



## Joyce Strader

November 11, 1955 - June 20, 2024

Dateline: Sorento, IL

Joyce Strader, a treasured and loved nurse of over 35 years, died at 4:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at Alton Memorial Hospital at the age of 68.

Joyce is survived by her children; Jocelyn Strader, Chelsea Strader, and Rhys Strader (Lisa Burroughs); Honorary daughter Shannon Smith (Stephen Smith) and their beloved children Alice Smith and Nora Smith; Brother-in-Law Greg Strader (Eileen Strader) and former spouse Jamie Strader.

Joyce was born in Granite City, IL on November 11, 1955, to Robert and Gloria (Forsting) Zwick. She was married on July 20, 1990, and went on to have three wonderful children. She graduated from Lewis and Clark Community College in 1990 with a degree in Science. She began her career in the nursing field and worked at several different jobs over the years until 2006. Where she accepted a position as a nurse at Alton Memorial Hospital. Joyce was an extraordinary momma, and her sole ambition was to care for her children. She was a woman who was full of love for books, animals, and word games. Her home and place of work were never silent as she adored music of all kinds. A few of her favorite hobbies were the ones that she shared with her children. She loved gardening with Jocelyn, attending musicals with Chelsea, and cooking with Rhys. She impacted a multitude of people with her service as a nurse at Alton Memorial Hospital for 18 years. She was a respected, valued, and vital part of the community.

Momma you will be missed, and we loved you so very much.

A Nurse Honor Guard tribute will begin at 1:00 p.m. followed by visitation on Thursday, June 27, 2024, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. We ask that attendees dress in her favorite colors of purple, red, or yellow. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Muny or St. Louis Zoo. Additional information and online guest book may be found at [www.gentfuneralhome.com](http://www.gentfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 27. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home  
2409 State Street  
Alton, IL 62002

# Tribute Wall

JW

“Joyce left Chelsea, Rhys and Jocelyn such a legacy of kindness, caring, courage and strength; mixed with a sense of humor and the knowledge that they are always loved.”

Judy Whitehead - June 26, 2024 at 04:42 AM

JW

“Judy Whithead purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Joyce Strader.”



Judy Whithead - June 26, 2024 at 01:35 AM

MK

“Worked with Joyce at St. Elizabeth’s and appreciated her strength and wisdom.”

Mary Ann Krewson - June 25, 2024 at 01:04 PM

CA

“Joyce and I went to school together, we ate lunch together everyday all thru high school. She had such a witty fun personality. She was there when I had my daughter, I was by myself and she was there daily for months to help, even spending the night with me, not sure what I would have done without her. She was a Godsend for myself and my baby, nicknaming my daughter Kissar. For many years we had a card party every Sunday night. One of my lifelong best friends ever. The world is a sadder place without her. Fly high my friend until we meet again. ❤️🙏❤️”

Carlene - June 25, 2024 at 01:28 AM

DE

“Joyce and I spent many happy times together when we were young... She helped me raise my kids when they were little. She made my birthday cakes, my kids birthday cakes... was a bright light in my life. I have so many fond memories. She has remained in my thoughts often over the years. Always wondered how she was doing. Lost track when I moved to Texas, and then life happened and we just never really reconnected. Thank you Joyce for being such a good friend to me all those years ago. Won't ever forget you.

-----  
**Dona Ely** - June 25, 2024 at 01:20 AM

MF

“Music friend purchased the Vivid Recollections for the family of Joyce Strader.



-----  
**Music friend** - June 24, 2024 at 07:09 PM

MF

“Music friend planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joyce Strader.

-----  
**Music friend** - June 24, 2024 at 07:09 PM

LY

“Joyce was not just a great nurse and coworker, but friend. I will always love how we would greet each other, every greeting a joke and every conversation I treasured. Gonna miss her a lot.

*My deepest sympathy to her family*

-----  
**Lynn** - June 24, 2024 at 06:10 PM

JW

*Joyce was one in a million. Her children were her pleasure and her strength. She will be missed by her many friends and coworkers.*

---

**Judy Whitehead** - June 24, 2024 at 06:57 PM