



Barbara McDonald

November 24, 1944 - April 5, 2025

Barbara Jean McDonald, 80, of Cedar Falls, passed away peacefully on April 5, 2025, surrounded by family.

She was born on November 24, 1944, in Washington, Iowa, the daughter of James Knox Dunn II and Mary Frances (Luckey) Dunn. She graduated from Winfield-Mount Union High School, and went on to attend The State College of Iowa, earning her bachelor's degree in Textiles and Apparel. On March 26, 1966, she was united in marriage to Larry McDonald in Waterloo. The couple made their home in Cedar Falls where they raised their two daughters. She was a dedicated member of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, helping with marriage preparation and the funeral lunch committee, and served as a eucharistic minister. Barb worked for several years in various customer service/sales roles before retiring from Viking Pump in 2003.

Barb's joy for life, love of her family and friends leave a true legacy behind. She loved playing tennis, reading, crossword puzzles, and watching HGTV. She was an avid cook and loved good music. She also loved spending winters in Florida with Larry and some of the McDonald clan after retirement.

Family was everything to Barb. A tradition that was special to her was hosting Thanksgiving Day family dinner. Her favorite role of all in life was that of a mom and Grammie. She loved her children and grandchildren "to the moon

and back.” Her numerous nieces and nephews always felt her love as well.

Barb is survived by her daughters, Debbie Flannery of Cedar Falls, IA and Colleen (Carey) Melz of Lakeville, MN; four grandchildren, Julie Flannery and Connor, Carter, and Caitlyn Melz; brothers, Jim, Tom (Yassie), and Bob (Denise) Dunn; and sisters, Mary Ellen Settle and Elizabeth Milligan Garcia.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her beloved husband, Larry; infant sister, Catherine Dunn and niece, Jaimie Dunn.

Funeral services will be held at 11: 00 a.m., Friday, May 2,2025 at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Waterloo. Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until service time at the church. Interment will take place at Greenwood Cemetery in Cedar Falls.

Memorials may be directed to The Alzheimer’s Association of Northeast Iowa, The Lymphoma Research Foundation or Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 2. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
650 Stephan Avenue
Waterloo, IA 50701

Funeral Mass

MAY 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
650 Stephan Avenue
Waterloo, IA 50701

Tribute Wall



“ John and Lori McDonald planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara McDonald.

John and Lori McDonald - May 01, 2025 at 01:03 PM



“ John and Lori McDonald purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Barbara McDonald.



John and Lori McDonald - May 01, 2025 at 01:03 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Barbara McDonald.

April 30, 2025 at 09:20 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Barbara McDonald.



April 30, 2025 at 09:20 PM

TB

“ *The Lakeville Boys purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Barbara McDonald.*



The Lakeville Boys - April 29, 2025 at 10:34 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Barbara McDonald.*



April 29, 2025 at 08:04 PM

NW

“ *I played tennis with Barb for many years and she was quite the competitor and always displayed good sportsmanship! Her smile was contagious and I will miss her. My sincere condolences to her family. 🙏*

Nancy Warnke - April 28, 2025 at 09:33 AM

JG

“ *We are so sorry to hear of Barb's passing. Her and Larry were our mentors for our Pre Cana program at Blessed Sacrament in 1996. They were so enjoyable to meet with! I loved to catch up with Barb when seeing her at Blessed Sacrament and the Western Home. She will truly be missed as she was such a caring person. Our prayers are with your family. Julie (Trost) and Tim Gootee*

Julie Gootee - April 26, 2025 at 01:17 PM



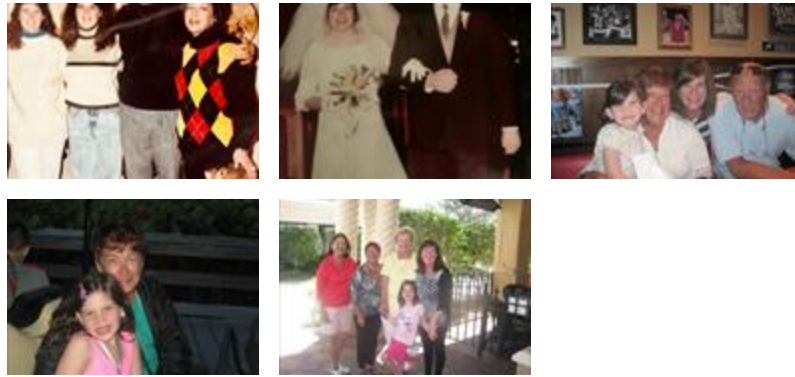
“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Barbara McDonald.*



April 25, 2025 at 12:11 PM



“ *43 files added to the album Barbara Jean*



Colleen Melz - April 21, 2025 at 11:58 PM



“ *Memories of Wyman school, then to Winfield and many 4-H activities*

Elaine Fuller Prom - April 15, 2025 at 07:53 PM



Thank you!

Colleen Melz - April 16, 2025 at 02:13 AM



Thanks, Elaine, for your kind comments. Barb and we as a family had many good friends growing up in Wyman.

Bob Dunn - April 20, 2025 at 09:35 AM

MP

“ *Missing you, Barb. We were classmates/friends K-12 at Wyman then Winfield. Our fathers were classmates/friends as well. Heaven has gained a sweet gal. Love to family & friends.*

Margaret Davis Patterson - April 13, 2025 at 10:10 AM

CM

Thank you!

Colleen Melz - April 16, 2025 at 02:17 AM

BD

Thank you, Margaret, for these kind remembrances. Like you and Barb and our fathers, your little brother Dallas and I were very good friends growing up in Wyman.

Bob Dunn - April 20, 2025 at 09:44 AM

SN

“ *Very sad to hear of Barb's passing, we were friends in our teenage years and attended the same church with our families. Barb was a bridesmaid in our wedding 60 years ago and on our 50th wedding anniversary she came to Heritage Oaks Country club, near Morning Sun, Iowa, to help us celebrate , what a joy and wonderful memories we shared that day! Blessings to her family at this sad time. Sue Cummings Nichols*

Sue Nichols - April 12, 2025 at 04:25 PM

CO

Thank you!

Colleen - April 17, 2025 at 12:22 AM

BD

Thanks, Sue. I remember you as one of Barb's constant friends from church. It is so kind of you to remember her.

Bob Dunn - April 20, 2025 at 09:46 AM

SK

“ Extending our deepest sympathy to the McDonald Family. Barbara was a gem to all that knew her! The Kennedy Family.

Stephen Kennedy - April 11, 2025 at 11:29 AM

CO

Thank you!

Colleen - April 17, 2025 at 12:22 AM

KW

“ My deepest sympathies to Barb's family. I worked with Larry at the AEA and got to know Barb. She was a lovely lady who truly loved her family. May memories bring you comfort and may God grant you peace in the coming days.
Kerri Wilson



Kerri Wilson - April 11, 2025 at 11:19 AM

DM

The McDonald Clan loved Barbara for her easy going manner and happy spirit. We shared many happy times with Barbara and Larry and will keep those memories alive in our hearts. Love Dorothy, wife of brother Bill

Dorothy McDonald - April 13, 2025 at 08:59 AM

CO

Thank you!

Colleen - April 17, 2025 at 12:23 AM

PH

Barb has been out next door neighbor for the last 17 years! Oh how we love this dear and kind Barb! She has always been so bright and positive, even with her diagnosis of cancer! We have loved serving her and have loved her bright heart and spirit! I know how she loved her daughters and dear husband and shared her joy with all! May the dear Lord bless you all knowing she is now at peace.

Paula Hansen - April 28, 2025 at 08:57 AM

PM

“ Pat M. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara McDonald.

Pat M. - April 10, 2025 at 04:54 PM