



Debra D. Baxter

February 21, 1954 - January 2, 2015

East Peoria – Debra Dee Baxter, 60, of East Peoria, passed away on Friday, January 2, 2015 after many years of dealing with Type 1 diabetes and kidney disease.

Debra was born in Caldwell, ID on February 21, 1954. Her family moved to the Tri-Cities in Washington when she was six weeks old and she graduated from Kamiakin High School in 1972. Debra's love of knowledge led her to earn numerous degrees including an AA in Electronics, a BA in English, and a MA in Instructional Technology. Debra moved to Illinois in 1985, finally settling in East Peoria where she remained until her death. Debra worked as an editor for 18 years for Glencoe/McGraw-Hill. In 2007, she opened a freelance editing business where she served various companies until 2014. In 1991 she happily became a foster parent to 3 Vietnamese boys. In 1997, Debra was blessed with the life-saving gift of a kidney transplant and was thankful to all her doctors and nurses for the care they gave her.

She was a member of Unity Church of Peoria, where she loved helping with the youth education program. She studied A Course in Miracles, which was a guiding force in her life. Debra loved animals and enjoyed the companionship of several rescued cats and dogs.

Debra was preceded in death by her father, William Dee Baxter. She is survived by her mother, Verla J. Baxter; her brother, Darrell (Delene) Baxter; her sister, Lanae (Joe) Legard; three nephews; one niece; and five great nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her Peoria family; her cousin,

Margaret (Pat) Mohrman, and her children and grandchildren; and foster son, Paul (Jasmine) Nguyen.

A Memorial Service will be held at Unity Church of Peoria at 10 a.m. Saturday, January 17, 2015. Rev Linda Foreman will officiate. Deiters Funeral Home and Crematory in Washington is in charge of arrangements. Inurnment will be at a later date in Kennewick, WA.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Debra's honor to TAPS Animal Shelter in Pekin, IL.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

Unity Church of Peoria
3127 N. Avalon Place
Peoria, IL 61604
(309) 682-8554

Tribute Wall

DW

“ To the Family of Debra Baxter: Please accept my deepest condolences. Deb was an amazing person. I met her through networking groups and loved being around her. I then had the pleasure of being her insurance agent. I will miss her! You will all be in my thoughts and prayers.
Deb Williamson

Deb Williamson - January 14, 2015 at 04:25 PM

DW

“ Deb Williamson lit a candle in memory of Debra D. Baxter



Deb Williamson - January 14, 2015 at 04:23 PM

BR

“ To Debra's family: Please accept my condolences at your loss. I worked with Debra at Glencoe/McGraw-Hill for several years and on several projects, and we were in touch for a few years about freelancing. Working with her was a pleasure--I learned from her about learning! I know she struggled long and hard with her health, but she always faced her challenges positively and courageously. She was a strong, loving person and will be missed by all those people whose lives she touched. Becky Rundall

Becky Rundall - January 12, 2015 at 12:40 PM