



Barbara M. Carnahan

July 5, 1949 - April 24, 2020

Barbara M. Carnahan, 70, of West Lafayette passed away peacefully at home while surrounded by her family on Friday, April 24th, after a series of health-related complications.

Barbara was born July 5, 1949 in Bloomington, Illinois to Thomas and Patricia Ryan. After moving to Lafayette, Indiana, she graduated from Central Catholic high school in 1967. For nearly 30 years, she served as the Executive Director for the Wonderful Weekdays before and after school childcare program. It was always evident that the program staff along with the parents and children of Wonderful Weekdays respected Barb's supervision and valued her guidance, accommodating and patient nature, personal involvement in the program, and dedicated attention to their daily lives.

Barb equally enjoyed quiet moments at home and gatherings with family & friends. She was an avid reader, relished in all activities related to the fall season, enjoyed gardening, crosswords, and traveling to coastal destinations.

Her marriage was to Thomas L. Carnahan on November 14, 1970; and he survives. She is survived by her mother; a sister, Sheila Ryan; and two brothers, Michael Ryan (Sue), and Thomas Ryan (Becky). She is also survived by her children: Brian Carnahan (Angie) of West Lafayette, Michael Carnahan (Natalie) of West Lafayette, Erin Walsh (Dave) of Brownsburg, and Brett Carnahan (Matt) of Seattle. Barb was a grandma to eight grandchildren: Matt, Zoe, Alexa, Tim, Sydney, Colin, Meredith, and Meryl. She was preceded in death by her father.

Due to the continued restrictions mandated by the current pandemic, a memorial gathering to honor and celebrate Barb's life will be scheduled for a future date. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Barb's name in support of the American Cancer Society, the American Stroke Association, or the World Wildlife Fund. Hippensteel Funeral Home assisting family with services. Share memories and condolences online at www.hippensteelfuneralservice.com

Comments



“ My deepest condolences to the family. Barb was a beautiful person who cared about people. I'm sorry to hear about her passing. May her memory be eternal and bring your family joy.

Margaret Psarros - May 06 at 02:48 PM



“ We are so sorry to hear about Ms Barbara's passing. Barbara was very kind and really loved my daughter while she was at Wonderful Weekdays for 5 years. She was very caring about all the children under her care. She was always very welcoming and patient to us tired parents when we came to pick up our kids after work. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sandra Allen - May 01 at 05:08 PM



“ I went to Happy Hollow and remember "Lunch Lady Barb" and how sweet and nice she was. And then my sister worked at Wonderful Weekdays for a summer with her and then I took my daughter to Wonderful Weekdays too. Barb was always such a mainstay for me and a steady fixture throughout my life as I grew and had my own family. When I walked in with my daughter and she remembered me from 25 years earlier, it lit up my heart. She was such a beautiful soul! I am sorry for your loss Tom and to the whole Carnahan family.

Natalie Steele - May 01 at 02:23 PM



“ I am so thankful for Barb's kindness and love to my children while at Wonderful Weekdays under her care for 5 years. I knew that Barbara and her staff would take care of my kids while I had to work, and I always remember her smile and wit.

Melissa G - May 01 at 09:40 AM



“ My children attended Wonderful Weekdays for several years. Barb always welcomed us with a smile and was always patient and kind to the children. She was easily approachable and ran a great program that serviced many families. I always felt like my children were left in good hands because of her supervision. I am so very sorry for you loss.



Jodi Briggs - April 30 at 12:06 PM



“ My 3 children attended Wonderful Weekdays for 6 years starting in 1996. It was so comforting knowing that the kids were safe in Barb's care before and after school. My children enjoyed the young people that worked with them. Barb set up special events for the kids, also. We found out that we had a mutual love of Milky Way Midnight candy bars.
She was just a great person! She made a difference in the lives of many families.
Condolences to her family.

Tracy Trice - April 29 at 01:31 PM



“ Tom, I'm sorry for your loss.

Brenda Chesterman - April 29 at 10:12 AM



“ All three of my children worked for Barb at Wonderful Weekdays. She was their first boss and taught them how you should be treated in the workplace. She was kind and enjoyed laughing with them!
We are so sorry for your loss.
Nina, CJ, Sam, and Maddie Wojtalewicz

Nina Wojtalewicz - April 29 at 05:36 AM



“ May there be comfort in knowing that someone so special will never be forgotten. Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your heart.

Sincerely,
Roberta Julian



Roberta Julian - April 28 at 05:47 PM



“ We are so sorry to hear of Barb's passing. We always enjoyed chatting with her, especially on Thursday mornings when she came in on our work day and we were having coffee. Keeping your family in our prayers.

Jane Rinehart
Monica Harris
Jeana Scheurich

Jeana Scheurich - April 28 at 01:46 PM