



Brenda Bratcher Hettinger Boyd

April 18, 1947 - December 26, 2019

Brenda Boyd, 72, lovingly known to many as “Sunshine”, passed away December 26th, 2019 in her Louisville home surrounded by the warmth of her friends and family.

Brenda was born on April 18th, 1947 to Stoy and Margaret (Payne) Bratcher in Louisville, KY. She spent most of her childhood in Louisville’s West End. She attended St. Columbo grade school and graduated from Loretto High School in 1965. She completed her education at Bellarmine University graduating magna cum laude with a Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing.

Brenda’s enduring love of children led her to spending her 33-year nursing career at Norton Kosair Children’s Hospital; first, as a pediatric floor nurse and later, as the Director of The Office of Child Advocacy, from which position she retired in 2010. She pioneered the development of many enduring programs at Kosair and spent her career fighting for the health and safety rights of Kentucky’s children. She received numerous awards and recognition throughout her career however, it was her genuine love of children for which she was best-known.

Brenda’s spirit was sometimes shy and reflective, as she spent a year in convent at Webster College; sometimes adventurous, as she hitchhiked through Europe and tap danced on Bourbon Street with her friends and loved to dance; sometimes competitive, as she enjoyed field hockey, water-skiing, snow-skiing, boating and golf, but above all her spirit was always playful, loving and kind.

The messages she shared throughout her life and her work were messages of compassion and forgiveness, grace and understanding, love and kindness and a willingness to help those in need. Her sparkling smile, laughter and pureness of heart earned her the nickname “Sunshine”. Her smile lit up every room she entered, comforted those who suffered and brought joy to all around her.

Brenda is preceded in death by her daughter, Stephanie Hettinger MacDermaid; brother,

Steve Bratcher; parents, Stoy and Margaret Bratcher and her beloved dog, Molly.

Brenda is remembered with love and survived by her husband, Stan Boyd; children, Scott Boyd, Kerry Hettinger, Chad Boyd (Sandy), and Brian Hettinger (Amanda); brother, David Bratcher (Kathy); grandchildren, Patrick Hettinger and Aiden Boyd; several nieces and nephews and former spouse, Clarence Hettinger.

Memorial service 2pm, Saturday, January 4, 2020 at Pearson's, 149 Breckinridge Lane.
Visitation 12pm Saturday until time of service.

Donations in Brenda's memory can be made to Home of the Innocents,
<https://www.homeoftheinnocents.org/>

Special thanks to her longtime devoted caregiver and friend, Denise Underwood.

Events

JAN

4

Visitation

12:00PM - 02:00PM

Pearson Funeral Home

149 Breckenridge Lane, Louisville, KY, US, 40207

JAN

4

Service

02:00PM

Pearson Funeral Home

149 Breckenridge Lane, Louisville, KY, US, 40207

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Pearson Funeral Home - December 31, 2019 at 03:48 PM



“ My sister and I were born on her birthday.. I loved to hear of Brenda's adventures. Always full of "sunshine", kind words and a beautiful heart. Our condolences to the the family.
Jan and Nan
(Bratcher family)

Yvette Jan Kehne - January 07, 2020 at 12:11 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Brenda Bratcher Hettinger Boyd.



January 04, 2020 at 10:39 AM



“ Marina Shcherbakova purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Brenda Bratcher Hettinger Boyd.



Marina Shcherbakova - January 03, 2020 at 04:05 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Brenda Bratcher Hettinger Boyd.



January 03, 2020 at 02:05 PM