Janet Saxton-Croughan
June 23, 1950 – May 12, 2017

Here are some photos of just a few of the little known and some well known highlights of Janet’s life.
Janet was a very happy baby and little girl.
She started reading at an early age.

Santa Claus visited us every Christmas Eve.

She always enjoyed music.
She was on a float for our Church St. Anne in a parade for the Bicentennial celebration of Hazel Crest where we grew up.

She was a beauty contest winner at the local American Legion.

She was a bathing beauty enjoying the sun every chance she got.
She had fun and enjoyed being with her friends as she grew up.

Always took opportunities to do something different.

She enjoyed close connections with family.
REport

Season’s End

The approach of Halloween, cold weather, bare trees and the return to standard time all mark the end of October and a long and satisfying activity year. Although two events remain, the Turkey Run Rally and the Annual Banquet, the events of the past month were, in my mind, a very satisfying finish to a satisfying, but hectic year. After the doubts over our racing program earlier this year, to have John and Joe again give us such a well organized, successful race weekend, and to have this followed one week later with beer and brats after one of the slickest rallies I’ve attended both held on beautiful fall weekends—well, I must admit to a strong feeling of relief and pride in my Club.

Now is the time to thank all the members who have made this year possible: the Board Members who guided the Club through many problems earlier in the year; John Palaskar and Joe Griffin for a great job in organizing our National and Regional Rallies; Ed Perosky, George Saxton, and Jim McKeaney for the excellent solo season and the Portage Grand Prix; Lee McComb and staff for the Autograph; Greg Graham and George and Janet Saxton for their competitive achievements, of which we are all proud; all the cookies of the month who made our meetings more pleasant. Thank you all, INR and I appreciate your efforts

Last month, I promised a strong slate of nominees for next year’s board. Now, after some last minute holdouts filed their petitions, the names are revealed and the ballots prepared and mailed. The slate offers everyone opportunity to choose from experienced board members to the eager new faces on the ballot. I have not yet made my decision. Do not fail to vote your choice and ensure that your signed ballot is in the hands of the Secretary by 9:00 p.m. November 9th.

Ralph has informed me that some ballots have already been returned unsigned. To ensure that the election is completely honest, all unsigned ballots will be discarded. If anyone did mail an unsigned ballot, you may obtain a new ballot at the November 9th meeting before 9:00 p.m. and file it on the spot. It is not necessary to sign the ballot itself, but it must be enclosed in a signed sealed envelope.

Don McCoin

HERE’S OUR GIRL!

The word is out—but, if you have not already heard—Jan Saxton is a National Champion! Ring the bells! Let’s hear the fanfare! Did I hear someone mutter, “So what’s all the hullabaloo?”

Well let me tell you, INR is concluding its 22nd year. We have, over the years, had many members competing on the national level in all phases of SCCA motor sport, and now Jan Saxton steals to join INR’s most prestigious and select group of two (2) National Champions.

Jan reached the pinnacle at Dallas on September 30. The event—SCCA’s 1979 Solo II National Championship, where our own Mrs. Saxton left all the other dolls in B Stock coughing in her hot exhaust. Yes, she won it going away.

Doff the hats fellows, and wave the handkerchiefs ladies. Let’s salute the champ—and Jan, let me introduce you to Ralph Salyer, 1967 0 Sports Racing National Champ and the only other member of INR’s most exclusive group.

Janet was the Sports Car Club of America 1979 Solo National Champion!
Janet even worked in the corporate world for a while.

Old Ben job is ‘mixed goodies,’ says Janet

CHICAGO—“A mixed bag of goodies” is how Janet Saxton describes her responsibilities as administrative assistant at Old Ben headquarters.

Janet explains the goodies include duties as office manager for the Old Ben staff of 45 here, preliminary work on economic evaluations, pension and other benefit plan calculations, purchasing, production of required reports on time, and “whatever else I’m asked to do.”

In the latter category Janet took on an especially interesting task when she was named coordinator of Old Ben’s recent move to new downtown offices on Wacker Drive.

“The move was only a few blocks, but I found out that the logistics were plenty involved anyway. I worked with architects and designers on planning the layout of the new office, purchased furniture, and coordinated the various suppliers and contractors to make sure that everything would be ready in time.

“I learned you can’t count on anything. For instance, I ordered carpeting way ahead because of the lead time involved, only to have the wrong color delivered. We went right down to the wire getting that corrected.

“The actual move was made overnight. I was on the scene almost around the clock to advise movers. It was daylight when the last piece of furniture was in place — exhausting, interesting, kind of fun. But I wouldn’t want to do it often.”

Janet, a 1971 graduate of Northern Illinois University with a degree in business management, worked part-time for Old Ben as a computer programmer while she was an undergraduate. After graduation, she spent a year in Europe while her husband George completed an army tour.

“We were stationed in a small town in West Germany and had a chance to travel through many European countries. In a lot of ways it was like a yearlong honeymoon.”

Janet expects to put her moving experience to good use when she and George — now back in his civilian role as an insurance man — leave their apartment for the home they are building in suburban Hazelcrest.

“We’re going to do the moving ourselves,” Janet says. “I wish we could do that overnight, too, but I expect it will take the best part of a week.”

Janet enjoys being half of a professional couple. “I like my job, and combining our efforts toward goals like our new home is satisfying.”
Janet enjoyed a fun trip to Australia with friends.

And she started jumping out of airplanes.

She landed in a corn field on her first jump. She emerged in better condition than the corn!
Janet was always on the lookout for an adventure and introduced Cindy to whitewater rafting. That’s us in the center.
Come on in for The Smell of It!!

She opened Body and Soul and turned it into a success.
I wish I had the complete article from the Chicago Tribune!

Body and Soul’s Janet Saxton, pursuing the scent: She’s out to make the world a better place to smell.

Uncommon scents

The woman holds out a little bottle. Close your eyes and sniff. You’re instantly in the middle of a lush rain forest.

When you open your eyes, you’re still in the store, still in Chicago—no tropical undergrowth for hundreds of miles, and no rain likely for months.

But take another sniff: Forest Rain is one of about 100 essence oils at Body and Soul, 300 W. Grand Ave., in the Off-Center shopping mall. Owner Janet Saxton is determined to make the world a better place to smell.

Saxton carries her own line of lotions for face and body, plus hair-care and bath products; each can be custom-scented.

From hydrocarbons to the custom-mixed spraying gel, from shaving gels to the spirit of truly Trees and Water, the store has the forest in its essence and potion of loofahs, kin to a “Lovers”的 kind.

Saxton says, “It sells neither ‘here’ nor ‘there’ nor ‘this’ nor ‘that.’” It’s open Monday through Friday.
Then Janet met Michael, the love of her life. They were perfect together.
Bodewell / Body Sense came after that. Both Janet and Michael were the hardest workers I have ever known. They wore me out when I helped them at conventions. Their hard work, determination, and Michael’s Zen Massage skills made it a success.
Family was always a very important part of her life.
Combining and expanding family made Janet very happy.
Janet will be deeply missed by family and a very large number of very close friends. She is riding with Michael again. And always in our hearts.
Don’t weep for her for she is not there;
she has a date with a butterfly to dance in the air.
She’ll be singing in the sunshine, wild and free;
playing tag with the wind while she is waiting for thee.