



Barbara Ann O'Byrne

August 26, 1951 - June 18, 2026

O'Byrne, Barbara Ann, age 74, passed peacefully on June 18, 2026, surrounded by the love and care of those who cherished her.

Born on August 26, 1951, Barb brought smiles to countless people throughout her life. Adopted as a young child by Ed and Dorothy O'Byrne alongside her beloved sister, Madonna, Barb grew up surrounded by family, community, and enduring friendships. One of those lifelong connections began with the girl who lived just down the street, Darleen, with a friendship that would later grow into devoted guardianship, advocacy, and love.

Barb was known for her joyful spirit, kind heart, and deep appreciation for life's simple pleasures. She loved all things Disney, especially the characters, movies, and music that brought her happiness throughout the years. Barb delighted in collecting Barbie dolls, especially the annual Holiday Barbie which she looked forward to every year with childlike excitement. She was proudly Irish and enjoyed celebrating her heritage with the same enthusiasm she brought to everything she loved.

Her Catholic faith was an important part of her life. Barb was a Joyful Singer where her enthusiasm and heartfelt participation touched many. Along with singing, Barb took great pride in her work through Lifeworks and loved doing art projects and volunteering at Feed My Starving Children. She valued the friendships, purpose, and routines it brought to her life.

For more than 30 years, Barb was lovingly supported through Hammer Residences, where she built meaningful relationships and enjoyed the comfort

of a caring community. She was also an enthusiastic participant in Special Olympics bowling, where her cheerful spirit and determination were always on display.

A devoted cat lover, Barb always enjoyed the companionship of her feline friends over the years. Above all, she will be remembered for the joy she brought to others simply by being herself-genuine, loving, and full of light. The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the caregivers, staff, friends, and community members who supported and loved Barb throughout her life. Special thanks are extended to Karen McGowan and family, whose friendship, advocacy, and unwavering presence meant so much to Barb over the years; the dedicated staff of Hammer Residences; and Methodist Hospice for their compassionate care and support. We are especially grateful to the caregivers of Fulfilledlyf Care and Community Services, who welcomed Barb into their care during the final chapter of her life, providing comfort, dignity, and around-the-clock support. Together with Karen, they stood faithfully beside Barb and our family, surrounding her with love and companionship until her final moments.

Barb was preceded in death by her parents, Ed and Dorothy (Bye) O'Byrne. She is survived by her sister, Madonna (John) Vasecka; her devoted guardians, Darleen (Lonnie) Cooper and Kelly (Jason) Albers and their families: Derek (Randi) Cooper, Lexi and Brendan Cooper, Kayla Albers, Karly (Seth) Lyons and JoJo Lyons, who lovingly shared their holidays, vacations, celebrations, and countless cherished moments with Barb throughout her life; nephews, Rodney (Paula) Hindberg and his family: Alyson, Madison, and Anthony; Raymond Hindberg, Eddie McGee, and Rachel (Sonya) McGee; as well as cousins, extended family members, friends, and caregivers who will deeply miss Barb's enthusiasm, contagious laughter, and love that she shared with all who knew her.

Memorial service to be held Tuesday June 30th, 2026 at 3 pm with visitation one hour prior at Washburn-McReavy Glen Haven Chapel 5125 W Broadway, Crystal, MN 55429

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 30. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Glen Haven Chapel
5125 West Broadway
Crystal, MN 55429

Memorial Service

JUN 30. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Glen Haven Chapel
5125 West Broadway
Crystal, MN 55429

Reception

JUN 30. 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (CT)

Glen Haven Chapel
5125 West Broadway
Crystal, MN 55429