



## Catherine Marie Bechtold

January 3, 1959 - November 4, 2023

Catherine Marie Bechtold was born January 3, 1959 in Alton IL to Jack and Pat Buese. She passed away peacefully in her home on November 4th, 2023 in Alton, IL. She said "Wasn't I lucky to be born in my favorite city!" A quote from one of her favorite movies "Meet me in St. Louis."

Cathy worked at Lewis and Clark Community College for 18 years. She started in the enrollment center and later became the Assistant to the Dean of Enrollment. Cathy said she worked with some of the best people she had ever met and will miss them all terribly.

Her favorite things were hiking, gardening, bird watching, coffee, smoking, and reading. After her retirement from LCCC she would wake in the morning, make a cup of coffee, and sit on the porch to watch the sun rise and listen to the birds singing. Cathy often drove to the Alton Lock and Dam and down the River Road in the winter to watch the eagles.

Cathy's favorite trails were at Marquette State Park. If you want to hike them you go up Goat Cliff to Mc Adams Peak, then down the Ravine.

She raised three children, Kellie Crider (Husband Josh), Michael Bechtold (Wife Elisha), and Jacob Bechtold (Wife Angelica). She got to meet all 4 of her grandchildren, James Crider, David Bechtold, Mia Bechtold, and Micah Bechtold.

She is survived by her brother John Buese (Wife Debbie), their two children Jack Buese and Megan Strong (Husband Kyle), and her sister Polly Clabaugh (Husband Gregg), and their children Chuck Clabaugh (two daughters & one grandson), Rebecca Kinkaid (Husband Greg and their three daughters), and Alison Clabaugh.

She was preceded in death by her parents John "Jack" Merlin Buese, and Patricia Mary Buese "McCarthy".

She was always a very reserved and quiet person, a private memorial will be held for her immediate family. A wake will not be held at the funeral home so in lieu of flowers or cards please make a donation in her name to your favorite charity or to the ALSA of St. Louis. They helped Cathy through her years battling with ALS and are continuing to help many others.

[http://webstl.alsa.org/site/PageNavigator/STL\\_7\\_donate.html](http://webstl.alsa.org/site/PageNavigator/STL_7_donate.html) - This is a direct link for a donation to the ALSA - St. Louis Chapter. Gent Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Additional information and online guest book may be found at [www.gentfuneralhome.com](http://www.gentfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

VS

“ I heard of the passing late on Facebook and send my condolences to the entire family. I love Cathy very much and have known her since kindergarten and all through grade school and Marquette High. I will miss her presence on Earth. Love to all of you and my deepest prayers.

*Venita (Gray) Sciacca*

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**Venita Gray Sciacca** - November 12, 2023 at 03:41 AM

BC

“ Cathy would come by my office hold up two fingers and smile. So she would take a smoking break and I would go along with her. We laughed a lot and just enjoyed each other company.

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**Barbara Cadle** - November 11, 2023 at 08:41 PM

DR

“ Cathy was a sweetheart of a person. She served as a hard-working, kind-hearted, team-playing co-worker at LCCC. It was a privilege and blessing to have known and worked with her. She was proud of her children and grandchildren. Cathy possessed a calm and strong exterior and has been an example for all who knew her. My sympathy to her family and all who loved her.

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**Denise Roth** - November 09, 2023 at 02:27 PM

PC

“ *Rest Well Beez. The family is grateful for the heartfelt comments and support from all her devoted friends, BJC Hospice, her LCCC "family", the Washington University / Barnes medical groups and those in the ALS community who were her connection to living and thriving with her condition.*

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**Polly (Buese) Clabaugh** - November 09, 2023 at 11:50 AM

MB

“ *Cathy was a joy to see when I would come by her office on morning rounds at LCCC.*



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**Michael A Butler** - November 09, 2023 at 09:52 AM

RG

“ *Roberta Gibbs lit a candle in memory of Catherine Marie Bechtold*



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**Roberta Gibbs** - November 09, 2023 at 01:48 AM



“ *Surely an earth angel. Great sense of humor and always kind. She loved her family so much. Always was great to work with at LC. Hugs sweet friend.*

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**Tweed Walters** - November 08, 2023 at 01:40 PM