



Barbara Ann Vonderohe

June 18, 1962 - February 28, 2025

Barbara (Barb) Ann Bahler Vonderohe left this earthly realm surrounded by the love of her family on February 28 in Indianapolis, Indiana after a long illness. Barb was born to the late John and Rebecca (Betty) Bahler on June 18, 1962. She was the youngest child and only girl which came with its own kind of baggage, including but not limited to frequent battles with her older brother about the true nature of her parentage (it was later confirmed by that brother that for better or worse she was 100% Bahler). She attended Warren Central High School and enjoyed horseback riding (a hobby she would later share with her daughters), singing (a talent that was notably not passed down to her daughters), and spending summers with family in Union City, Indiana. After high school, Barb pursued training as an emergency medical technician and was later the youngest paramedic in the state of Indiana. She ultimately pursued a career as a registered nurse, finding her place in the emergency room. All the above professions would prove rich sources for the stories she would later use to fascinate and horrify her daughters, nieces, and their boyfriends.

She met the love of her life, Eric Vonderohe, on “the only blind date I ever accepted”, despite the fact that both of them attended Warren Central high school. They married and spent a lot of their early date nights on shift with the ambulance service, often accompanied by their toy poodle “Shmoo”. She would always have at least one toy poodle in the house, she is remembered to have told her then-new husband “It will be me and a dog or no me”. Their

two daughters grew up surrounded by love and animals of various species including guinea pigs, a hedgehog and a miniature horse. Even when her health began to fail, she made sure her daughters grew to be independent, well educated, and always aware that they are loved. She passed down a calling to medicine (one daughter is a pediatrician and the other a veterinarian) and enjoyed bragging about her daughters' academic accomplishments to random passers-by. She also had an enduring love of John Denver, beach vacations, Harmony Kingdom figurines, and home shopping networks.

She is preceded in death by both of her parents, brother John Thomas (JT) Bahler and brother Timothy Bahler, as well as uncles Thomas and Robert Bahler. She will be happiest to be reunited with poodles Shmoo, Fuzzy, Strudel and Lilly. She is survived by her husband of 40 years, daughters Caitlin and Madalyn; brother, Michael (Debbie) Bahler; nieces Shannon McLaughlin (Brett), Gwyne Bahler, Grace McDowell (Graham), and Lucy Phelps (Blake), great-nephew, Gregory McLaughlin; and miniature horse, Queen Jelly Bean. The family sends their heartfelt gratitude to the doctors and nurses at Community North Hospital for their professional and compassionate care. In lieu of flowers, which she always found unnecessary and suspicious, the family requests that donations be made in her name to the Indianapolis Humane Society, the American Fibromyalgia Syndrome Association, or Friends of BARC in Houston, Texas.

Services are private and final care and arrangements are entrusted to Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel, Indianapolis, IN

Tribute Wall

AO

“ *AO purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Barbara Ann Vonderohe.*



AO - March 01, 2025 at 10:38 PM

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“ As some people know, Barb came into my life when their family was trying to see a horse that they had. My daughter had ridden horses from the time she was born, to the age of about 13, when we got a horse that managed to throw her and scare her into wanting to quit riding! I found an ad that Caitlin had put out on the internet for a very pretty Paint/Pinto horse named Cian Vattersay. Once we made the appointment to go and see him, we originally met with Caitlin and a friend of hers and we were very interested in Cian, but they wanted us to really think about it, and I wanted to be very sure that he was the "right one" for my daughter. As I'm sure you can figure out, my daughter fell in love with him, we did end up buying him and when we picked him up we finally met up with Barb and Eric. Barb told me all about the horse, and his nick name and even showed me that the horse had a white marking on his face that made him look like he had a bear on his face who was "flipping people off" as she put it! Barb and I became fast friends from the first moment we started talking. We didn't always stay in close touch, but we kept in touch with texts and FB posts so that she knew we were taking good care of Cian. As it turned out, Cian was my daughter's "heart horse" and she and he were inseparable! He lived out his life with us, and was even in my daughter's wedding! We loved him so much! Unfortunately Cian passed away three years ago. We miss him every day! But we still stayed in touch with Barb and Eric, and recently met up with them in New Castle this past Fall. I'm glad we made the three hour trip to New Castle!! We laughed and reminisced for several hours until the show was almost completed and we both had to make our trips home! Barb, I will miss your sense of humor and your smile and wit! I'm glad you are no longer in pain! RIP my friend! You can listen to all the John Denver songs in heaven now!



Pamela Elaine McCaleb - March 01, 2025 at 07:02 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Barbara Ann Vonderohe.



March 01, 2025 at 04:46 PM