



Darlene Agatha Abbott

September 5, 1951 - November 22, 2016

Darlene Abbott, age 65, died on Tuesday, November 22, 2016 at home following a long 4 year existence with lung cancer. In her final hours she was surrounded by happy memories, comfort, and love.

She was born September 5th, 1951, in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Raymond and Agatha (Dreffs) Milbocker. She was the second of five children and the only daughter. She grew up with modest means and though her early years were sometimes tumultuous, she learned resilience and determination; two traits that she proudly nurtured until her last breath.

Darlene was a Mother to all who met her. Her encouragement, support, and wisdom were thoughtful and thorough. She found satisfaction in her ability to think through situations from many points of view and encouraged those she cared about to do the same.

She met her husband, Steve, in 1980, at work. They married February 20th, 1982 in a small service at St. Francis of Assisi in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Darlene spent 27 years working for the University of Michigan. She began her journey in 1979 as a meat cutter, and concluded her career as an Administrative Manager overseeing all aspects of operation at MStores. She found great joy and meaning in having earned her position through years of

hard work, sacrifice, and dedication. The people she worked with became family and the building they worked in became a second home. Darlene was able to retire prior to the closing of Stores in 2005.

She lamented having to move on from her life at “the U”, but like many other instances in her life, she paused to reflect, gathered herself and her plan, and then pushed forward to the future. Following her retirement, Darlene kept herself busy by working for Aunt Millie’s, Zahn’s Auto Body, and most recently, American Soy Products.

She enjoyed learning the nuances of new industries and she valued the knowledge and friendships she found along the way. Her free time was spent gardening and bird watching. She and her husband, Steve, spent much of their time nurturing their backyard, growing it into a sanctuary for squirrels, chipmunks, groundhogs, bunnies, opossums, raccoons, flying squirrels, two ducks, and even a fox on occasion. She found a hobby in photography and filled albums with snapshots of the backyard visitors.

Her life was remarkable and filled with stories and experiences, but some of her proudest moments were: caring for her brothers when they were young, buying a Corvette when she was 23 years old, the birth of her daughter, Deborah, and going back to college at age 54.

Darlene is survived by her husband, Steve; daughter, Deborah (Gilbert) Romero; brothers Don Milbocker, Tom Milbocker, Den Milbocker; sisters-in-law, Lori Milbocker, Elaine Milbocker, and Patty Jackson; her beloved nieces, nephews, and great nieces; many friends and acquaintances.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Raymond and Agatha Milbocker; brother, Ron Milbocker; niece Shelly Milbocker.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 4, 2016 between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M. at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. A private memorial service for immediate family will be held following the visitation. Memorial contributions in her name may be made to the Humane Society of Huron Valley and envelopes will be available at the funeral home. To sign her guestbook, to leave a memory, or for more information or directions, please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 4. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services

301 E Michigan Ave

Saline, MI 48176

(734) 429-9760

rbfhsaline@hotmail.com

<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Tribute Wall

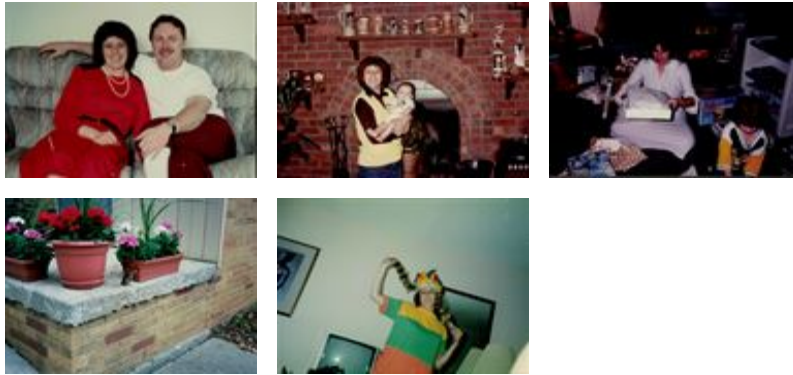


“ *Darlene Agatha Abbott*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *170 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services - December 02, 2016
at 03:07 PM



“ *Steve: I am saddened by this news of Darlene's passing. I worked with the both of you at U of M Food Stores. Darlene was the first female meat cutter I knew. She had a lot of spunk and grit. I remember her fondly and watching the two of you flirt & flitter about the warehouse. The two of you had a very special bond & love. I have thought of my "Food Stores" family often. My prayers are with you & Debbie during this most difficult period.*

*Kim (Bausman) Nelson
Robertsdale, AL*

Kim Nelson - November 30, 2016 at 08:27 AM

JM

“ My heart goes out to all of Darlene's family. Many of my greatest childhood memories involved Darlene. I loved her sarcastic nature, her no BS policy, her family dynamic with her brothers, her never-ending encouragement and support of children who have dreams. She will always be remembered fondly.

× Jocelyn Mottes

Jocelyn Mottes - November 29, 2016 at 02:38 PM

JH

Prayers for peace in this most difficult time. I shared many fun times with her and team mates back in the day. A true inspiration to all she met. Grateful I had the opportunity to call her 'friend'. So sorry for your loss.

Jeanine Hoffman - November 29, 2016 at 08:55 PM

TF

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Darlene's family and friends. May God be with you in your time of need. Aunt Monnie's Children and Uncle Eddie.

The Judson Family - November 28, 2016 at 03:50 PM

BH

“ I will always remember Darlene as a great friend and neighbor. She was always there for me with a helping hand and always a smile. She was just the best.

Betty Henderlong - November 26, 2016 at 11:01 AM