



## Debra K. Wickman

November 8, 1949 - January 11, 2024

Debra Kaye Wickman, whose heart was as vast as her entrepreneurial spirit, passed away January 11, 2024, at Jasper Memorial Hospital surrounded by her husband and children. Born November 8, 1949, to Leonard (deceased) and Clara Mae Braunecker, she was the second of 8 children. Her brother Mark, as well as sisters Karen and Jill preceded her in death. Surviving siblings include a brother Jeff, and sisters Jackie, Gayle, and Stacy. The focus of Debra's world was her family—her husband, Dennis Wickman, and her children, Sally (Chris) Hackmann, Andrew (April), and Adam (Stacey), and eleven cherished grandchildren, all survive. Debra's legacy is one of love, creativity, and selfless generosity. For Debra, family was the compass that directed her life, the joy that fueled her endeavors, and the love that inspired her generous actions. Each moment spent with family was precious, each memory a treasure that she held close to her heart.

A proud alumna of the Ireland HS class of 1967, and following graduation from Indiana State University, Debra started her career as a home economics teacher. When motherhood graced her life with three beloved children, her entrepreneurial journey began. A hobby of crafting doll clothes in the midst of raising a family, flourished into a business that would touch lives for over 45 years. As a revered member of the Toy Industry Association, she brought delight to children across the nation with her handcrafted doll clothes. Debra's compassion extended beyond her immediate family. When the world faced the challenges of COVID-19, the same hands that lovingly created doll

clothes, then crafted masks, acting swiftly when they were most needed. Her giving nature was further exemplified by the hundreds of doll clothes donated to children and charities, and rolls of fabric to church sewing groups to create blankets that brought comfort to hospital and cancer patients.

Her faith in God was an ever-present source of strength. Debra found beauty and solace in the flowers, trees, and wildlife of her garden, a reflection of the diverse and vibrant life she led. She taught her family not only to cook and sew but to live a life enriched with faith, generosity, and the importance of nurturing relationships.

In celebrating Debra's life, we remember a woman whose generous, entrepreneurial spirit was matched only by her love for her family, and whose legacy is interwoven with the countless lives she touched. She lives on in the thriving garden of her family, in the warmth of the blankets she helped create, and in the joy of the children who cherish her doll clothes. Her memory, like the flowers she adored, will continue to blossom in the hearts of her family, a lasting tribute to the most important aspect of her life—the enduring love for her husband, her children, and her grandchildren. Her spirit remains a guiding light of love, generosity, and family devotion.

Mass will be held at 11 AM on Saturday February 3, 2024 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Jasper, IN. A private burial ceremony will take place at a later date. A Celebration of Life will be held on February 3, 2024 at the Atrium of the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center in Jasper, IN from 12:30 to 4:00 PM. All times are EST.

Memorial contributions may be made to Jasper Memorial Hospital, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, or favorite charity.

Online condolences may be made at [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Shiloh Cemetery

4060 W. Shiloh Rd.  
Jasper, IN 47546

# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

St Joseph Catholic Church  
1029 Kundek Street  
Jasper, IN 47546

# Tribute Wall

DB

“ *Debbie was such a sweet lady. I bought a lot of Barbie doll clothes and I still have them! My daughter, Rachelle Kelley, my only child, who has been deceased since Apr. 13, 2000, just loved those doll clothes! Now I have another reason to keep those clothes, Rachelle and Debbie’s memory!* ”



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**Debbie Beier** - February 02, 2024 at 06:06 PM

DW

*Thank you Debbie Beier.*

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**Dennis Wickman** - February 15, 2024 at 10:24 PM

LH

“ Dearest Cousin Debbie,

*It is with a heavy heart that we say our final goodbyes to you on Saturday. Such an amazing mom, grandma and also an amazing cousin. I wish I had taken the time over the years to tell you what an inspiration you were to us younger cousins. We watched everything you did and endeavored to try and keep up with your example. If you could go to college then we believed we could too. You blazed that path for us to follow and it led to us believing that we could do whatever we set our mind to do.*

*The entrepreneurial spirit which you got from your parents led you to many places, including meeting up with us in NYC (what a wonderful surprise that was!). Many of us still have those doll clothes and have passed them on to our grandkids - a testament to their quality of what you built that will last beyond your time with us here! I'm sure you'll be smiling down from heaven watching the joy it brings to a new generation. (You were always smiling).*

*And now you have taught us how to fight and be present for your family through some difficult years.*

*Godspeed, blessed cousin, you will be missed; but your spirit of compassion, drive and confidence will live on through those you inspired.*

*Rest peacefully.*

*Hugs and condolences to you Dennis and the family as you navigate through the empty space left by an amazing woman.*

*Linda and Greg Huls*

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**Linda Huls** - February 01, 2024 at 02:10 PM

DW

*We appreciate your kind words and inspiration.*

**Dennis Wickman** - February 15, 2024 at 10:26 PM

TH

“ *I was so saddened to hear of Debbie's passing. We were "pen pals" back in our 4-H days and stayed in touch a bit over the years. She was an extremely talented lady and was so sweet. My sympathies to the family.*

**Tonya S Heim** - January 25, 2024 at 11:32 AM

DW

*Thank you sharing. We all will miss her.*

**Dennis Wickman** - January 26, 2024 at 07:12 PM

JB

“ *Sending my deepest sympathy to the family. I bought tons of Barbie clothes from Debra. Then years later, we met up again at JHS choir functions. I always enjoyed talking to this sweet lady. RIP*

**Jane Braun** - January 22, 2024 at 01:55 PM

DW

*Thank you, Jane.*

**Dennis Wickman** - January 26, 2024 at 07:13 PM

JE

“ *Miriam and I would like to express our deepest sympathy to you Dennis and your family for the loss of your wife Debra. Our prayers are with you all. Jon and Miriam Eckerle*

**Jon Eckerle** - January 22, 2024 at 08:34 AM

DW

*Thanks Miriam and Jon for your kind support.*

**Dennis Wickman** - January 26, 2024 at 07:14 PM

RR

“ *Condolence's and Prayers to Jackie and family. May her soul rest in eternal peace.*

*Robert and Sheri Reeves*

**Robert & Sheri Reeves** - January 20, 2024 at 08:11 PM

DW

*Thank you very much.*

**Dennis Wickman** - January 26, 2024 at 07:10 PM

LK

“ *A beautiful tribute to a beautiful lady. My sympathy  
Linda Kaiser* 🎵

**linda kaiser** - January 20, 2024 at 07:22 AM

DW

*Thanks Linda. She was special.*

**Dennis Wickman** - January 26, 2024 at 07:15 PM

SR

“ *Dennis, I am so sorry about the loss of Deb.  
She was a great person who will be missed. It  
was an honor to know her.*



**Staci Rhoderick** - January 19, 2024 at 06:06 PM

DW

*Thank you, Stacy. She thought the world of you.*

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**Dennis Wickman** - January 26, 2024 at 07:17 PM

YB

“ *Dennis and family we were so very sorry to hear about Debbie. She was so special. I enjoyed working for her sewing doll clothes. I remember when our boys were young and played together. Prayers for you all.*

*Larry, Yvonne, Addy, Brian, and Clint Breitwieser*

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**Yvonne Breitwieser** - January 19, 2024 at 03:16 PM

DW

*Thank you, Yvonne. She was very fond of all your family. Thank you for the prayers.*

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**Dennis Wickman** - January 26, 2024 at 07:18 PM