



## Mary Beth Jenniches

December 10, 1960 - June 15, 2024

Mary Beth Jenniches, 63, of Alton, Illinois passed away peacefully at home on June 15, 2024, following a nine-year battle with melanoma. Mary was a loving wife, mother, sister, and former co-owner/operator of First Stop Bake Shop in Rosewood Heights, IL. Born on December 10, 1960, as Mary Beth Lambert, she grew up in South St. Louis and attended Woerner grade school and Cleveland High School. She attended both Missouri University and Northeast Missouri State University where she earned her bachelor's degree in Interpersonal Communication. She soon entered the hospitality industry and worked as a manager at the Holiday Inn in Corpus Christi, Texas before moving back to Saint Louis.

Mary met her husband in 1988 while employed at the Adam's Mark Hotel in downtown St. Louis, and they were married in 1989. In 1997, they relocated to Alton, Illinois where they raised their two children together. "Miss Mary" coached girls' youth soccer for seven years at Alton Parks and Recreation when her children were young.

Mary enjoyed traveling, socializing, and watching sports with her husband. She especially loved spending time with family and friends at her family's country home in Drake, Missouri.

Mary was a parishioner of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alton. She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Geneva Lambert, and her dear uncle, Edwin "Sonny" Langenberg. She is survived by her husband Michael Ralph Jenniches, children Corey Jenniches and Claire (Nico) Jenniches-

Valerio, sisters Debbie Daly and Peggy (Wes) Suzor, niece Abby (Michael) Zoia, nephew Andrew (Brittany) Guinn and two great-nephews Charlie and Alex Zoia. She leaves behind many loving friends from her childhood, college years, and beyond.

Visitation will be held on Friday, June 21, 2024 from 4 - 8 pm at Gent Funeral Home in Alton, IL. A mass of Christian burial will be at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alton, IL at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, June 22, 2024. Interment will immediately follow at St. Joseph's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Mary's family asks that donations be made in her name to help find a cure for Melanoma via the Melanoma Research Foundation. <https://www.melanoma.org/>

Online guestbook and information may be found at [www.gentfuneralhome.com](http://www.gentfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## St. Joseph's Cemetery

525 East 4th Street  
Alton, IL 62002

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 21. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home  
2409 State Street  
Alton, IL 62002

## Mass of Christian Burial

JUN 22. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church  
519 E 4th St  
Alton, IL 62002-2602  
(618) 465-4284

# Tribute Wall

JH

“ My husband and I were just reminiscing over a sticky bun how much we used to love chatting with Mary and Mike at First Stop. So sorry to hear of her passing. She was a lovely lady who made a mark on us with just those short Saturday morning interactions- I can't imagine how much she is missed by those who knew her more intimately.

Jasmine Hutson - November 30, 2025 at 11:31 AM

AA

“ Andrea and Alice planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Beth Jenniches.

Andrea and Alice - June 23, 2024 at 01:33 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mary Beth Jenniches.



June 23, 2024 at 01:33 PM

SK

“ I remember coming into the shop to see how Mary was. Such beautiful people she and Mike were. Our condolences Mike. God will sustain you. May Mary rest in peace as she sees Cathy and Greg once again lov as you go. Bill and sue Kinsella

susan kinsellz - June 22, 2024 at 09:42 AM



“ Wow what can we say? So very sorry for this huge loss Your son Corey is like a son to us. Love you all and we are very sorry!!!

Sara Geisen - June 21, 2024 at 10:56 PM



“ Mike, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Mary was such a kind, caring and gracious person. Keep her smile and laughter in your heart. Martin and Kati (Vaughn) Perez

Kati Perez - June 21, 2024 at 05:46 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Beth Jenniches.



June 20, 2024 at 09:34 PM



“ Lora M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Beth Jenniches.

Lora M. - June 20, 2024 at 09:34 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Mary Beth Jenniches.



June 20, 2024 at 09:01 PM

DB

“ *Mike and Family*

*My sincere condolences to your entire family. Mary you will be missed but never forgotten...*

*Rest in Peace*

*Don Bornefeld*

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**Don Bornefeld** - June 20, 2024 at 08:13 PM

KH

“ *Mike and family,*

*So sorry for your loss, Mary was a Great person.... I will always remember her smile....*

*Kelly Hilton*

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**Kelly Hilton** - June 20, 2024 at 12:49 PM

CP

“ *Cindy Purkape planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Beth Jenniches.*

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**Cindy Purkape** - June 19, 2024 at 07:37 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Beth Jenniches.*



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June 19, 2024 at 07:37 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mary Beth Jenniches.



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June 19, 2024 at 02:50 PM



“ My sincerest sympathy to Mike, Corey, and Claire/Nico on Mary's passing. Mary was such a wonderful person- always kind, calm, and positive in her thoughts and actions. I enjoyed working with Mary when she worked in the school district and later visiting First Stop Bake Shop! I'm so sorry to be out of town for Mary's services and wish I could be there to give you all a hug in person. I pray for peace and comfort to you all knowing that Mary is now resting in the loving arms of Jesus. May she watch over you all and bring a smile to your face as you think of your precious memories of her.

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**Cathy Droste** - June 19, 2024 at 02:33 PM



“ Mike and families, our sincere sympathy on the passing of beloved Mary. We were so fortunate to meet you guys at First Stop Bake Shop and had many wonderful mornings drinking coffee and eating all the goodies Mike had prepared. Mary was the definite "spark" wherever she was. RIP Mary and thanks for letting us get to know you.

*Rohland and Susie Pruetzel*

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**Susie Pruetzel** - June 19, 2024 at 02:00 PM

LP

“ Love, Debbie and Peggy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Beth Jenniches.

Love, Debbie and Peggy - June 19, 2024 at 12:16 PM

LP

“ Love, Debbie and Peggy purchased the Treasure d Lilies Spray for the family of Mary Beth Jenniches.



Love, Debbie and Peggy - June 19, 2024 at 12:16 PM

PH

“ Mary was a great person and friend. I will miss her.

Phil Hamikton - June 17, 2024 at 11:11 PM

BH

So very sorry.....Mary was such a kind, fun and warm person who I was lucky to know for many years. I know how much she was loved by her family and take comfort in knowing that she is now in the loving arms of her Mom and Dad!

Bridget Wynn Hartman - June 25, 2024 at 10:07 AM