



Deborah Choate

October 13, 1952 - November 14, 2020

Deborah (Debby) Choate, 68, of rural Marion, passed away November 14,, 2020, after a brief battle with cancer. She was born October 13, 1952, in Christopher, IL, to Edward and Bonnie Lee (Rich) Clark. Debby married Robert (Bob) Choate in West Frankfort on November 25, 1980. Bob and Debby would have celebrated their 40th Anniversary this year.

Debby was a 1971 graduate of Thompsonville High School where she was the Homecoming Queen and active in track and softball. After high school, she worked for Smoler Brothers and Freeman Coal Company before starting her own business. Debby was the proud owner and operator of Debby's Grooming for 32 years.

Debby's love for animals and people lead her to be a founding member of the Angelina Foundation. She served tirelessly as the President of the Foundation. The Foundation worked to promote animal adoption and provide care for thousands of animals.

Debby is remembered by her family as a loving wife, grandmother, sister, and aunt. She is survived by her husband Robert (Bob) Choate; stepson Brad (Julie) Choate sister Carol (Don) Kutscher, Christopher; brothers Charles (Aris) Clark, Opdyke; Dennis (Janet) Clark, Benton; Mike (Judy) Clark, Benton. She is also survived by grandchildren Brent (Mary) Choate; Lauren

(Chris) Bunch; Lindsey (Matt) Robidas and great grandchildren Michael, Kate, Alex, Ben, Dylan, Lucas, and Maya. Debby also leaves behind many special nieces and nephew, great nieces and nephews, as well as great-great nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, father-in law, mother-in-law, and stepson Brian Choate.

Debby leaves a legacy of unselfishness, kindness, and generosity to both people and animals. She will be dearly missed by her family, friends, and acquaintances that were touched by her caring and giving personality.

Memorial contributions can be made in Debby's name to the Angelina Foundation.

A Celebration of Life to honor Debby is being planned for Summer 2021. Private inurnment will take place at Jonesboro Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Jonesboro Cemetery

Tribute Wall



“ I just learned of Debby's passing. She was one of the nicest and sweetest ladies I have ever met.

Vicki Colombo - August 26, 2025 at 10:00 PM



“ Deborah Choate

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Debbie was one of the sweetest people that I have ever met. I miss her already.
Jeff Choate

Jeff Choate - November 19, 2020 at 01:30 PM



What a beautiful person! Our family will miss Debbie. She has taken great care of little Gracie , poodle for 12 years. Our heart goes out to your family.

Candace Whitehead - November 20, 2020 at 04:55 PM



So sorry for the lose of Debby. I remember her from school She will be missed.

Pam Crawford - November 20, 2020 at 09:50 PM