



Barbara Joann Rush

July 23, 1946 - September 16, 2021

Barbara J. Rush, 75, of Mason City, IA died on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at MercyOne Hospice Inpatient Unit in Mason City. Per her wishes, she will be cremated and a private family graveside service will take place at a later date.

Barbara was born on July 23, 1946 in Mason City to Thomas and Leona (Helin) Rafferty. She was a graduate of Newman High School. On July 2, 1966 she was united in marriage to Gary Rush at Epiphany Parish-St Joseph Catholic Church in Mason City. The couple had over 50 wonderful years together.

Barbara was a homemaker for most of her life and was very involved with her children; she never missed their sporting events or activities. Barbara also worked as an in-home daycare provider; she was very nurturing, sweet, and loved kids. Lastly, before retirement due to illness, she was a bus associate on the special education bus for Mason City Schools for about 5 years and she absolutely loved that job.

When her kids were growing up, their home was known to have bikes in the front yard and a baseball game in the back yard. Barbara often did in-home haircuts for everyone. In her free time she enjoyed going camping and boating with her husband, sister and brother-in-law. Barbara adored her grandchildren and spending time with them. She was the matriarch of her family and always made sure they came first and everyone was taken care of.

Those left to cherish her memory include her four children, Todd (Linda) Rush, Tracey (Arlon) Zeigler, Tammy (Bill) Tegtmeier and Troy (Christin) Rush; brothers, Tom (Donna) Rafferty and Pat (Pam) Rafferty; sister, Marcia (Charlie) Anderson; 9 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gary Rush in 2019; infant son, Gary Jr. Rush; her parents, Thomas and Leona Rafferty and sisters, Peg Davis and Pam Rafferty.

A special thank you to Barbara's cousin and best friend, Sally Levad, for the upmost care and concern she provided over the years.

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara Joann Rush*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *I just saw this today...I am so sorry for your loss Rush family. Your mom and dad were always kind to us. Top notch 'neighbors' and people.*



CM - October 10, 2021 at 12:33 AM



“ *Just saw the memorial for Barb, didn't know she had been struggling with health issues. We were neighbors on 7th Street for about ten years. Tammy and Tracey babysat for our two daughters, Lisa and Michelle. We loved your family, Barb was such a good mom! Take care and praying for all of you! Dick and Margaret Rodgers*

Margaret Rodgers - September 30, 2021 at 07:43 AM



“ *Rest in peace, dear Barbara. We were classmates at St. Joe and at Newman. "Barbara" was the most common girl names in our class so if a teacher called that name, we all jumped! Prayers for you all. Barbara McDonough Russel*

Barbara Russel - September 17, 2021 at 06:42 PM