart, she and her husband raised black, male Lab's until adopting their last dog, Lacey, a Bichon Frise' rescued from the streets of Los Angeles CA. Through a love of antiques, Susan developed a second career collecting and selling treasures found in her travels. Susan maintained a life-long love of sports, particularly watching her son and grandson play baseball and was an avid fan of the Ohio State Buckeyes. Always central to her life was an unwavering devotion to family and friends, all of whom will miss her intellect, her keen wit and her dry sense of humor. Susan also cherished a lifetime of summers spent on Keuka Lake, one of the Finger Lakes in upstate New York.
Susan was predeceased by her daughter, Catherine, and is survived by her husband of 52 years, Robert LeCron of Maumee, son John LeCron of Columbus, grandchildren Elizabeth and Matthew LeCron of Maumee, sister-in-law Jean Thurmond of Southport, Ct., sister and brother-in-law Robert and Margaret Tranbaugh of New York City, and nieces Susan Tranbaugh Spinell and Mary Husted Tranbaugh, also of New York City.
Friends may visit at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S Reynolds Rd; on

Saturday July 18, 2015 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. where the memorial service will be held at noon. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made in Susan's name to the Toledo Botanical Gardens or the Toledo Area Humane Society.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **18**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral and Cremation Services
1770 S. Reynolds Road
Toledo, OH 43614
(419) 865-1295
https://www.coylefuneralhome.com

Memorial Service

JUL **18**. 12:00 PM - 12:20 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral and Cremation Services
1770 S. Reynolds Road
Toledo, OH 43614
(419) 865-1295
https://www.coylefuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

TC

To Bob and the Family of Sue LeCron:

Please accept my heartfelt condolences on Sue's passing.

She was a wonderful lady and a great friend to all of us in Northwest Ohio. Her calling made our lives better and ensured that future generations would have the opportunity to enjoy nature as well.

May God be with you all during this time of great sorrow.

Tom Crothers

Tom Crothers - July 21, 2015 at 11:39 AM

SO

My sincere sympathy and promise of prayers to all you, Susan's family members and friends. I was in charge of a nature program for children at Lourdes college and worked in collaboration with the children's nature program at Toledo Botanical Gardens in the early 90's. She was very gracious to work with, very professional and a good business person. I remember her fondly and wished to tell you so. My prayers are with all of you as you face this grieving time together. Healing takes time, but you will never forget!
May God give you the support you need for as long as you need it!

In sympathy,
Sister Rosine Sobczak OSF
Lourdes University

Sister Rosine Sobczak OSF - July 17, 2015 at 02:40 PM

Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Susan Husted LeCron.

July 15, 2015 at 06:53 PM

BL

(News story) Susan H. LeCron, the first executive director of Toledo Botanical Garden whose leadership greatly expanded and enhanced the garden, died Thursday at the Elizabeth Scott Community rehabilitation center in Maumee. She was 74.

She suffered a severe stroke July 8, which followed a stroke in April, her husband Robert said.

In 1974, Mrs. LeCron accepted an invitation from the city of Toledo to work out of the then Crosby Garden with the Environmental Clearing House, a volunteer group she helped co-found. At the time, the garden had only a groundskeeper, a pickup truck, a shovel, and a budget of less than $50,000 to manage the roughly 20 acres off Elmer Drive.

Two years later, she became the first executive director of the garden, a role she held for 20 years. Thanks to her creative vision and dedication, the Toledo Botanical Garden tripled in size to more than 60 acres, with a staff of more than 30, and a budget that approached $1 million annually.

She was born April 9, 1941, in Elmira, N.Y., to John Frederick and Pauline Ridge Husted. She was raised in Wellsboro, Penn., and attended Dickinson College, in Carlisle, Penn., where she met her husband, Bob.

"She was terribly intelligent, had a great wit, and a sense of humor to match," Mr. LeCron said.

Looking back on 52 years of marriage, Mr. LeCron recalled the first time she caught his eye at Dickinson College.

He remembered the joy of summer vacations in Mrs. LeCron's favorite place, a family cabin by Keuka Lake in upstate New York.

He remembered Mrs. LeCron's love of Ohio State Buckeyes football games and how she never missed one of her son's baseball games.

She spent hours planting beautiful gardens in the yard, he said, and was excited when a favorite bird from South America would start feeding in one of her many bird feeders.

Her son, John LeCron, said what he remembered most about his mother was her strength. "I'm 45 years old, and I don't think I've ever seen her in tears. She was always the rock of the family," he said.

Her sense of humor stayed with her until the end, son John added, explaining that even after suffering a second stroke, his mother found a way to make him smile.
In addition to her love of her family, gardening, sports, the environment, and animals, Mrs. LeCron was an antique connoisseur. After retiring from the Toledo Botanical Garden, she had time to travel to shops, collecting treasures for herself and to sell online.
"She was quite a classy lady," her husband said.
Surviving are her husband Robert; son, John; sister, Margaret Tranbaugh, and two grandchildren.
Visitation is 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at Coyle Funeral Home, followed by a memorial service at noon.
The family suggests tributes to Toledo Botanical Garden or the Toledo Area Humane Society.
This story was written by Blade Staff Writer Mark Zaborney. Contact him at: mzaborney@theblade.com or 419-724-6182.

Blade - July 15, 2015 at 09:50 AM

BH

Spending summers growing up on Keuka Lake was a gift; the friendships we made as teenagers have lasted a lifetime. Susan and I reconnected a few years ago after her illness, and then again last year after the death of her daughter. We shared sadness as well as the joys of life, and laughed while recalling some of our escapades at the lake.
I'm grateful for her friendship; for touching hearts together; and for her eternal peace.
Bob Hood

bob hood - July 14, 2015 at 09:47 AM

CO

1 file added to the tribute wall

Coyle - July 14, 2015 at 08:31 AM

Jeannette Wilkins

Susan was an icon on Keuka Lake. She had a quick wit and a loving heart. Gardening was a passion, as well as a great skill. She will be missed by many. She was a great friend.
Jeannette and David Wilkins

Jeannette Wilkins - July 13, 2015 at 08:00 PM

CB

I was terribly saddened to hear about Mrs. LeCrons passing. I knew her most of my life, having grown up on Densmore Drive in Old Orchard, then later in Ottawa Hills. She and her husband were like second parents in many ways. Her work at Crosby / Toledo Botanical Gardens was a great effort -one that will be a lasting tribute to this woman we'll all miss.

Chris Blanchard - July 13, 2015 at 06:18 PM