



Brenda Kay Heckler

May 30, 1962 - January 27, 2025

Brenda Kay Heckler, age 62 of Mattoon, IL passed away Monday, January 27, 2025, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, MO.

A visitation for family and friends will be held from 10:00 AM until noon, Saturday, February 8, 2025, at Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, located at 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938. The burial will take place at Crest Haven Cemetery in Claremont, IL at a later date.

Brenda was born on May 30, 1962 in Mount Carmel, IL to the late George L. and Ruth A. (Beal) Heckler. She is survived by her brother, Mark A. Heckler and wife Kathy of Godfrey, IL; three nieces, Jennifer Reif and husband Greg of Glen Carbon, IL, Andrea Heckler and husband Paul of The Hague, Netherlands, and Rebekah Heckler of Chicago, IL; and great-nephew and great-niece, William and Maddelyn Reif.

Brenda retired from Eastern Illinois Area Special Education in 2022 after 26 dedicated years as a teacher. Her patience and kindness made an everlasting impact on her students but also her coworkers. After her retirement, Brenda volunteered at the LifeSpan Center - Coles County Council on Aging.

She had two beloved canine companions, Mozart and Marley. Throughout her life, Brenda had a keen interest in dogs and showered them with love.

Brenda was a devoted daughter, loving sister, doting aunt, and dear friend.

She was truly the happiest around her loved ones and creating memories with her nieces. She will be remembered for her kind spirit and will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

Please visit www.mitchell-jerdan.com or www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome to light a virtual candle in her honor or share a memory with the family.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Coles County Animal Shelter or the Dementia Society of America (<https://www.dementiasociety.org/>) in Brenda's honor.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 8. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home Ltd.

1200 Wabash Ave

Mattoon, IL 61938

(217) 234-8828

contact@mitchelljerdan.com

<https://www.mitchell-jerdan.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Brenda Kay Heckler.*



February 07, 2025 at 06:58 PM

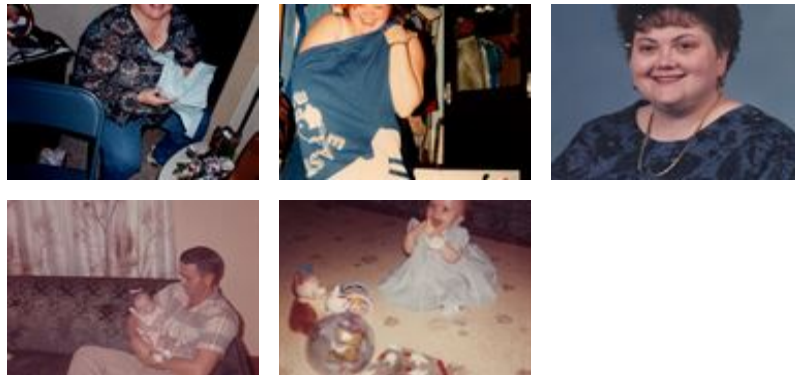


“ *Brenda was my best friend for over 25 years. We ate out weekly and I miss my dinner partner. She was there for me when Dennis died and I was there for her when her parents passed. We had our ups and downs but we always remained friends. It doesn't possible that she is gone but that seems to be the nature of loss as I grow older. I am thankful for the time we had together and I will miss her.*

David Logsdon - February 06, 2025 at 05:02 PM



“ *300 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home - February 06, 2025 at 02:02 PM

LD

“ About 5 years ago, my dog became spooked by the July 4 fireworks, and when one of the grandkids left the fence gate open, she got out of the yard. We searched everywhere, and just when I was about to give up hope, Brenda called to bolster my spirits! She was sure Maggie would be found safe and sound. Just visiting with her brought hope back to me. A couple days later some kids found her (she had gone down to the drainage ditch for water and could not get back up the steep embankment). She continued downstream, and eventually got to a place near their homes. They fed her and told their parents. These kids sometimes made bad choices and got into trouble, so they were the kinds of kids Brenda loved! They reunited me with my dog, and I will always be grateful! When I called Brenda to tell her she had been right, and Maggie had been found, she rejoiced with me. She was an amazing woman with a huge heart!!!

Laurie Dotson - January 30, 2025 at 08:45 PM

VC

“ Brenda was a sweet and caring lady. She will be dearly missed by all that new Her. Your loss is also our loss! Brenda was a great friend



Vickie Christman - January 30, 2025 at 07:53 PM