



## Barbara "Barbie" Jo Martin

October 5, 2016

### CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF BARBARA JO (MACDONALD) MARTIN

I am sitting in front of my computer attempting to try to put into words the life and accomplishments of a life that spanned 61 years and affected the lives of countless others. Obviously, there is no way that I can truly put in a few words and paragraphs an adequate tribute for the woman that was an indispensable part of my life and existence for over 40 years.

Barbara was born on June 8th, 1955 in Fairview Park, OH. She was the youngest of three children born to her parents Bruce William MacDonald and Bernice Ellen Nichols MacDonald. She has two older brothers Scott, and Jeff. She is survived by her brothers, their spouses Lynne and Debbie (respectively), and their children Craig, Erin, Ryan, and Kip.

While a child, her family moved from the Cleveland, OH metropolitan area to northeast Indiana to Lake Gage (near Angola, IN).

I met the love of my life on the 18th of August 1976 on a blind date that was orchestrated by Barbara's co-worker and my Step Mother Norine Martin. As corny as it sounds, it was virtually love at first sight, and after attending my sister Peggy's wedding ten days later, I impulsively asked Barbara if she

would mind traveling the world with a Marine (a very clumsy proposal) and she foolishly said yes. Thus a wonderful 40 year trek was embarked upon that yielded a marriage that was both at times blessed and cursed. (Mostly blessed).

We were opposites in many ways and our marriage should have been destined for failure, I was the oldest of 9, she was the cherished baby of 3, I was definitely country and she...a hippie. I smoked Pall Malls, she smoked untaxed specialty herb. She was Beach Boys, REO Speedwagon, Black Sabbath and I was Merle Haggard and Charley Pride. She was the Love Generation, and I, a U.S. Marine.

After we were married a mere two weeks before Christmas in 1976, I spirited Barbara away from her family and friends and the simple life she knew in rural Indiana to a military life that began at Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California.

Throughout 16 years in the military Barbie bravely endured several relocations and long periods of separation and uncertainty that are common to the military life style.

On October 22, 1983, (two months prior to my transfer to Japan) and after 20 plus hours, we were blessed with the birth of our only child William (Billy) Logan Martin. A true blessing that we never ceased to marvel at our good fortune.

Barbara was fearless and with full abandon and with many diverse interests. She grew up on the lake, and was a water sports enthusiast. avid swimmer, skied, and piloted. She was a talented crafts person who made wind chimes, wood carvings, large yard decorations made of wood. She loved making cookies and baking and decorating cakes. She loved sharing her treats with

everyone, especially during the holidays. She enjoyed fishing and she truly enjoyed bowling and the comradery that she experienced with friends on both the Women`s and Mixed Leagues. She was a true football fan that staunchly supported her chosen team the Kansas City Chiefs.

Barb will be remembered as an enthusiastic employee that adroitly combined an industrious work ethic with a fun loving “can do” attitude her that was infectious.

Most importantly though was Barb`s generous spirit and humanity. Barb possessed the unique ability to accept people as they were without judgement or bias. Empathetic, Barb was completely unselfish as she endeavored to help anyone in need without desire for recognition or reward. A truly beautiful spirit that will not be forgotten.

Barbara “Barbie” Jo Martin, 61 of Greene died Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at Mercy Medical Center, North Iowa.

A gathering of family and friends, to share memories and commemorate Barb`s life will be held from 1:00 until 7:00 pm, Saturday, October 8, 2016 at the American Legion in Greene, Iowa. Further services will be held at a later date. Thoughts and condolences may be shared with the family at [www.Fullertonfh.com](http://www.Fullertonfh.com) or on Facebook/Fullertonfuneralhomes.

Fullerton Funeral Home, 123 2nd ST, SE, Mason City, Iowa 50401-3904. [www.Fullertonfh.com](http://www.Fullertonfh.com), Facebook/Fullertonfuneralhomes 641-423-8676

# Cemetery Details

## **Cremation Services of North Iowa**

123 2nd ST. SE  
Mason City, IA 50401  
mail@fullertonfh.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara "Barbie" Jo Martin*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *I'm still having a very difficult time coming to grips with the fact that you have left us! I smile thinking of all our goofy road trips, silly plans and beating Bill and Allen in 500 (Woof!) Nobody else could howl at the moon like you! I love and shall never stop missing you, Barbie!*

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**Peg Wefel** - October 24, 2016 at 08:14 PM