



Catherine Elizabeth O'Brien

July 23, 1962 - March 8, 2019

Catherine Elizabeth O'Brien, age 56, passed away peacefully on March 8, 2019 to be with her Savior at her home in Phoenix, AZ in the company of her loving parents, older sister, Karol, and her caregiver, Jasmine. Cathy had fought a brave battle with cancer since February, 2018.

Cathy was born July 23, 1962, the third of five children of John and Darlene (Hannam)

O'Brien at St. Mary's Hospital in Decatur, Illinois. She attended Holy Family Grade

School and St. Teresa High School in Decatur and graduated from the University of Illinois with a BS degree in General Engineering. Following graduation from the U of I., she worked for Sargent and Lundy Engineers of Chicago for 35 years, performing piping stress analysis for nuclear power plants. Cathy lived and worked in Chicago for 25 years and spent the last 10 years in Phoenix.

In addition to her work, Cathy enjoyed cooking, baking, crafting, sewing and gardening. She created personalized birthday and Christmas gifts for her nephews and nieces that they looked forward to every year. We all have fond memories of her as Santa's Elf at Christmas in Decatur. Family was very important to her and she never missed a chance to get together. She would bring the golf clubs, kites and bean bag toss games to entertain her nieces

and nephews. Everyone enjoyed visiting her in Phoenix and spending time by her pool. She was greatly loved by her extended family and will be missed.

Cathy had a deep pride in her Irish heritage and had traveled to Ireland in addition to collecting things Irish. She was also an avid sports fan. While in Chicago, she held Bull's season tickets, and enjoyed watching the Bears and NASCAR.

Cathy is survived by her parents, three sisters, Karol and Punit Kalra, Susan Smith, Margaret Aman and brother, Daniel and Danielle Taylor. Also surviving are 11 nieces and nephews whom she loved dearly. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Philip and Margaret (Carmody) O'Brien and Harry and Edna (Kellogg) Hannam and one nephew, Christopher Aman.

Visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. until time of Mass on Friday, March 15, 2019, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Melrose, with Cathy's family present.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 15, 2019, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Melrose, with Father Michael E. Volkmer C.P.P.S. officiating. Burial will be in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Melrose beside her Grandmother O'Brien.

In lieu of flowers, a donation to the American Cancer Society or charity of your choice is suggested.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Calvary Cemetery

Melrose, IA

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 15. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick's catholic Church
200 Trinity Ave,
Melrose, IA

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 15. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick's catholic Church
200 Trinity Ave,
Melrose, IA

Tribute Wall



“ *Catherine Elizabeth O'Brien*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Catherine Elizabeth O'Brien*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *O'Brien family,*

I am so sorry to hear of Cathy's passing and I'll always remember her sweet smile and demeanor.

May your wonderful memories bring you peace and comfort in the coming days.

Karla MacMurdo Stauder

Karla Stauder - March 15, 2019 at 05:17 PM



“ *John & Darlene- we are very sorry for your loss. We saw Catherine's obituary on the H&R app and thought we might be able to attend the services since it indicated she was living in Phoenix (we're Arizona snowbirds). A little research made it apparent that the services were not her, so the best we can do is express our sincere condolences via this note. May God be with you and comfort you- John & Rae Nell Spencer*

John & Rae Nell Spencer - March 15, 2019 at 12:34 PM

SK

“ Satnam Kalra purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Catherine Elizabeth O'Brien.



Satnam Kalra - March 14, 2019 at 02:58 PM

SF

“ Stacie Hanneken and Family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Catherine Elizabeth O'Brien.



Stacie Hanneken and Family - March 14, 2019 at 11:30 AM

BA

“ BLDD Architects purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Catherine Elizabeth O'Brien.



BLDD Architects - March 13, 2019 at 03:44 PM

JF

“ JOLEE A FISK purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Catherine Elizabeth O'Brien.



JOLEE A FISK - March 13, 2019 at 02:31 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Catherine Elizabeth O'Brien.



March 13, 2019 at 11:54 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Catherine Elizabeth O'Brien.



March 12, 2019 at 07:35 PM