



Deborah Jean Kidd

January 11, 1954 - March 20, 2026

Deborah Jean Kidd, a devoted mother, grandmother, sister, and friend, passed away peacefully in her sleep on March 20, 2026, at the age of 72. Despite facing numerous health challenges throughout her life, Deborah remained fiercely independent, strong-willed, and full of grace to the very end. She was born on January 11, 1954, in Louisville, Kentucky, to Mary Jo (McGraw) and Preston Ritter. Deborah's early years were marked by hardship, as she and her sister Nora spent time in foster care and orphanages, separated from their younger siblings, Russell and Toni. She later found a sense of home with her grandparents. Though her beginnings were difficult, Deborah carried forward a deep well of compassion, resilience, and forgiveness that would define her life. Her faith in Christ guided her, and she shared that faith through the love and understanding she extended to others.

Deborah eventually settled in Minnesota, where she dedicated herself to raising her four children: Melissa Kari (Jeremy), Sarah Olson (Justin), Angela Moses (Derek), and Michael Kidd (Kara). Being a mother was her greatest joy and proudest role. She nurtured her children's unique gifts, encouraged their passions, and made countless sacrifices to give them opportunities she had never known herself. Her home was a place of comfort and refuge-not only for her own children, but for many of their friends who needed support, stability, and care. Her kindness left a lasting impression on countless young lives. She had a remarkable gift for connection. Deborah made friends wherever

she went and was always ready to lend a listening ear or a helping hand. She treasured long conversations, whether in person or over the phone, and found joy in life's simple pleasures. She loved gardening, and her flowers brought her endless happiness. In her final days, she was deeply touched by a prayer shawl lovingly crocheted by a dear friend, designed in the colors of her favorite blooms. She enjoyed jazz music and time with her many grandchildren.

She is survived by her children, her sister Toni Engle, her brothers Tom, Jim, David, and Mike Ritter, her 10 grandchildren, and many extended family members and dear friends whose lives were enriched by her warmth, generosity, and unwavering love.

A visitation will be held at Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel 1827 Coon Rapids Blvd, Monday March 30 at 11:30 a.m., followed by a service at 1:00 p.m.

Deborah's life was a testament to faith, resilience, and unconditional love. She leaves behind a legacy of compassion, strength, and kindness that will live on in all who knew her.

Cemetery Details

Hillside Crematory

2610 19th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 30. 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Coon Rapids Chapel
1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Funeral Service

MAR 30. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Coon Rapids Chapel
1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Tribute Wall

WR

“ With love, Tom and Tracy Ritter purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Deborah Jean Kidd.



With love, Tom and Tracy Ritter - March 29 at 09:05 PM

LG

“ It was such a privilege and honor to know your mom. I Love and cherish the time i got to have with her.

The day I found out of her passing my mom and I were talking and thinking of Debbie and then the sun shinned down on our face and the birds were singing , it was so beautiful and then we realized Debbie is with God and she is feeling good again. Miss her so much. My thoughts and with you all❤️

Lisa Gustafson - March 27 at 02:35 PM

JP

“ JP purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Deborah Jean Kidd.



JP - March 26 at 02:56 PM

BK

“ *Melissa, Sarah, Angela, Michael & Family,*

My heart breaks for all of you .I hope all the wonderful memories you've shared with your mom, grandma, siste, friend helps carry you through. May you see her in every sunrise and sunset, in every blooming flower that she loved.

From a very early age remember your mom traveling on vacation with us, I always looked up to her wanting to be a ray of sunshine just like her, with a beautiful soul. I remember her getting ready at our house for her wedding to your dad. She was a beautiful Bride!

She will be a ray of sunshine that is greatly missed and loved for eternity!

Debbie tell everyone in HEAVEN that we love and miss them! Until WE MEET AGAIN! I love you all Becky -Brown Kessinger.

Becky Kessinger - March 25 at 11:38 AM



“ *Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Deborah Jean Kidd.*



March 25 at 10:41 AM

FF

“ *Florence Austin and Hamilton family purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Deborah Jean Kidd.*



Florence Austin and Hamilton family - March 25 at 09:33 AM

FF

“ Florence Austin and Hamilton family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Deborah Jean Kidd.

Florence Austin and Hamilton family - March 25 at 09:33 AM

MK

“ I love you Mom

Melissa Kari - March 24 at 12:46 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Deborah Jean Kidd.

March 23 at 01:05 PM