



Kay Marie Brechtelsbauer

May 15, 1943 - September 10, 2022

IN MEMORY OF:

KAY MARIE BRECHTELSBAUER

Serving Location:

CRAIN PLEASANT GROVE-MURDALE FUNERAL HOME

31 Memorial Drive (Old Route 13), Murphysboro, Illinois

Kay Marie Brechtelsbauer, age 79, of Murphysboro, formerly of Frankentrost, Michigan went to her heavenly home to be with her Savior, The Lord Jesus Christ, on Saturday, September 10, 2022.

She was born on May 15, 1943 in Saginaw, Michigan to the late Erwin and Marie Kueffner Brechtelsbauer. She is survived by her brother, Earl (Nonie) Brechtelsbauer; sister, Joyce E. Gibbs; nephews, Scott (Heidi) Brechtelsbauer, Todd (Sandi) Brechtelsbauer, Derek Parker and Matthew (Teresa) Parker; great nieces, Taylor, Kendal, Kara and Jordon Brechtelsbauer; great nephews, Owen Brechtelsbauer and Carson Parker and her dear friend, Judy Rawls.

Kay had a wonderful and full life. The daughter of a farmer, Kay grew up in Frankentrost, Michigan where she attended Immanuel Lutheran Church and

School from first through eighth grade. Upon leaving the Immanuel, she attended Frankenmuth High School in Frankenmuth, Michigan. After graduating from high school in 1961, she attended Central Michigan University, majoring in Health and Physical Education with the intent to become a PE teacher. Upon graduating from CMU in 1965, Kay continued her studies at SIUC in Carbondale, Illinois with a Master's Degree in Physical Education.

After graduating Kay began teaching at SIUC in the College of Education Physical Education department. She was asked to coach the university's softball team in 1967 while continuing to teach. She somehow found time while teaching and coaching to complete a Doctorate in Education Psychology in 1980. The university hired her to become their full time softball coach, a position that she held for 32 years.

During her exceptional career, Coach B., as she was affectionately called by her players and friends, won more games (633) than any coach in the history of women's sports at SIUC. A member of the SIU Sports Hall of Fame, she received the Missouri Valley Coach of the Year award on two occasions and was selected by the University for their Administrative Professional Woman of Distinction award in 1993. Her teams consistently were in the top three of the MVC in hitting, placing first in 1998. Her 1978 SIUC team won the National Invitational Tournament. Her stint at SIUC was the longest tenure of an active head softball coach at any NCAA school at that time.

Retiring in 1999, Coach B was one of the most widely respected softball coaches in the history of the game. When SIUC completed their new softball stadium, they honored her by naming the field "Brechtelsbauer Field." After retiring from coaching, Kay continued to teach part-time and spent as much time as possible on the golf course. Kay was the president of the Hickory Ridge Ladies Golf Association from 2012 until her death.

Kay continued her financial and spiritual support of Immanuel Lutheran Church and School throughout her life and requested that in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to Our Savior Lutheran Church in Carbondale, St. Francis Animal Shelter in Murphysboro or Hospice of Southern Illinois.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 3:00 PM at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 700 South University, Carbondale, IL 62901, with Pastor Robert Gray and Pastor Jay Holden officiating. Visitation will be on Tuesday, from 1:00 PM until the time of service at the church.

Kay will then be taken to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Frankentrost, Michigan for services for her family and friends. Entombment will be in Eastlawn Memorial Gardens Mausoleum in Frankentrost, Michigan.

Local arrangements have been entrusted to Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **13**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Our Savior Lutheran Church
700 S University Ave.
Carbondale, IL 62901

Funeral Service

SEP **13**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Our Savior Lutheran Church
700 S University Ave.
Carbondale, IL 62901

Tribute Wall



“ *Kay Marie Brechtelsbauer*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Judy and all of Kay's family, Not sure why, but I'm just seeing this now. The world is a little duller now without Kay. Love and hugs to all of you....Deb Sarvela*

Deb Sarvela - September 21, 2022 at 03:53 PM



“ *Judy, I didn't know Kay. I had only met her a few times. But I know YOU and have good memories of working with you at WED. I know Kay means a great deal to you. So my heart goes out to you my friend. I have no doubt that you have tons of good memories with Kay, and I hope those memories bring many smiles to your heart and mind interspersed with the tears. Warm regards, Laura Cates Duncan*

Laura Duncan - September 14, 2022 at 08:48 AM



“ *My condolences to Coach B's family. Coach had an impact on so many people, she was one of the kindest people I have ever met. Thanks for being my coach and friend. You will be missed. RIP. Love you Dr. B.*

Lisa "Liki" Dennis - September 13, 2022 at 02:56 PM

RB

“ Coach B was my coach from 1977-1980. I will always remember her fondly. She was a great coach and an even better person. She will be greatly missed! --Becky "Bones" Beville Class of 1980.

Rebecca Beville - September 13, 2022 at 02:50 PM

LR

“ Spent many hours on the ball field with Coach B either in Cape Girardeau or Carbondale. I admired an respected her, she was a mentor an confidant, and above all was my friend! My deepest sympathies to her family and the SIU family. Coach Lana Flynn Richmond. SEMO

Lana Flynn Richmond - September 13, 2022 at 09:49 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Kay Marie Brechtelsbauer.



September 12, 2022 at 09:00 PM