



Barbara Jean Christenson

April 13, 1951 - December 29, 2020

Barbara Jean Christenson, a selfless woman who always put others needs before her own, died December 29, 2020. Barbara, 69 of Charlotte, was born in Madison, WI on April 13, 1951 to Robert and Donna (Walford) Slotten. After graduating from high school, she served in the Air Force during Vietnam from 1969-1972. In 1974 she married Larry Christenson and became the proud mother of three children.

Barbara was independent and determined, and had a big heart and generously loved those around her. Barbara never complained, even when her health provided challenges. She spent 20+ years as a child care provider in her home. Barbara was very proud of her children and grandchildren, and loved spending time with them, especially on their various trips, and at the family cabin in Lake City. She enjoyed garage saling, reading, crossword puzzles, word searches and scrabble.

Barbara will be missed by her family and friends, including her husband, Larry, of 46 years; children, Kevin Christenson, Lisa (Jeff) Haight, and Adam (Elysse) Christenson; grandchildren, Tanner, Grace, Kamden, Aubrey, Logan, and Olivia; siblings, Kathy (Pete) Kurt, Jim (Patti) Slotten, Robert (Barb) Slotten, and Judy (John) Bayer; many nieces and nephews; and dear friend, Pam Heller. She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter-in-law, Stacy Christenson; and siblings, Phillip Slotten and Connie Forbes.

Friends are encouraged to support Barbara's family. A private family Memorial Service will take place. Public Visitation is Tuesday, January 5, 2021, from 5-8:00 PM. Mask, group capacity, and distancing guidelines will be practiced. The funeral will be available via webcast starting at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, so you may watch it from any computer, smartphone, or mobile device that has internet access. Go to www.prayfuneral.com, click on Barbara's tribute, then click on Photos and Videos from your computer (or Media from your smart phone). Just prior to the beginning of the service, a link will appear on this page to watch the webcast.

If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Mott Children's Hospital, or Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Barbara on her Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 5. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Barbara Jean Christenson



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 06, 2021 at 09:22 AM

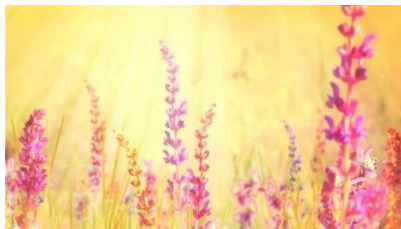
DS

As one said... "Better to have loved and lost, than never love at all." I say... thank you for the love you gave me. It was as short time experience then, but a forever embellishment in my life." DMMAF Smith afosmith@gmx.com

DMMAF Smith - March 13, 2025 at 08:19 PM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Barbara Jean Christenson



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 04, 2021 at 08:45 PM

PH

I WILL LOVE YOU FOREVER

Pam Heller - January 05, 2021 at 12:56 PM

CH

Dear Barb, I Love you so much. You were the best of the best! An absolutely wonderful Aunt!! Loved hearing stories from my Mom about you and what a wonderful sister you were as well. I can't wait to play Scrabble with you again. Please keep an eye out for all of us in heaven sweet Angel. Especially Uncle Larry. I'm so sorry I wasn't able to be there in person tonight and tomorrow, but I'm definitely there in spirit. Love you

Christina Hall - January 06, 2021 at 12:03 AM

DS

"To the one I loved the most, the one who hurt me most; I will always think of you in your youth and the time we spent together (Nov 1969 until Apr 1971) on and off base, and living in the Mascoutah Illinois Mobile Home. USAF Col D.M.M.A.F Smith former NCO and 3 War Veteran of 40 years military service 1968-2008. God Love You and Keep You; till we meet again."

DMMAF Smith - March 13, 2025 at 07:49 PM

DS

"If I could have done it right then, I would now be happy that I done it right forever... with you." DMMAF Smith

DMMAF Smith - March 13, 2025 at 08:20 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.



January 05, 2021 at 06:16 PM



“ Larry I am so sorry for your loss. If you need to talk give me a call.

Roger Ervine - January 05, 2021 at 06:08 PM

LT

Sending prayers & Love from Helen Meyer.

Lori Thomas - January 06, 2021 at 12:00 PM

TH

“ I was one of the kid Barb looked after in her daycare. I was also one of the few that was born with a physical disability. It was something that was undetectable by most doctors, yet it made it impossible for me to stand on my two legs when I was an infant. Every other doctor my mom visited just dismissed me as a late bloomer, saying there was nothing to worry about. But Barb? She was the first person to realize there was something wrong with me. She noticed how much I was crying, and when my mom was about to give up, she came up to her and said this: “I have taken care of several children over the years, and I have NEVER seen anything like what your son was going through. You NEED to get a second opinion!”. Mom kept trying after that, and eventually I was diagnosed with spina bifida. I got the surgeries I needed and was finally about to walk for the first time! I have no idea where I would be today if it wasn't for what she did, and I wish I could still thank her for the years of support she had given me. I owe her an unbelievable amount for that, and it warms my heart to see how many people were as thankful to know her as I am. Godspeed Barb! I knew I wasn't a model child, but I couldn't be happier that you were always there for me!

Timothy Hulley - January 05, 2021 at 05:41 PM

KH

“ I can never express how much Barb meant and means to me. The love she gave me and Tim held us together through some incredible trying times. But the laughter and happiness we had was multiplied because we were so lucky to have her in our lives. So many wonderful memories but I will share one of my most precious as just one example. My son Tim had had major spinal surgery when just he was just 17 months old. He had not walked prior to that. Just two months later on March 17, 1997 he took his first steps and it was at Barb's. Some parents might have been disappointed not to see those first steps but I was glad. Barb had been his daycare mom since he was 8 weeks old and I was glad she was part of that milestone. Because of her, he is a wonderful, strong, loving man. We will never forget her. We know what an incredible loss she is to Larry and the family and you have our deepest sympathy. We miss her. Kathy Hulley

Kathy Hulley - January 05, 2021 at 02:39 PM

KH

“ 1 file added to the album LifeTributes



Kathy and Tim Hulley - January 05, 2021 at 02:23 PM

LA

Thank you for your memories Kathy and Tim. She was proud and happy of your accomplishments . Be safe-Larry

larry - January 05, 2021 at 11:29 PM

DS

Barb and children she catered to for day care

DMMAF Smith - March 14, 2025 at 02:26 AM



“ 40 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 04, 2021 at 08:44 PM

PH

*Dear Larry, Kevin, Lisa and Jeff and Adam and Elysee and your children. Siblings too.
My heart breaks for all of you so very much. Devoted Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Sister and my precious forever friend. She loved you all with every fiber in her body.
Until we meet again in Heaven. I love you, Pam*

Pam Heller - January 05, 2021 at 01:04 PM

BH

“ *Larry, I am so deeply sorry for you and your family at Barb's passing. She truly sounded like the best mother and grandmother ever. I pray you will all get through these difficult days together. You are in my prayers Larry.
Bettie (Jones) Hall*

Bettie Hall - January 04, 2021 at 05:51 PM

LA

Thanks Bettie 🙏

larry - January 05, 2021 at 11:30 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.



January 04, 2021 at 12:43 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden* was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.



January 04, 2021 at 10:36 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.



January 03, 2021 at 10:46 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.



January 03, 2021 at 09:21 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.*



January 03, 2021 at 04:12 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.*



January 02, 2021 at 08:32 PM



“ *Larry, so so sorry for your loss. Thinking of you in sympathy and friendship. Sending sincere condolences to you and your families.*
Sandy Olson Thomas

Sandy Olson Thomas - January 02, 2021 at 03:30 PM



“ *Love Everlasting Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.*



January 02, 2021 at 12:55 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.*



January 02, 2021 at 12:52 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.*



January 02, 2021 at 12:50 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.*



January 02, 2021 at 12:47 PM



“ *Larry, so sorry to hear the sad nws about Barbara. My most sincere condolences. Dal VandenBerg*

Dale VandenBerg - January 02, 2021 at 10:34 AM

VW

“ *Vicky Helmenstine Welsh lit a candle in memory of Barbara Jean Christenson*



Vicky Helmenstine Welsh - January 01, 2021 at 01:46 AM

BE

“ *Larry , Kevin, Lisa and Adam, So sorry for your loss. May you keep wonderful memories with you. She will be missed.*



Brian Elliston - December 31, 2020 at 04:57 PM

MP

“ *Larry, Kevin, Lisa and Adam, We are thinking of all of you. Barb was a good friend for many years and a wonderful neighbor. She was a very caring person and saw the good in everyone. We will miss her. Hugs to all of you - Mary & Mike.*

Mary Pitsch - December 31, 2020 at 10:41 AM

SD

*Larry, Kevin, Lisa and Adam our hearts are breaking for your loss. We always thought very highly of Barb and are so very sorry to hear of her passing.
Ralph and Sue*

Susan Davis - January 02, 2021 at 09:20 PM

JM

“ *Barb was a big part of my childhood. I have nothing but loving, happy memories of her and the whole Christenson family. Sending so much love to everyone.*

Julie Pitsch Morgan - December 31, 2020 at 10:04 AM

LB

“ *I never met Barb and I am sorry I didn't! Over the years I heard different things about her from my very good friend, Pamela Heller who was very close to her in many different ways through their time together in life! Pam shared some of the most touching and personal stories of how Barb and her became so close and important to each other. Even though distance separated them at times love in the heart and important memories can never separate true friends!! I know how Pam is hurting at the loss of her great friend and from everything I read here in Barbs' story, I can see why! RIP Barb You will never be far from the hearts and minds of all the lives you touched during your lifetime and now mine . For now I know I missed out on knowing a wonderful human being ! 💕🙏*

Lora Bradley - December 31, 2020 at 09:16 AM

KK

Larry, so so sorry to hear about Barb. My heart goes out to you and your family. Ken Kosloski

Ken Kosloski - January 01, 2021 at 07:48 PM

TL

Larry and family, my deep condolences for your loss. It is never easy losing someone we love. She is now bless with heavenly wings that will protect you at all times and keep you warm with the memories of the love she had for you.

Tim LeSiege - January 02, 2021 at 08:23 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.*



December 31, 2020 at 09:02 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Christenson.*



December 31, 2020 at 01:01 AM