



## Barbara Jean Hollinrake

August 11, 1955 - June 1, 2022

Barbara Jean Hollinrake of Manchester, Iowa, formerly of Weller, died unexpectedly June 1, 2022, following a recent diagnosis of cancer.

Barb was born on August 11, 1955, to Joseph Michael and Jean Kathryn Durbala Hollinrake of Weller. She was the eldest of eight kids who grew up in a full and noisy house on a sprawling farm. As unofficial family historian, Barb loved to share stories of family adventures and misadventures, always ending with a chuckle (often at herself). She might have you think it's a wonder she survived those early years, but they helped make Barb a gentle, generous person.

Barb grew up among the pews of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Weller. Her faith and rural roots were priceless to her. She was a godmother, catechist, Confirmation sponsor and role-model to many young people.

She attended Lovilia Elementary School and graduated with the Albia High School Class of 1973. During her school days she enjoyed her academics, music and 4-H. She received a bachelor's degree in business education from Northeast Missouri State University (Truman State University) in Kirksville, Missouri. She began teaching business courses in 1977 at St. Mary's Catholic High School (Mater Dei) in Clinton, where a priest recognized her gift for counseling students. As a result, she left teaching to complete coursework at Loras College in Dubuque and the University of Iowa, where she received her master's degree in counseling and human development.

In 1983, Barb began her longest and most-cherished career as a school guidance counselor at Maquoketa Valley Community School District in Delhi, where she mentored hundreds of students. During her tenure she enjoyed setting up career days, taking students on college visits (which often included minor maintenance on the district's van), proctoring ACT exams, serving as the student council adviser and being timekeeper at track meets. She was instrumental in the development of the local Dollars for Scholars program, serving on its board for over two decades. She spent some of her final days

corresponding with her students.

She is survived by her parents; her siblings Mary Kay Henderson (Rick) of Albia, Steve (Kim) of Knoxville, Robert of Waterloo, Marty (Kristy) of Falcon, Colorado, Laura (Pat Finan) and John (Cami) of Knoxville; sister-in-law, Suzanne of Albia; aunts Wilma Hollinrake of Norwalk, Suzanne Durbala of St. Augustine, Florida, Carol Durbala of Mankato, Minnesota, and Margaret Durbala of Newton; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends; and her beloved family of faculty, staff and students at Maquoketa Valley schools.

Barb was preceded in death by her brother, Ed, her niece and nephew, Gabrielle and Elijah, paternal grandparents, John F. and Mary E. McKillip Hollinrake, maternal grandparents Frank A. and Margaret C. Bins Durbala and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services for Barb will be held on Monday, June 6, 2022, with visitation at Tharp Funeral Home in Albia from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and a funeral mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Albia, with lunch to follow. Burial will take place at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Weller, after the lunch.

Memorials may be made to St. Mary's Weller Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Mary's Weller Cemetery

Weller, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 6. 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home  
116 Benton Ave.  
Albia, IA 52531  
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

## Mass of Christian Burial

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church  
730 Benton Ave W  
Albia, IA

# Tribute Wall

MI

“ *My deepest condolences to all of Barb's family. Though I did not know her very well, she was very kind and gracious when I met her and had a wonderful smile.*

Michael Irving - June 06 at 01:31 AM

CC

*So sorry to hear of Barb's passing. What a joyful and sweet spirit she possessed. Our loss, heavens gain.*

Craig Cornelius - June 06 at 09:42 AM

RI

“ *I knew Barb best through her talking to my 8th grade students each spring as they prepared to select classes for the following fall as incoming freshmen at the high school. Barb was always friendly and understanding toward the 8th graders, who were often very apprehensive about moving over to the high school. She always had a smile on her face, a soft chuckle with her responses, and a calm demeanor that helped ease the fears of the students. Barb was a hard worker, a happy person who never had a harsh word to say about anyone. She loved to wear the black and gold of Maquoketa Valley, and she will be deeply missed by all who knew her. My sincere sympathies to her family. Sincerely, Roger Hoekstra, middle school science instructor - 1971 to 2004*

Roger Hoekstra, Manchester, IA - June 05 at 09:31 PM

JH

“ *Always enjoyed visiting with Barb at class reunions. You will be missed by the Class of 1973.. Jim Huber*

Jim Huber - June 03 at 08:47 PM

CG

“ *Prayers to you and your family. Rest in peace. You were always a kind and loving person. You will be missed by many.*



Cheryl (Corso) Gray - June 03 at 01:03 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Hollinrake.



June 03 at 12:54 PM

DK

“ Barb was always such a positive force for kids in her quiet (until she laughed) and caring way.  
The Board of Directors at Maquoketa Valley CSD extend our sincerest condolences to the family at her unexpected passing.

Donna Kunde - June 03 at 12:42 PM

WH

“ Wanda Hillers lit a candle in memory of Barbara Jean Hollinrake



Wanda Hillers - June 03 at 11:04 AM

WH

Barb was a wonderful person and a complete joy to be around. She had a wholehearted laugh that caused her to bounce up and down whenever she shared it. She cared so much about her students and did so much for the Dollars for Scholars program. She will be deeply missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her.

Wanda Hillers - June 03 at 11:08 AM

CI

“ Barb had a smile that just drew you right in every time I saw her. All my love and prayers the Hollinrake family.

Cara Irving - June 03 at 08:42 AM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Hollinrake.



June 02 at 11:15 PM

AH

“ Barb or as she was known to us at St Mary's and Mater Dei, Holli was more than a teacher and mentor. She was truly a friend. I remember the summer that my folks had to go unexpectedly to New York and Holli stayed with my sister and I. Her smile could light up a room and her laugh was so infectious to us all. RIP my friend I was blessed to have known you.

Ana Pineiro Hellzen - June 02 at 10:34 PM

PJ

I join Ana in remembering Barb from our days at Mater Dei. She was also my friend during her years at Maquoketa Valley and, as fellow counselors attended meetings together. Yes, her smile and laughter was not easily forgotten and so many will miss both. Paul Juhl

Paul Juhl - June 05 at 12:43 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Hollinrake.



June 02 at 10:22 PM

SG

“ Barb was a blessing to all who knew her, especially those of us at Maquoketa Valley. I so enjoyed and appreciated her kind heart and infectious laugh. Her family is in my prayers.

Sue Goldsmith - June 02 at 10:22 PM

PO

“ I was so fortunate to work with Barb when she first arrived at Maquoketa Valley until she retired. She was such a sunny personality and her smile was contagious! You could even see the smile in her eyes. How she helped so many children will not be forgotten. The world lost a wonderful, kind person!  
Pam Overman

Pam Overman - June 02 at 10:03 PM

AA

*I always appreciated all the help Barb gave to students and their parents when it came time to complete FAFSA. It didn't matter how many questions or emails I sent her, she was always so kind and generous. Her laugh was very contagious and she always made me chuckle right along with her! Barb will truly be missed by so many in our MV family. ❤️💛❤️*

Amy Anderegg - June 02 at 10:34 PM

DP

“ You can search the world over and you will not find a better person. The world was a better place with her in it.

David pope - June 02 at 09:57 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Barbara Jean Hollinrake.



June 02 at 09:55 PM

DP

“ Barb was one of a kind! She was the sweetest person who had the most positive attitude on life. I have never known Barb to have a frown on her face or a negative comment about anything. I had her as my counselor, a colleague, but most importantly a friend. We shared some wonderful stories and she was always the best listener. Praying for her family! Rest In Peace Barb! You will be missed! ❤️🙏

Donna Pierce - June 02 at 09:55 PM

JH

“ Barb will always hold a special place in my heart. Such a positive happy person and always willing to help someone. I so enjoyed being with her. She was always so bubbly and had a contagious smile. Our deepest sympathy goes to her family. The Lord gained a very special angel.

Joan Hillers - June 02 at 08:16 PM

CH

“ Barb was an amazing daughter, sister, aunt, great-aunt, and proud godmother to our youngest son. She remembered everyone she met and every experience she had, and she shared those stories with great enthusiasm and her infectious laugh. I was so blessed to call her my sister-in-law and will miss her tremendously.



Cami Hollinrake - June 02 at 08:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Cathy Durbala Curell - June 02 at 07:39 PM

JT

Mary Kay and Barb's family. Barb was such a gentle soul who always saw the good in people. She smiled with her whole body. Being with students and guiding them was one of her many gifts. She is already with her God. My prayers and sympathies are with your family. God bless  
Jan Thyne

Jan Thyne - June 02 at 07:51 PM

MD

“ When Barb looked at you, she ignited a light in your soul that instantly made you smile and radiate warmth. She was such a kind, gentle person and I was fortunate to have her as a cousin. I will miss her but her smile will always be in my heart and memories.  
Mary Durbala

Mary Durbala - June 02 at 07:34 PM

SM

“ I had Barb Hollinrake for typing and accounting at St. Mary's/Mater Dei. She was always kind, fun-loving and laughed so easily. She was encouraging back then and even years later when we were friends on Facebook she would message me with encouraging and kind words whether it be about music or any other pursuits. I'll always remember her fondly and her big smile.  
Steve Manikowski

Steve Manikowski - June 02 at 07:23 PM

MH

“ Sending our thoughts and prayers from the Midland school district. We thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Barb for the brief time we shared her counseling services with MV. She always had a smile on her face and a kind word for all. May she Rest In Peace with the angels.

michelle hansen - June 02 at 05:43 PM

KD

“ Karla Downs lit a candle in memory of Barbara Jean Hollinrake



Karla Downs - June 02 at 05:02 PM

KD

Barb was such a happy and knowledgeable person. Her giggle was always connected to her positive personality. I will sure miss her smile at Maquoketa Valley.

Karla Downs - June 02 at 05:04 PM

DC

“ Barb was such a wonderful friend, classmate and cousin by marriage. She had the sweetest laugh. She will be missed by many. May she rest in eternal peace. Hugs and prayers sent to her family.

Don and Mary Carr - June 02 at 04:27 PM