



Barbara Jean Burgess

February 22, 1951 - March 18, 2021

Barbara Jean Burgess, 70, of the Village of Gilchrist, The Villages, Florida, passed away peacefully March 18, 2021, while under the care of Cornerstone Hospice in The Villages. This was the result of a nearly three year courageous and gallant battle against cancer. Her loving husband of 50 years, David, was at her bedside holding her hand. Barbara was born into a Christian family on February 22, 1951, in Traverse City, Michigan, the daughter of Clarence and Helen Hults. She graduated from Traverse City High School with the Class of 1969. She spent four years in the high school band and became accomplished at playing the flute. In 1973 Barbara received a Bachelor's Degree from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. This led to her being hired as the Director of Payroll for the Ionia, Michigan, School District. Barbara loved her work and all the people she worked with. She was a loyal and competent employee. She held this position for more than 25 years.

During their marriage many trips were taken to far western Canada, many cruises were taken and time was spent in nearly every state. Although Barbara's greatest joy came from their annual fishing trip to northern Ontario, Canada, and this went on for twenty summers.

Every year she would catch bigger fish and more fish than her husband. The beauty in her laughter was joyful and could be heard across the lake.

Following retirement, Barbara and her husband David moved to Florida and settled into The Villages lifestyle. Many friends were made and much golf was played. We became involved with the Lake Deaton United Methodist Church and the Michigan Club. If you knew Barbara you would have loved her and if she knew you she would have loved you right back. She was a kind and gentle soul, a fine person and a great wife. Rest in peace my love, rest in peace. She is survived by her husband David of The Villages, Florida, brother Dick (Peg) Hults of Elk Rapids, Michigan, and several nieces and nephews.

A Life Remembrance Service will be held Tuesday, April 20th, 2021, at 11 AM at Beyers Funeral Home, 134 N Hwy 27/441, Lady Lake, Florida. Interment will follow at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Barbara's memory to Cornerstone Hospice Foundation, 601 Casa Bella, The Villages, Florida 32162 or the American Cancer Society, PO Box 22478, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73123.

Online condolences may be left at www.beyersfuneralhome.com

Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory, Lady Lake, FL.

Tribute Wall

DH

“ Dave, I'm so sorry to hear of Barb's passing. I worked with her at IPS for many years and during that time she was so patient and helpful to anyone needing information on their pay or retirement or any other topic that fell under her position. I was happy to hear that the two of you had settled in The Villages. My parents lived there, as well, and I know it was a beautiful place to spend her retirement years.

Deborah D Harper - April 30, 2021 at 10:17 AM

EN

“ Dave ~ Sorry to hear of Barb's passing. She (and you) were also a pleasure to serve while I was working at the Ionia Country Club...both of you were the some of the nicest people to work with.

EN

Eric Nichols - April 19, 2021 at 12:04 PM

GR

“ I worked with Barb in Ionia. She was a wonderfully kind person who made everyone around her smile. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Gayle Robinson - April 17, 2021 at 10:41 AM

TB

“ We love you -Aunt Barb! You were always so kind and very lucky to have many memories on Long Lake growing up. Times together when we were all visiting Grandma and Grandpa (your Mom and Dad) squeezing OJ and eating sugar cookies and visiting different places they loved all together. Uncle Dave, my heart aches for you as she is the love of your life and always your bride.

May your wings fly as an Angel and we continue to live life as joyous as you did!

Love you Aunt Barb!

Tania , Martijn, Mark , and Claire Bouwman

Tania Hults Bouwman - April 10, 2021 at 12:41 AM

LD

“ *Loved Barb. She was a wonderful friend throughout high school and college. She was kind, funny, and always supportive.*

Luana L Dueweke - April 08, 2021 at 10:59 AM