



## Jodie L. Nedeau

September 3, 1957 - January 17, 2023

Jodie L. Nedeau, age 65, a longtime resident of Lake Bluff, IL passed away on January 17, 2023. Jodie was born on September 3, 1957 in Milwaukee, WI. She graduated from Hamilton High School in Milwaukee in 1974 and received her B.A. from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in mathematics and psychology in 1978. In 1981 she earned her J.D. from Marquette University Law School, graduating at the top of her class.

Jodie had both brains and beauty, and while putting herself through school was crowned Miss Milwaukee 1975, which is no surprise to all those familiar with her bright blue eyes and beautiful smile.

Following her graduation from Marquette, Jodie began an illustrious legal career, practicing international and corporate law, culminating in a partnership at Sidley Austin, for over 30 years.

Jodie was the beloved mother of Tyler (Kelsey), Tad (Julie), Ann Marie (fiancé Dylan McGoldrick), Haley, and Mia Nedeau; cherished grandmother of Henry and Etta; daughter of Jean Ervin and the late Walter Nowotny; sister of Michael and Mark (Lisa) Nowotny and former spouse to Nicholas Nedeau.

Through both her children and volunteer work, Jodie was heavily involved in the communities of Lake Bluff and Lake Forest, where she forged many

wonderful friendships. For many years she was a familiar face at Forest Bluff Montessori, The Winter Club and The Community Church of Lake Forest and Lake Bluff, where she remained an active member of the congregation. Jodie was passionate about her volunteer work, particularly organizations that helped children, serving as a board member of Allendale and working with Kids Uganda, where she was instrumental in building a girls' dormitory that has served hundreds of young women.

When not working or spending time with her children and grandchildren, Jodie could be found taking walks through Lake Bluff and Lake Forest with her many friends or reading voraciously. She loved being at the beach, from Lake Michigan to Marco Island, and enjoying a beautiful sunny day.

Her children will proudly and lovingly remember her as their staunchest advocate, and for her no-nonsense attitude and refusal to sweat the small stuff. There was no better person to have in your corner.

A Memorial Service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, January 27, 2023 in the John & Nancy Hughes Theater at Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest. A reception for friends and family will be held immediately following the service. For information – Reuland & Turnbough Funeral Directors of Lake Forest, 847-234-9649 or [www.RTfunerals.com](http://www.RTfunerals.com).

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Jodie's name may be made to the Allendale Foundation at <https://allendale4kids.org/in-memory-of-board-member-jodie-nedeau/>.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN 27. 11:00 AM (CT)

John and Nancy Hughes Theater at Gorton Center  
400 East Illinois Road  
Lake Forest, IL 60045

# Tribute Wall

DO

“ My deepest condolences to Jody's family and all the friends who loved her. She was our wonderful next-door neighbor on Ravine Forest Drive for many years, She always had a beautiful smile and a kind word. She was a force. Smart, funny, energetic, and kind. She loved her children deeply, and they were her great joy. We are blessed to have known her.

Donna Oldenburg - February 09, 2023 at 09:49 PM

AL

“ 5 files added to the album Fond Memories From Allendale



Allendale - January 26, 2023 at 01:16 PM

TC

“ It was such a pleasure when I would see Jodie. I was always greeted with a warm smile and sincere 'how are you?' She will be missed by many Allendale employees. I pray the memories bring comfort to the family during this difficult time.

Tamara Conley - January 23, 2023 at 05:47 PM

JL

“ *Blue bib overalls, curly hair and a beautiful smile. She will be missed!*

John Van Lieshout - January 23, 2023 at 05:13 PM

TS

“ *I was a tennis friend of Jodie. A group of us girls from LF used to get together once a week in the good old days....1996 to 2004 ish....and hit the ball around and then have wine and snacks after. Always lots of laughs. I remember playing against Jodie. She was so tall with these long arms and used to have me running back and forth on the court to return her shots. After she had me at the net and tuckered, she'd throw up a perfect lob and point was over. Jodie was the perfect competitor but an even more perfect partner. She played a smart game and made it all such fun. I know there are several girls in town that will remember so fondly our tennis evenings. Beloved lady. The last time I saw Jody was in Palmetto Bluff in South Carolina while she was visiting her dear friend Susi Rowe. Nancy Novit was also visiting and Carolyn...?. Maybe Laura Douglas too. We had a wonderful time catching up..and most of them played yet more tennis. I'm so glad that I made that trip and got a chance to see The fabulous, friendly, funny, fantastically smart Jodie. I loved her and will miss her. Tara Shortly PS. One of Jodie's boys lives in Oldfield SC with his wife. So do I. I hope we will meet someday soon and share a hug and some stories. ❤️👀! ✖️*

Tara Shortly - January 22, 2023 at 04:18 PM

SD

“ Jodie was the best neighbor imaginable. She always went out of her way to be helpful. From picking up mail for months at a time, to lending you her car when mine would not start and I had to get the kids to school, to sharing missing ingredients for a recipe, to safeguarding the security of the neighborhood, Jodie was always there for all of us in her community. I will always remember her erudite conversations in the parking lot at Forest Bluff. We were lucky to know her. My deepest sympathy to her family and many friends over this profound loss.

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**Scott Durchslag** - January 22, 2023 at 12:35 PM

TD

“ 1 file added to the album Jodie Nedeau



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**Toby Wong, Lincoln & Madison Durchslag** - January 21, 2023 at 10:18 PM

TD

“ We are stunned and heartbroken to hear of the passing of our dear friend, Lake Bluff next-door neighbor and fellow Forest Bluff mom - Jodie Nedeau.

*Sending our hugs, blessings and heartfelt sympathies to Jodie's mom, brothers and her amazing children - Mia, Haley, Ann Marie, Tyler, Tad and your amazing families as you honor Jodie's amazing life. She was so proud to be your mom, daughter, sister, family member, friends and colleagues to so many in our community.*

*I'm so grateful for your mom's generosity and thoughtfulness when she so graciously welcomed me into the neighborhood as a new wife and new mom next door in 2004. I loved the laughter that Jodie and I shared over everyone thinking I was some mail-order bride. Not. She was a cheerleader, confidante, mentor and coach in life and family. Jodie introducing us to Kids Uganda and Forest Bluff School whose community remains a part of our family for over 16 years.*

*We loved living next door as Madison and Lincoln had 3 extra sisters next door with Ann Marie, Haley and Mia and an extra mom in Jodie. She was the Mama Bear who would protect her kids in the face of danger and would protect my kids too. When in need, Jodie was always there and even allowed us to occasionally be there for her. She was the best example of joy and resilience in the bright and dark days. Jodie was honestly one of the good ones on this earth.*

*We honor your mom by donating to her most favorite cause, Allendale Foundation. We are blessed to have known her and will miss her terribly. You and your family will be a part of our forever family. Please let me know how I can be there for you as Jodie was there for us.*

*Please rest in peace, dear Jodie. Well-deserved, my friend.*

*#JodieNedeau #ForeverFamily #Joy #Resilience*

*Love always,*

*Toby Wong with Lincoln and Madison Durchslag*

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**Toby Wong, Lincoln & Madison Durchslag** - January 21, 2023 at 10:12 PM

ES

“ *Jodie, God's gift to so many, as she will continue to be. A spirit filled with love compassion welcoming to all. I am honored to know her.*  
*Esther Sloan*

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**Esther Sloan** - January 21, 2023 at 01:29 PM

LJ

“ *Jodie was a force for good. I will so miss her beautiful radiant smile, positive energy, and friendship. I hope Jodie continues her work from beyond; her presence is too strong to leave us. My heart breaks for her children, and I am heartened by their strong bonds with other. God bless you all*

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**Lynn Jessen** - January 21, 2023 at 12:00 PM