



## Irene Kay Jeffries

December 30, 1956 - November 25, 2020

Age 63, of Wilmington, IL passed away unexpectedly, Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at her home. Born December 30, 1956 in Key West, FL. She was a member of the First Christian Church in Wilmington. Graduated with the class of 1975 from Joliet West High School. Soon after graduation she married the love of her life, Kenneth Jeffries on June 7, 1975 in Wilmington. She was an avid Chicago Cubs fan and had a passion for bargain shopping, finding “treasures”, and antiquing. She also had a love for camping and always looked forward to taking the family trips to Hayward and the Gulf Shores. If you were lucky enough to know Irene, you knew she loved to talk and had the gift for gab. Her one of a kind personality will never be forgotten. The world lost a beautiful soul that had a heart of gold, and will always be remembered. Surviving are her parents, Robert and Darlene (nee Koca) Highbaugh of Joliet, IL; husband of forty-five years, Kenneth Jeffries of Wilmington; three children, Marissa (Greg) Hall of Wilmington, Stuart Jeffries of Carmel, IN, and KaraLynn (fiancé, Matt Morris) Jeffries of Wilmington; six grandchildren, Cameron and Angelina Bergman, Benjamin and Lucy Hall, Annie Bergman, and Addy Morris; four brothers, Randy (Sharon) Highbaugh of Shorewood, IL, Steve (Kim) Highbaugh of Wilmington, Kenny (Lynette) Highbaugh of Braidwood, and Bobby (Heather) Highbaugh of Crest Hill, IL; honorary daughter, Heather Davis of Coal City; sister-in-law, Sharon (John) Crichton of Apache Junction, AZ; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends; and her beloved four-legged companion, Walter. Preceding her in death were her

mother-in-law and father-in-law, Lydia and Charles Jeffries; and brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Chuck and Sue Jeffries. Cremation rites have been accorded. Memorial visitation for Irene will be at the R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, Braidwood, Tuesday, December 1, from 4-8 p.m. All attendees are required to wear face coverings, follow social distancing guidelines, and due to current capacity requirements, please be brief with your condolences to allow other guests to pay their final respects. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Juvenile Diabetes Association would be appreciated. For more information and to visit her online guestbook, please log on to [www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com) or find us on Facebook.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

DEC 1. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home  
401 East Main St.  
Braidwood, IL 60408  
(815) 458-2336  
info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com>

# Tribute Wall

DG

“ Our heart and prayers are with you during this very sad time. Irene was a funny, lovely person to know I always enjoyed our conversations. She will be deeply missed by many. Gods Blessings for your family. ❤️🙏  
Sincerely, Jerry and Denita Gresham

Denita Gresham - December 01, 2020 at 02:40 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Irene Kay Jeffries.



November 30, 2020 at 10:20 PM

MW

“ Our sincere sympathy.. I know there are no words to help at this sad sad time..I like remembering Irene 's laugh... she seemed to always find a way to make things fun ..she was one of a kind ...Hoping the wonderful memories carry you through the weeks ahead.

Mrs. George Weikum - November 30, 2020 at 09:38 PM

AB

“ Our deepest sympathy to you and your family. Tom and Amy Burnes

Amy Burnes - November 30, 2020 at 02:15 PM

DS

“ *Marissa,  
I sure loved seeing your mom around town!  
She could talk for hours and sure had a great  
way to slow me down to realize how important  
it was to be in the present moment and take  
the time to talk with others! She was always so proud of all her  
family and loved talking about you all! Her smile, voice, and cheerful  
face will always be treasured! Love you all and you and your family  
are in my hearts!*



*Love ya!  
Danielle Sanders and Family*

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**Danielle Sanders** - November 29, 2020 at 08:53 PM

TF

“ *To: Marissa Sanders Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Irene Kay Jeffries.*



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**To: Marissa Sanders Family** - November 29, 2020 at 08:48 PM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the  
family of Irene Kay Jeffries.*



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November 29, 2020 at 04:32 PM

BC

“ *Marissa and family,*

*I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. There truly are no magic words and no one knows how you will grieve. It is a personal journey that you will have. There will be bad days and better days but a while before good days I suspect. What does help is the support of family and friends. The stories they share will make you laugh or cry or both. My memories with your mom started when you girls were in still in school. From conversations at the school, our driveways and then graduated to grandkids games on the island and grocery store/parking lot conversations. Your mom was hilarious and I always walked away with a smile on my face sometimes thinking we solved all the problems of the world or at least we should have with the amount of time we stood there talking. There will be many times you know that she is with you still or watching over you and that will be very comforting.*

*Bev Chaney*

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**Bev Chaney** - November 29, 2020 at 02:16 PM

CS

“ *Our deepest sympathy and heartfelt prayers to Kenny and family. We are so sorry for your loss.*

*Curt Shepherd and Debbie Bell*

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**Curt Shepherd** - November 29, 2020 at 01:16 PM

MJ

“ My dear Irene, I will forever miss you at Coon Creek. You were my walking buddy my wine drinking buddy. You always had a story to tell. My heartfelt sympathy to Ken and Marissa, Caralynn, Stewart. I have never met you kids but feel I know you as she talked of you all the time. ❤️🙏🙏🙏

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**Michele Jones** - November 29, 2020 at 01:00 PM

DY

“ We were are so very sorry to hear of this!! We will be missing you this year and years to come at Coon Creek!! We always knew when you and Ken were coming and looked forward to seeing you!! You always made us smile and laugh!! Praying for your family you will be greatly missed Irene!!!

*With out deepest Condolences  
Dave & Becky Yard*

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**Dave & Becky Yard** - November 29, 2020 at 12:58 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Irene Kay Jeffries.



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November 29, 2020 at 11:31 AM

SA

“ Sharon John Holly David Jennifer Heather Anthony purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "May You Find Comfort In The Arms of An Angel" for the family of Irene Kay Jeffries.



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**Sharon John Holly David Jennifer Heather Anthony** -  
November 28, 2020 at 11:26 AM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Irene Kay Jeffries.



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November 28, 2020 at 08:30 AM

LS

“ Irene had an infectious smile. She always was laughing and made others laugh. Ken you have our families deepest sympathy and love.

*Myrtle and Leona*

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**Leona Schwab** - November 27, 2020 at 11:00 PM

RS

*So sorry for your loss kenny praying for your family Ron and Fran Smeets*

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**Ronald Smeets** - November 30, 2020 at 06:51 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Irene Kay Jeffries.*



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November 27, 2020 at 09:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Irene Kay Jeffries.*



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November 27, 2020 at 07:19 PM



“ *Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Irene Kay Jeffries.*



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November 27, 2020 at 07:18 PM



“ *Our deepest condolences to you Ken and your family. You are all in our prayers.*  
*Bonnie & Roy Hill*

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**Bonnie Hill** - November 27, 2020 at 07:17 PM

LS

*Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.*  
*Chris & Lois Smith*

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**Lois Smith** - November 27, 2020 at 08:18 PM