



Frances Jane "Janie" Merkel

December 5, 1953 - October 28, 2025

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Frances Jane "Janie" Merkel, age 71, of Celestine, Indiana, passed away at 4:40 p.m. on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at home surrounded by family.

Janie was born in French Lick, Indiana, on December 5, 1953, to Russel Sr. and Betty Jane (Flick) Farris.

She married Andrew "Andy" Paul Merkel on September 7, 1973, at St. Peter Celestine Catholic Church in Celestine, Indiana.

She worked at Indiana Furniture and Heichelbech's Restaurant.

She was a member of St. Isidore Parish – St. Celestine Catholic Church in Celestine, Indiana.

She enjoyed spending time with her grandkids.

Surviving is her husband of 52 years, Andy Merkel, Celestine, IN, two children, Jason (Kathleen) Merkel, St. Anthony, IN, Wendy (Greg) Jeffries,

Celestine, IN, three grandchildren, Madelyn Merkel, and Heidi and Isaac Jeffries, two brothers, Gary (Justine) Farris, Sheffield Lake, OH, and Mick (Susan) Farris, French Lick, IN.

Preceding her in death are one sister, Cynda Jo Potts, and four brothers, Russel Jr. "Butch", David, Roy Dale, and Monty Farris.

Private family services will be held at a later date.

Online condolences may be made at www.becherkluesner.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Celestine Cemetery

6864 Indiana 164
Celestine, IN 47521

Tribute Wall

JK

“ You have our deepest condolences. Terry & Jan Kleinhelter

Jan Kleinhelter - October 31, 2025 at 11:25 AM

JK

“ Prayers for all and my deepest condolences

JEANIE Kruger - October 30, 2025 at 11:07 AM

BJ

“ We went to school together plus she lived right up the way from me. Known her all my life, great girl! She will be missed. Condolences to her family 🙏🙏

Beverly Jackson - October 30, 2025 at 08:52 AM

CP

“ Prayers for all and my deepest condolences to all Janie's family, grew up with her in moonshine holler.

Cheryl Pieper - October 29, 2025 at 05:10 PM



“ Condolences from the Campbell family, grew up with her in moonshine holler, she will be missed.

Marlin Campbell - October 29, 2025 at 03:46 PM