



Barbara Naomi Downs

December 26, 1937 - August 22, 2016

Barbara Downs, age 79 of Herrin, passed away Monday, August 22, 2016 in Memorial Hospital of Carbondale.

She was born December 26, 1937 to George and Bernice (Silvers) Dale in Dongola, being one of six children of this union.

Barbara married Dennis Hunt of Anna and the couple moved to the Chicago Heights/Homewood area until returning to Southern Illinois in 1972. Dennis preceded her in death.

She lived and worked in Florida for many years, managing retail women's clothing departments throughout the state, returning to Southern Illinois in 1982.

Barbara then married Jim Downs of Marion in 1983 and he preceded her in death.

She enjoyed all of nature. She was an avid bird watcher, enjoying trying to identify the wildflowers and edibles that her Mother had taught her many years ago, and she loved to fish. As her health declined, she enjoyed being driven through the beautiful countrysides of her youth.

Barbara is survived by three children, Kathy (Ed) Calcaterra of Herrin; Terry (Parveen) Bhatia of Weston, FL and Michael Hunt of Chicago; her loving daughter-in-law, Natalie Hunt of Chicago; eight grandchildren, Rachel Calcaterra of St. Petersburg, FL; Paul Calcaterra of Herrin, Amit, Ashish, Shilpa, Karan and Hannah of FL and Roxanne Hunt of Port St. Lucie, FL; three great-grandchildren; a brother, Edward Dale of Leland, NC; two sisters, Lois Hunley of Tallahassee, FL and Rita Dale of Herrin; two sister-in-law's, Joanne Dale of Anna and Lucille Dale of Dongola; other relatives and many friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents and two brothers.

Barbara's wishes were to be cremated.

A Celebration of Life will be Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 2:00 pm at the home her daughter, Kathy Calcaterra, 1416 Colombo Dr., Herrin, IL 62948.

The family would like to thank Dr. Kevin Oestmann and his nurses for their care, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale ICU Staff and her wonderful caregivers through Help at Home, especially Donna Crane, her loyal companion and caregiver.

Memorials can be made to WCPH Home Delivered Meals Program, 1201 Weaver Road, Herrin, IL 62948.

Crain Funeral Home Egyptian Chapel in Energy is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara Naomi Downs*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM