



Elizabeth "Betty" Christy

November 14, 1945 - April 10, 2020

Dateline: Alton

Elizabeth (Betty) Louise Christy (maiden name Barr), born November 1945, departed this life peacefully and entered Heavenly rest from her home on 4/10/20 with her family by her side. Formerly of Springfield, Illinois, she married her best friend and life companion, Donald Christy, in December 1967. Following graduation from Lanphier High School, she entered the nursing program at Alton Memorial Hospital. It was at Calvary Baptist Church where she and Don met and began their life together. They were married in Springfield with her uncle, Rev. Dee Speer, presiding. They then moved to Mattoon, Illinois where she worked as a registered nurse at the local hospital. Returning to Alton, Betty began her long career as a registered nurse at Alton Memorial Hospital. For nearly forty years, Betty practiced her skills as a RN at various health centers including Community Counseling Center in Alton and TriCounty Health Center in Jerseyville. Nursing was her passion, her way of serving the Lord through helping others. She was the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions for her service as a registered nurse. Betty was known for her kindness, her compassion for the sick, her gentleness, her devotion to her family, and her love for God.

Betty made a profession of her faith at an early age, and she and Donald were charter members of Alton First Southern Baptist Church (now Heartland).

They became the parents of two children, Stephanie and Stephen. Betty is survived by her husband Donald, their daughter Stephanie Freeman, their son Dr. Stephen Christy and his wife Julie, and two sisters Charlotte Shafer and Joyce Barr. Her brother-in-law Gary Christy, his wife Trudy, and numerous nieces and nephews also remain to continue her memory. Connie Andersen, the mother of Julie Christy, shared many years of companionship with Betty and gave her nursing skills to provide loving support to Betty throughout her illness. Loving caregivers Takeya Talbert, Wanda Bausily, Amanda Bosaw and Lindsey Copley remain deeply appreciated by the family. A favorite and loving cousin Linda Tucker and husband Melvin, and close family friend Vicky White must also be included among the survivors, for they meant much to Betty and provided years of love and companionship throughout her life. Betty was preceded in death by her parents Robert and Elizabeth Barr, two brothers Robert and Charles, her sister Janice and her beloved son-in-law Kenneth Freeman.

There are many close friends and church family who share loving memories of Betty and will mourn her loss while rejoicing over her reunion in Heaven with loved ones. The knowledge that she now is in the presence of her loving Lord and family members brings comfort to those who survive and wait for the time to be together again. Her life is a testimony of her love for people and her unselfish commitment to always put others ahead of her own needs. She was never heard to speak unkindly of anyone, she loved her family, and her devotion to her husband Don was obvious to all who knew her. This devotion was in turn shared with her by Don who loved her with all his heart and soul. While this time of separation is painful, Betty is a child of God and is now at peace. Her life as a registered nurse, daughter, sister, wife, and mother is over, and she can rest knowing that she did her best, loved her family, served God, and made the world better for her contributions.

A private service will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church on

Saturday, April 18 with burial in Upper Alton Cemetery following. Reverend Adrian Das will preside. Memorial contributions may be made to Westminster Presbyterian Church, Godfrey, Illinois. A memorial tribute to honor her memory will be announced at a later date. Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangements. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Upper Alton Cemetery

Oakwood Avenue
Alton, IL 62002

Tribute Wall



“ Elizabeth "Betty" Christy

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ Elizabeth "Betty" Christy

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ Don and family, so sorry for your loss. Betty was such a kind and loving person, always had a smile on her face. Prayers for you and your family during this difficult time. May God comfort your heart.

Kathy Sales - May 09, 2020 at 11:23 AM



“ I knew Betty as a customer at Shop 'n Save. She would come in after work. She was always so pleasant and kind...she was one of my favorites! Thought of her from time to time after my retirement. Condolences to her loved ones. She was a sweetheart!

ROBIN G BATSON - April 26, 2020 at 12:29 AM



“ Thank you so much to everyone who posted on the tribute wall. Don and the family read each message and appreciate your thoughtfulness. I am grateful to have had such a lovely mother-in-law and cherish the time we spent together.

Julie Christy - April 20, 2020 at 09:05 PM

JF

“ Don, our sincere condolences to you and Stephanie and Stephen and the entire family. Remember that we are just right across the street. Prayers will continue to come your way.

john and karen fitzgerald - April 18, 2020 at 08:47 AM

LM

“ Know you will so miss the love of your life. Wish we had gotten to know her earlier. Such a special lady and such a special love you had for each other. We are keeping you in our hearts and prayers.
Jim and Lois McCormick

Lois McCormick - April 17, 2020 at 08:03 PM

AB

“ Don, so sorry for your loss. I never met Betty but you would talk about her when you mentored me as I start teaching at Logan.

Alan Bruha - April 17, 2020 at 02:33 PM

JE

“ *Jay and Teri Elliott*

We will always treasure the memories of visiting with Betty and Don, dining, playing games and enjoying the evening together. We will always hold Betty in our hearts.

Jay and Teri Elliott - April 17, 2020 at 01:18 PM

CG

“ Cory, Julie, Noah, and Luke Gallivan purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Elizabeth "Betty" Christy.



Cory, Julie, Noah, and Luke Gallivan - April 15, 2020 at 07:41 PM

MS

“ I am sorry for your loss, Praying God brings you comfort and purpose

Marnie Stroud - April 15, 2020 at 06:00 PM

JF

“ Sorry for your loss. I haven't seen you for a long time and am sorry this virus thing has upset things. Sincerely, Dr. John Fischer

john fischer - April 15, 2020 at 04:30 PM

WC

“ Westminster Choir purchased the Sweet Tenderess for the family of Elizabeth "Betty" Christy.



Westminster Choir - April 15, 2020 at 04:09 PM

SP

“ Dear Christy family, I want to share just how much love and kindness Betty always showed. Sincere sympathy

Susie Henesey

Susan J Pruetzel - April 15, 2020 at 02:42 PM

 Mary
Tucker

“ I was so sorry to hear of Betty's passing. My condolences to her family. She will be greatly missed.
I met Betty in 1979 when I started work at Alton Memorial Hospital. She was always so upbeat and friendly. Her patients loved her. Later when we were working in the same department she hosted our Christmas party at her home. She made it so much fun! I will always remember Betty and that memory brings a smile.
Mary Tucker

Mary Tucker - April 15, 2020 at 12:00 PM

SH

“ I had the honor of working with her at AMH years ago. A very sweet person, always a kind word. Will be missed by many who knew her.

Sherry Harshbarger - April 14, 2020 at 01:30 PM